Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!

Posted by Billabong - 06 Nov 2012 05:13

Made it to the shops today and found "my" solution to the diamond and steel dust getting into the ball joints.

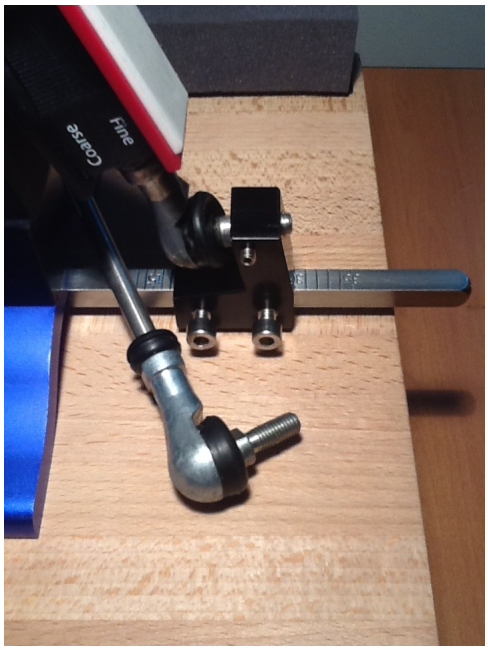
I have replaced the original (exposed) ball joints with fully enclosed versions.

It is a cup and ball principle rather than a ball and race.

In the original the race is made of nylon and I figure it may wear if dust gets into it.

We have all been searching for boots or similar to cover them without much luck.

So why not replace the joints with ones that are designed to be dust proof already?



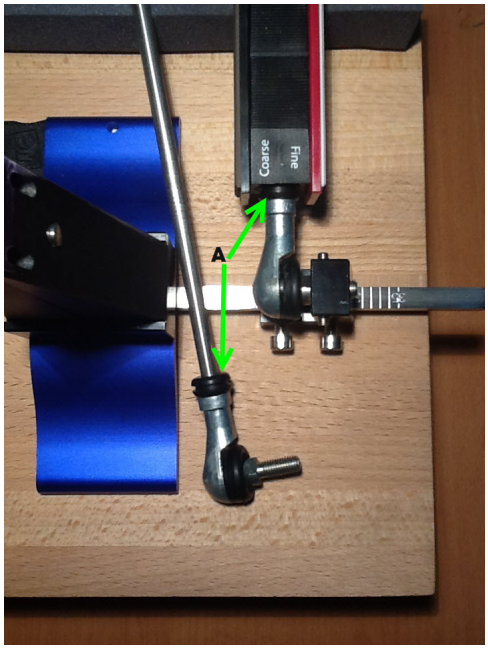
Pic 1!

Also in addition, the arrows "A" (below) show a rubber grommet I put on the arms.

I removed the original lock nut.

Figured I don't need the nut as loctite will keep the arms tight in the thread.

This will absorb some of the horrible bang you get when you bottom out the paddle.



As for the ball joints, I am very happy with the result and cheap enough.

They are called "heavy duty", sealed and lubricated.

Very smooth, not at all tight like the originals.

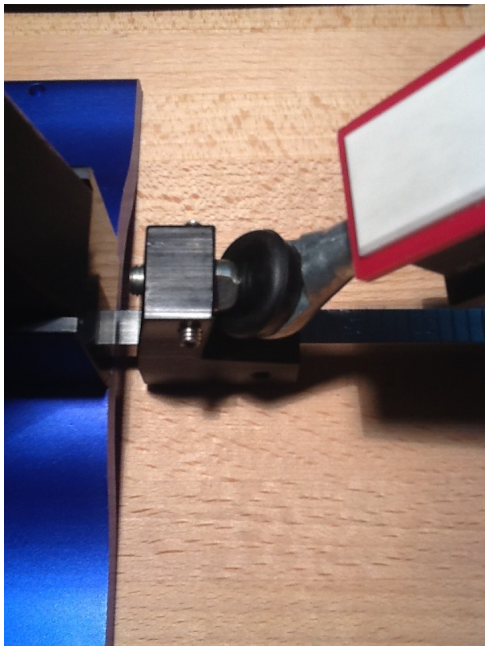
There is no allen key hole in the end of the stud for adjustment.

But I can use a spanner on the other side if I want.

I'm not using the micro-adjust anyway.

Another pic shows how well the seal protects the joint.

Put it on wrong way around to get a clear view.



That's It!

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!

Posted by Billabong - 27 Nov 2012 23:40

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I'm getting some socket heads put into these ball joints so I can still use the micro-adjust if I want.

The guy who sells them said they are used a lot in marine applications, so salt water isn't a problem.

Of course that would be great for whetstone use as well as a dusty environment.

Perhaps we can persuade Clay to offer these as an option?

Any interest?

Clay?

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!
Posted by mr.cheapguy - 28 Nov 2012 05:30

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I have searched several US parts houses. While there were many similar, not the same. None with that part number that I found.

Not that I have to have them but how much would they be in US$ plus shipping to the US?

Thanks.

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!
Posted by wickededge - 28 Nov 2012 08:32

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Billabong wrote:

I'm getting some socket heads put into these ball joints so I can still use the micro-adjust if I want.

The guy who sells them said they are used a lot in marine applications, so salt water isn't a problem.

Of course that would be great for whetstone use as well as a dusty environment.

Perhaps we can persuade Clay to offer these as an option?

Any interest?

Clay?

I had our machine shop order some and they're putting the socket head in the shank for me to test out.

I'm just waiting on the samples now

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!
Posted by Billabong - 28 Nov 2012 22:15

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mr.cheapguy wrote:

I have searched several US parts houses. While there were many similar, not the same. None with that part number that I found.

Not that I have to have them but how much would they be in US$ plus shipping to the US?

Thanks.

No eyed deer where you would find them in the US, but it shouldn't be hard.

The part number would apply to a brand.

I think if it looks like it and has the same thread it will do.

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!
Posted by FredHermann - 28 Nov 2012 22:29

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Good grief...this is another shining example of how we work together to make some thing great even better.

I'm just jealous I never thought of this.

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!
Posted by mr.cheapguy - 29 Nov 2012 00:37

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Billabong wrote:

No eyed deer where you would find them in the US, but it shouldn't be hard.

The part number would apply to a brand.

I think if it looks like it and has the same thread it will do.

That brand wasn't listed in any catalog I looked in and I did go through 20 at least.

None had the rubber dust cover.

Oh Well.

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!

Posted by Billabong - 29 Nov 2012 04:32

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mr.cheapguy wrote:

Billabong wrote:

No eyed deer where you would find them in the US, but it shouldn't be hard.

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I think if it looks like it and has the same thread it will do.

That brand wasn't listed in any catalog I looked in and I did go through 20 at least.

None had the rubber dust cover.

Oh Well.

This is where I first found them, but only metric.

wickededgeusa.com/index.php?option=com_k...0&Itemid=63#6093

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Re: Heavy Duty Ball Joint Upgrade!

Posted by Billabong - 01 Jan 2013 02:28

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Billabong wrote:

I'm getting some socket heads put into these ball joints so I can still use the micro-adjust if I want.

Put the socket head into a few of these, but not really worth the expense, as I don't use the micro-adjust.

May be able to offer some of these to members for cost.

Perhaps a WE voucher after arrival rather than cash changing hands?

An extra two inches on the arms is a great upgrade also, loving this.

edit - All gone, thanks.

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