Lubrication - Gear Drives

Oil specifications, fill and level checks

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Lubrication for Eskridge gear drives

Eskridge gear drives should be filled with oil to the middle of the face width of the uppermost planet stage in the vertical, shaft-down position. For shaft-up applications, fill the unit with oil until it begins to come out the upper plug hole. For horizontal shaft applications, fill the unit with oil at least half way up but not more than 2/3 to the highest level possible. Some air space must be left in the gear drive for expansion to prevent seal leakage or damage.

Mineral based oil

Use a good quality, GL5, EP (generally 80-90) mineral based oil. Be sure the pour point is at least 10 degrees Fahrenheit lower than the lowest anticipated operating temperature of the gear drive. Higher viscosity oil may be desirable for use in higher operating temperatures. The acceptable operating temperature for the gear drives is between -40 degrees Fahrenheit to 180 degrees Fahrenheit .

Synthetic based oil

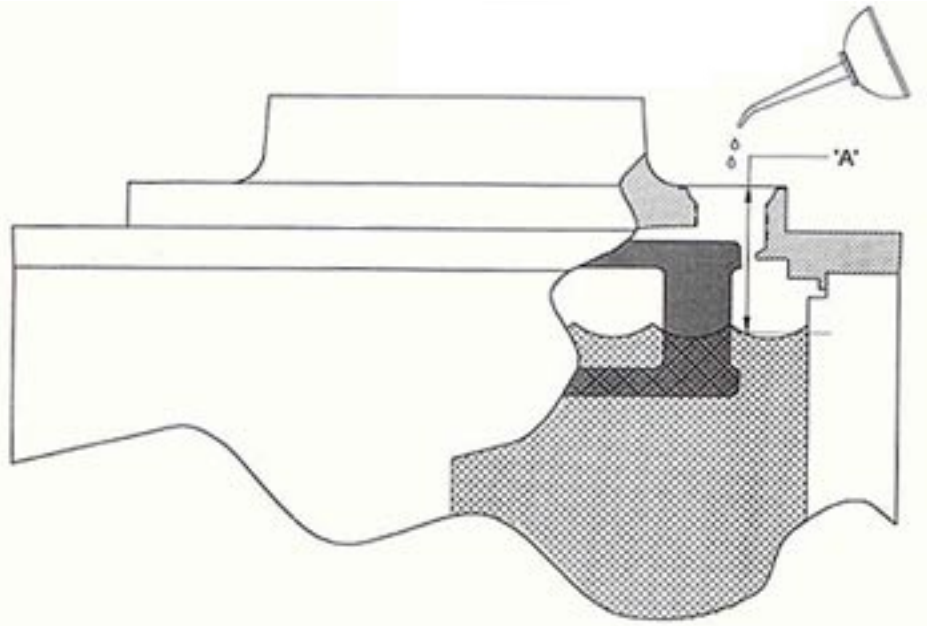
Again, use a good quality, GL5, EP (generally 80-90) synthetic oil. Use an oil with a pour point 10 degree lower than the lowest anticipated operating temperature. According to the oil manufacturers, some synthetics attack some seal polymers, even some nitrile seals. Standard, Eskridge gear drives use Nitrile (buna-N) seals but the compounding may be different. Some testing by the customer may be required to be sure there is no incompatibility between the oil and the seals used. Although synthetics generally have a wider operating range, as with mineral oil, it may be desirable to use a higher viscosity for higher operating temperatures.

Follow the service manual for the particular gear drive in question to determine oil change interval and other details specific to each gear drive.

Oil Fill and Level Check

Applies only to vertical, shaft-down applications

The correct oil level should reach the middle of the primary planet gear face. Rotate input gear until oil level gage can be **inserted between** planet gears.



Models	Depth To Oil, Dimension 'A'
20, 28, 36, 50, 60, 100, 120, 130	1.25 To 1.5 Inches
150, 250, 252 & Auger Drives: 75, 78	2.25 To 2.50 Inches
600, 1000	2.5 To 2.75 Inches