



Get Credit Card Processing quotes now! **BuyerZone**
 FREE, Fast and Easy. No Obligations. [Get FREE quotes](#)

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

Ideas and Insight for the Equipment Pro

Reed Business Information.



- [Free Magazine Subscription](#)
- [Free eNewsletter Subscriptions](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Advertise/Media Kit](#)

Search 

Powered by 

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT **FREE WEBCASTS**
 NOW AVAILABLE ON-DEMAND 

- Equipment**
- [New Equipment](#)
- [Maintenance & Management](#)
- [Specifications](#)
- [Find Dealers & Manufacturers](#)
- [Magazine Archives](#)

- Earthmoving
- Lift & Concrete Placement
- Paving & Materials Production
- Compaction
- Compact Equipment
- Attachments
- Trucking & Hauling
- Underground Equipment
- Light Equipment
- Demolition, Recycling & Waste Handling
- Forestry
- Maintenance & Repair
- Construction Materials & Supplies
- Safety & Security
- Construction Technology & Software

[Home](#) > Article

[E-mail](#) [Print](#) [Subscribe to magazine](#) [RSS](#) **March 13, 2008**

Application Ideas

Idling Reducer Keeps Machines Ready to Roll in the Cold

[Digg This](#) | [add to Del.icio.us](#)

Temp-A-Start keeps wheel-loader blocks warm, starting and charging systems strong, and pays for itself over a single Alaskan winter

February 1, 2008
 By Larry Stewart, Executive Editor

Terry Howard was motivated to adapt idling-reduction technology, becoming more common in trucks, to ASRC's off-road equipment because the best way to get machines rolling after 14 hours off shift in the Alaskan winter was to leave the engines running.

This ASRC Volvo loader working on Alaska's North Slope is the first off-road machine equipped with Temp-A-Start two years ago. The system cut idling by nearly 80 percent and improved reliability in subzero temperatures.

"During initial tests of Temp-A-Start systems (in Dead Horse, on Alaska's North Slope) the temperature averaged -10 degrees Fahrenheit to -20 F," says Richard LeFrancois, a technical advisor to ASRC who introduced Howard to Temp-A-Start. "Run time for the machines was cut from 14 hours down to three hours."

During the three or four months when Alaskan companies leave machines run round the clock, the difference comes to about 1,000 hours of idling saved each winter.

The Temp-A-Start patented system consists of a control module, sensors for oil temperature (actually measuring block temperature) and battery charge, a thermostat for monitoring cab and ambient temperature, and a wiring harness. Since ASRC's adaptations, Temp-A-Start has begun producing 24-volt systems without the cab-climate controls for off-road machines.

The system can be activated when the ignition is on. The operator throws a switch and then can turn the ignition off, pull the key, and walk away. Temp-A-Start senses block temperature and automatically starts the engine if it drops below 55 F. If the transmission is put in gear with no key in the ignition, Temp-A-Start shuts the machine down.

Temp-A-Start has raised the target block temperature to 170 F (standard is 135 F) using engine speeds up to 1,200 or higher, depending on OEM recommendations for operation in sub-zero conditions. When the engine climbs to the appropriate temperature, the system turns it off.

The system also monitors battery voltage, and when the charge drops below a preset level, it will start the engine and run it long enough to charge the batteries.

Installed, Temp-A-Start units cost about \$3,700. Howard says the units reduce fuel and maintenance cost enough that they pay for themselves in one season of use.

Vista Training : See our latest training innovations and important industry developments

GOMACO : Find out what's new at Gomaco with our up-to-date press releases

Industry Resources : Maximize project productivity with these providers range of equipment and training solutions

LeFrancois and ASRC's Howard extrapolate additional benefits to consider. Reduced idling time extends the engine-oil drain interval, which reduces oil, filter and disposal costs. It also makes more technician labor available for other preventive maintenance.

Because Temp-A-Start monitors and reacts to battery charge level, it reduces starting-and-charging-system failures. When it begins cycling the engine on and off more frequently, simple troubleshooting will indicate if the battery, ground, starter, or alternator need repair or replacement.

Howard says all machines added to ASRC's fleet from now on will come with factory-installed idle-reduction systems.

ADVERTISEMENT

Instant connections on the construction site. That's getting it done at SprintSpeed.™



i335 by Motorola®
\$29.99
 for your business account.

> Get it done

Sprint ahead

[Digg This](#) | [add to Del.icio.us](#)

[E-mail](#)

[Print](#)

[Subscribe to magazine](#)

[RSS](#)

March 13, 2008

[TALK BACK - Let Us Know What You Think!](#)



[Post a comment](#)

There are no comments posted for this article.

[Click here](#) for current Talk Back discussions

© 2008, Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Ads By Google

[Southwest Equipment](#)

Bucket trucks and digger derricks for sale, used and reconditioned
www.SouthwestEquipment.com

[Heavy Equipment](#)

Backhoes, Excavators, & Skid Steers Visit Now for Free Price Quotes!
Equipment.BuyerZone.com

[Mace Conveyor Systems](#)

Portable Conveyor systems for the roofing, landscaping & building Ind
www.maceindustriesusa.com



Free quotes from Construction Equip. dealers for:

- Backhoes
- Skid Steers
- Air Compressors
- & more

Start Now >
BuyerZone

[Talk Back](#)

There are no comments posted for this article.

[Post a comment](#)

Contact Construction Equipment. Advertise/ Media Kit. About Construction Equipment.
Construction Equipment Affiliate Links. Free Subscriptions.

Copyright 2008 **Reed Business Information**, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc.
Reed® is a registered trademark of Reed Elsevier Inc.

The Reed logo, Construction Equipment are registered trademarks of Reed Elsevier Properties Inc. Used under license.
Use of this web site is subject to its Privacy Policy.

[Please visit these other Reed Business sites](#)

Media & Publishing:

Broadcasting & Cable | ContentAgenda | LA
 411 | Library Journal | Multichannel News | New
 York 411 | Publishers Weekly | School Library
 Journal | Criticas | Tradeshow Week | Variety |
 Video Business

Manufacturing:

Control Engineering | Design News | Industrial
 Distribution | Logistics Management |
 Kellysearch | Manufacturing Business
 Technology | Modern Materials Handling | Plant
 Engineering | Purchasing | Purchasing Data |
 Supply Chain Management Review

Business & Printing:

Converting | DM2-DecisionMaker | Expert
 Business Source | Graphic Arts Blue Book |
 Graphic Arts Monthly | Hot Frog | Packaging
 Digest | The Industry Measure | Tracom Group |
 Zibb

Gifts & Furnishings:

Casual Living | Furniture Today | Gifts &
 Decorative Accessories | Home Textiles Today |
 Home Accents Today | Jewelers' Circular
 Keystone | Kids Today | Playthings

Hospitality:

Chain Leader | Foodservice Equipment &
 Supplies | HOTELS | R&I

Electronics:

EDN | Instat | Semiconductor International | Test
 & Measurement World | TWICE

Building & Construction:

Associated Construction Publications | Building
 Design & Construction | Building Team Forecast |
 Construction Equipment | Consulting Specifying
 Engineer | Custom Builder | Housing Giants |
 HousingZone | Interior Design | Professional
 Builder | Professional Remodeler | Reed
 Connect | Reed Construction Bulletin | Reed
 Construction Data | Reed First Source | RS Means