

"Roller Packer"

COUNTY: Grand Forks

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PROBLEM STATEMENT

Compaction of newly laid shoulders is a priority. In the past, blades, pull-type packers, and tractors have done more damage in pushing out the shoulder rather than packing. More construction equipment on the road means higher risks for accidents.

DISCUSSION of SOLUTION

The vision of the roller packer incorporated to the loader and shouldering machine was that of machinist-welder Mike Deziel. The function of the roller packer is designed to run with the hydraulics of the loader in conjunction with the shouldering machine. The roller packer has hydraulic down pressure and can be lifted up and folded back on the loader for transportation. It also has a tension spring scraper with replaceable cutting edges. All controls for the roller packer and shoulder machine are on a six-switch panel in the cab for ease of operation.

LABOR and MATERIALS

Labor on the roller packer was done in the shop by Mike Deziel with little outside work done. Surplus iron and an old pipeline were used. New hoses, cylinder, and valves were purchased. The cost of the project was around \$3000, with the majority going for hydraulic valves.

SAVINGS and BENEFITS

The savings would be in that one less operator would be out on the road with benefits in salaries and safety. Also, less equipment is being used there for less maintenance and fuel.





