

# 1299 ALMAPLEX® ULTRA-SYN LUBRICANT

VITAL EARTH RESOURCES, Big Sandy, Texas

Vermeer Tub-Grinders • SIC 2875 Fertilizers, Mixing Only

- ⇒ Reduced operating temperatures from 185°-200°F to 145°-160°F
- ⇒ Saved \$5,400 in bearing replacement in a 16 month period

## CUSTOMER PROFILE

Vital Earth Resources is a major producer of quality soils and fertilizers, both organic and chemical. They use LE Products almost exclusively and have since the startup of the company in 1983. Prior to that time, the owners used LE Products in another company, Luckwood, Inc. Luckwood, an excavating and paving business was incorporated in 1977, and in the '80's was named a Fortune 500 company. One of the founders of Luckwood and Vital Earth was the late Buck Hammer. Buck's sons and daughter-in-law, Scott, Terrie, and Kerry Hammer currently operate and manage Vital Earth Resources. Scott, President, is a true believer that LE Products do protect their very expensive equipment. Their equipment includes a digester (a 120' long composting vessel), tub grinders, screens, hammer mills, conveyors, dump trucks, tractor/trailers, loaders, etc.

Their customer base is nursery and professional landscapers in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

## APPLICATION

Vital Earth use three Vermeer Tub-Grinders, a Brawny TG400, a model TG525 and a Morbark 1300 to grind or split large pieces into usable material.



CUSTOMER TESTIMONIAL

**LUBRICATION  
ENGINEERS, Inc.**

Leaders in Lubricants



300 Bailey Ave • Fort Worth, TX • Phone: 800-537-7683 817-916-3200  
FAX: 800-228-1143 817-820-0027 • [www.le-inc.com](http://www.le-inc.com)

L170653  
11-30-07

## **AREA OF INTEREST**

The Hammer Mill support or carrier bearings were not a major problem, however they felt improvement was possible. The units take a beating because of foreign material that gets sent into the unit (chunks of steel or cast iron) knocking off hammer heads and leaving the mill off balance. This created vibration that caused tapping on the bearings and created high heat before the bearing failure that was occurring every 8-10 months. The bearing temperatures (185°-200°F) would elevate when these hammer heads were knocked off, even with daily relubrication.

## **LE SOLUTION**

The local LE Lubrication Consultant Walter Morman recommended 1299 ALMA PLEX® Ultra-Syn Lubricant. LE 1299 is engineered to provide optimum performance capabilities under extreme equipment operating conditions.

## **CUSTOMER COST SAVINGS**

Since the conversion to LE 1299 ALMA PLEX® Ultra-Syn Lubricant, temperatures have dropped to 145°-160°F, even when a little out of balance. They are now into the 11th month, with less grease being used to relubricate. This is due to the grease volatility being much lower and the 1299 ALMA PLEX® staying in much better than previous products.

Longer bearing life and less grease consumption is already being noticed. When

they make the 16 month point on a set of bearings the cost savings will be tremendous.

A set of bearings costs \$1350.00 in addition to downtime at \$450.00 per hour, around 7 hours, approximately \$4,050.00.

**In a 16 month period that would be a savings of approximately \$5,400.00!**

Maintenance Engineer BJ Bojachier says, ***“Put LE in your equipment and you can go on home and sleep at night!”***

## **OTHER PRODUCTS USED**

- 401 ALMASOL® Pure Mineral Gear Lubricant
- 460 ALMASOL® Worm Gear Lubricant
- 607-608 ALMASOL® Vari-Purpose Gear Lubricant
- 703-704 MONOLEC® Gear Lubricant
- 1275 ALMA PLEX® Industrial Lubricant
- 2001 MONOLEC® Wire Rope Lubricant
- 2059 MONOLEX® Penetrating Oil & Lubricant
- 2100 NUTRIGENT Industrial Cleaner
- 2300 L-X® Heavy-Duty Chemical Supplement
- 3751-3752 ALMAGARD® Vari-Purpose Lubricant
- 4622 MONOLEC® Multiplex Lubricant
- 5180 & 5182 PYROSHIELD®
- 8800 MONOLEC ULTRA® Engine Oil
- 9102 SYNTEMP® Synthetic Lubricant

Lubrication Engineers Inc. would like to thank Scott Hammer, Terrie Hammer, Kerry Hammer, Maintenance Engineer BJ (Donald) Bojachier and Lubrication Consultant Walter Morman for providing the information used to prepare this report.



**Walter Morman**