



A Case Study of Environmentally Safe Oil Changes for Work Trucks and Heavy Equipment

Since first being introduced to the Clean Planet Oil Evac Valve Kit in 2006, Timmy Plecker, owner of Plecker Construction and Excavating Company in the Central Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, has experienced exponential environmental improvements in his operation. Plecker is a family owned, long-established icon in the Valley that owns and operates a fleet of some 100 pieces of heavy equipment and work trucks and helps State, Federal, and regional customers fulfill their construction and excavation needs.

As with any construction and excavating company, fleet down time is costly. Because of his pressing need to keep his equipment performing on his full load of jobs, Plecker relies on both **in-field** and **in-shop servicing** of his fleet of work trucks and equipment ranging from small rollers to D8 dozers. When Clean Planet's Jim Williams approached Plecker in 2006 and asked if he could pilot his new invention on a few pieces of equipment and dump trucks in the work-fields, Plecker agreed to the pilot.

"Jim had been servicing our fleets as an independent contractor when he invented the Oil Evac Valve Kit and Shuttle. I knew his work, his capabilities, and realized he just might be onto a clean oil change process here that, if it worked, could cut down pollution in the work field and in my shop, and help eliminate environmental cleanup and concerns for my company.

After the first service job, it was self-evident that what he put on our equipment and trucks was the way to **improved environmental stewardship and time and costs savings** for Plecker Construction. What I saw was a **clean, self-contained system** that replaced the manufacturers' drain plugs on oil pans, transmissions, differentials and other reservoirs with a **vacuum actuated system** that evacuated the reservoirs **without spills**, even in the work fields with mountain winds blowing wildly. We always had spills and draining oil and other fluids being broadcast across the worksites when we relied on traditional gravity drains. Jim went on to replace our service truck's drain pan transport system for used fluids with a **self-contained Shuttle** that works in conjunction with the Oil Evac Valve kit **to receive and transport used oils safely** and without spills back to our shop for offloading into the recycle tank. We soon began to **realize the savings** we were seeing in cleanup time and costs, and manpower and equipment down time servicing our fleets."

Plecker reports a **savings of 30 minutes per oil change** as a result of the Oil Evac Valve Kit, which translates into an **average savings of \$20 per truck service**, when factoring in the mechanic's time servicing and cleaning up spills and splashes.

"Those figures increase dramatically when applied to our heavy equipment fleet.

The 30 minutes saved on the service frees the tech to move more quickly to a repair on a downed piece of equipment that brings in hundreds of dollars an hour when up and running. When you figure what each piece of equipment turns on a construction or excavating job, it's easy to see that each service job is now resulting in savings on many fronts. The Clean Planet Valve Kits cost us around \$200 each," explains Plecker.

"When I look at the **time saved**, the **increased services** that one man can now conduct during a day's work, the **elimination of spills and splashes** in our service truck, the work field, and in our shop, I can easily see how much this system has helped our company up its **environmental stewardship** to the next level of achievement. Couple all that with the **monetary savings** we see annually, including the **reduction of down time** and **replacement costs** of damaged and stripped drain plugs, and we realize just how beneficial this system is and how environmentally friendly it has helped make our company. The Oil Evac Valve Kit's **safety check valve feature** is designed to **break away upon impact and seal** the oil in the pan. That feature alone can relieve the balance sheet of **engine replacement and environmental cleanup**, and **probable EPA and DEQ fines**."

In addition to these costs and savings advantages stemming from the Oil Evac Valve Kit and Shuttle, Plecker also celebrates the fact that the system removes his techs and mechanics from harm's way by **eliminating the threat of serious health issues** resulting from direct contact with the harmful benzenes and hydrocarbons in used oil. In addition to protecting the environment and saving our company time and money, we are directly contributing to the improved health of our mechanics. This is a win/win on every front. I see our fleets today as having a positive environmental and human health impact and our company as a stronger environmental steward."

To learn more about the following key Oil Evac Valve Kit and Shuttle attributes and Plecker Construction and Excavating Company's experience with these products, contact Timmy Plecker at 540.885.8964 or Clean Planet Mfg. & Labs, Inc. at 540.487.9665:

1. **Fast**
Gravity drain systems are a thing of the past. The Oil Evac Valve Kit reduces hot oil removal time from a 32 quart pan from 30 minutes to 3 minutes.
2. **Smart**
Faster service time equals shortened down time for trucks and equipment; the safety check valve feature ensures engine preservation and eliminates environmental liability from the balance sheet, all for around \$200 a kit.
3. **Prudent**
Financial savings average \$20 per service for work trucks and semis and \$75 per service for heavy equipment when you don't have to drop the belly pan.
4. **Safe**
The self-contained, spill-free evacuation system prevents mechanics' exposure to cancer-causing hydrocarbons and benzenes found in used oil.
5. **Clean**
Spills from draining fluids and mis-placed, overflowing oil pans are no longer a threat to the shop, the work field, or the environment.
6. **Versatile**
The Oil Evac Valve Kit can be made to fit any oil pan drain plug; Shuttles are custom made for in-shop or in-field use in a range of sizes to meet customers' needs.