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Technical Tips

by Garrett McKinnon - January 2012



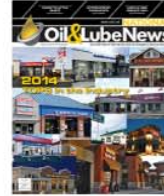
Ordinarily I shy away from writing technical tips about specific products, but in this instance I couldn't resist. Oil leaks caused by loose or damaged drain plugs have long been an operational challenge for lube operators, but I recently finished testing a new product called the Smart-O drain plug and found it to be something that could take the worry out of replacing a loose or damaged drain plug.

The Smart-O has a groove cut into the threaded portion of the drain plug, a groove that holds a specially engineered O-ring. Once this O-ring comes into contact with motor oil and heat, it expands up to 10 percent, creating a seal between the threads that helps prevent leaks — especially handy in the case of a damaged plug.

These plugs are a little tough to install and uninstall, owing to the O-ring, but they can be used over and over.

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