

Mast Cleaning and Lubrication

Will-Burt pneumatic telescoping masts come from the factory pre-lubricated and require no scheduled maintenance under normal operating conditions. In extremely harsh environmental conditions, maintenance of the mast might be required. Signs that cleaning and lubrication are needed can be:

- A noticeable gritty film on the exterior surfaces of the mast sections
- Erratic extension or retraction of the mast
- Noisy operation of the mast
- Sticking of one or more mast sections when mast is extending or retracting

PROCEDURE:

1. Remove top load from the mast. This will allow the sections of a non-locking mast to more easily be extended from smallest to largest. See Step 3. On locking masts, the sequence of extension can be controlled by the locking collars.
2. When a regulator exists in the pneumatic system, reduce its pressure to between 5 and 10 PSIG.

NOTE: 10 PSIG should be sufficient pressure to extend all sections of the mast without a top load. If any section will not extend with 10 PSIG the mast may require overhaul. Consult the factory.

3. One person operating the air control valve should slowly pressurize the mast just enough to extend the top mast section. Another person may need to hold down the larger mast section collars to assure the proper sequence of extension. Close the air control valve as soon as the mast section is up.
4. Dampen a rag with a non-abrasive cleanser or solvent such as lacquer thinner to wipe down the extended mast section. Do not allow the cleaning fluid or solvent to run down inside the collar.
5. Repeat steps 3 and 4 for the next larger mast section.
6. Inject approximately 1/2 oz. of Mast Lubricant* or a lightweight machine oil into the weep hole (drain) of the exposed mast section. The weep holes are located between one and three feet below the collar on each tube except the top one.
7. Repeat steps 3, 4 and 6 for each of the remaining mast sections. The larger diameter sections should be injected with approximately 1 oz. of lubricant.
8. Lower the mast completely. Allow several minutes for the lubricant to settle and spread around the wear ring and seal at the bottom of each mast section.

⚠ WARNING

Pinch Point Hazard! Moving parts can crush and cut resulting in death or serious injury. Keep clear of moving parts while operating mast.

9. Extend the mast again one section at a time in the same sequence (smallest to largest). Wipe off any excess lubricant that flows out of the weep holes.

NOTE: Do not lubricate the exterior of the mast. This will attract dust and contaminants from the air.

* Mast Lubricant is specifically formulated for cold weather use, but is suitable for year around use. Regular winter maintenance and the frequent use of Mast Lubricant should significantly reduce the potential for mast freeze ups. Mast Lubricant is also intended for use in air in-line lubricators.