

## **Looks familiar?**

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If you are drill operator or a drill owner, you will easily recognize the item in the picture.

When we think of a drilling job site, what comes to our mind is lot of mud. The rods are being drilled in and out. To help the drilling action, lot of mud gets pumped through the rods as well. When the rods are being pulled out, they are covered with mud. Before the rod goes back into the rod rack, it gets wiped with the Rod Wiper.

Rod Wipers are one of the most under managed item on any of the HDD machine. They are small, fairly cheap but are the most dirtiest part on the machine. Considering the amount of mud it handles, if a rod wiper goes bad, the most visible effect is seen on the rod and machine cleanliness. In reality though, the real damage is occurring in the vises. If the rod wiper is not able to do its job properly, small insignificant soil and sand pieces get packed in the teeth of the vise dies. Over the time the vises start slipping due to inadequate tooth engagement. Damaged vises due to slipping cause premature rod wear (upsets). The downtime due to this very costly to any organization.



## **What can be done?**

Keep eye on the rod wiper. Being made of rubber, it has its own life and can't work effectively beyond that. It is always advisable to keep a spare set of rod wipers at the site. The moment you feel that it is not doing its job properly, change it.

Power wash the vises out regularly and replace worn components. You might not be aware that this is ultimately causing damage to machine vises and drill rods.

In case of any issue on the machine, always get in touch with Vermeer India at [vermeerindia@vermeer.com](mailto:vermeerindia@vermeer.com) or call us on 1800-120-5931