

SUCK'EM DRY MOLOKAI

Maui District, Hawaii

Contact:

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Problem Statement:

The Molokai Maintenance crew has long been burdening other agencies by borrowing their pumps during the rainy periods for flooding in the low-lying areas of Kamehameha V Highway.

Discussion of Solution:

Maui District Highways Division recently fabricated the “Suck’em Dry Molokai” all-weather, portable hydraulic pump. This “Frankenstein” was created using a demolished variable message board sign as the trailer base, a used motor from a disposed herbicide sprayer, old sign posts, and old highway signs. The only new parts used are the pump, hoses and fittings, gas tank, and muffler.

Bridge Maintenance Worker Jordan Canha, cut, bent, hammered, and welded the surplus materials to create this all-weather workhorse. This pump is light, versatile, and can be towed using a small pickup and can run in the worst inclement weather because of its vented, enclosed shell.

Don’t let its “showroom” good looks fool you, it’s equally as functional. This motorized “sponge” is outfitted with a rebuilt four-stroke, 8-horsepower, gas-operated, automatic ignition Briggs and Stratton motor that can pump 300 gallons per minute.

