

Manufacturing drills and seeders: Finding the best components

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In modern agriculture, precision is everything. From planting schedules to fertilizer applications, farmers are constantly looking for ways to enhance productivity and reduce waste. At the heart of this push for efficiency is equipment like the seed drill, a staple in mechanized farming. However, the performance of this equipment depends heavily on the quality and integration of its components, especially couplings, clutches, and bearings.

Leading suppliers like Regal Rexnord™ have become key partners for original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) in this space, offering integrated motion control solutions that improve both machinery reliability and field performance. Among their product portfolio, wrap spring clutches from Warner Electric™ stand out as a prime example of how advanced component technology is transforming seed application systems.

Wrap spring clutches: Precision seeding, simplified

Controlling seed distribution with accuracy is a fundamental function of any seed drill. Warner Electric wrap spring clutches, available through Regal Rexnord, provide an elegant and reliable solution. These clutches engage and disengage the seeding mechanism with near-instantaneous response times, ensuring that seeds are placed at precise intervals.

Wrap spring clutches are particularly suited to this application due to their repeatability and minimal wear over time. Unlike other clutch types that may require

regular calibration or replacement, wrap spring clutches offer long operational life with limited maintenance, which is critical in the demanding and dusty environment of agriculture.

The drive systems can be tailored to the OEM's requirements; choosing between fixed hexagonal bar, chain or flexible driveshaft systems. This adaptability enables enhanced integration with the design platform, which enhances performance and reliability. For farmers, this translates to more consistent crop rows, reduced seed waste, and better yields. For OEMs, it means fewer warranty claims, easier system integration, and a reputation for delivering reliable, precision-focused machinery.

Advantages of consolidated component sourcing

Sourcing components like couplings, clutches, brakes, bearings, and chains from a single supplier such as Regal Rexnord offers multiple strategic advantages. First and foremost is compatibility. When all motion control components come from the same engineering ecosystem, integration becomes seamless. Matching torque ratings, mounting interfaces, and performance characteristics across parts reduces design complexity and potential points of failure.

Furthermore, consolidated sourcing simplifies procurement and logistics. OEMs can work with a single point of contact for multiple component needs, which speeds up development timelines and reduces administrative overheads. It also facilitates consistent lead times and coordinated delivery schedules, key metrics for manufacturers operating within tight production windows.

Another important benefit is technical support. A supplier deeply familiar with the complete drivetrain from the clutch to the bearing, is better equipped to provide application-specific advice and troubleshooting. Regal Rexnord's team of engineers collaborates directly with OEMs during the product development phase to ensure that every component is optimized for the machine's unique requirements.

Collaboration during product development

OEMs benefit significantly from Regal Rexnord's collaborative approach to engineering. Whether designing a new model of seed drill or refining an existing one, Regal Rexnord's application engineers work closely with design teams to tailor components for maximum performance and durability.

This co-development process often involves prototype testing, in-field validation, and iterative improvements, all supported by Regal Rexnord's deep technical resources and decades of experience. The broad portfolio of brands, including Rexnord™, Sealmaster™, and Warner Electric, allows the company to pull from a wide range of proven technologies to meet specific agricultural challenges.

In addition, the ability to provide integrated sub-assemblies, such as clutch/brake modules pre-fitted with couplings or bearings, helps reduce installation time and improve assembly line efficiency.

A partner in agricultural innovation

Ultimately, the benefits of this supply chain efficiency and engineering excellence are felt by the end users and manufacturers alike. As agriculture continues to adopt more precision farming technology and automation, machinery manufacturers need to keep one step ahead of the competition. Machines that offer smoother operation, less downtime, and more predictable maintenance cycles will enable farmers to distribute seed accurately season after season, even under variable field conditions.

Moreover, reliable braking and coupling systems reduce the likelihood of breakdowns during critical planting windows, helping farmers stay on schedule and maximize their investment in both machinery and seed.

As agriculture continues to adopt smarter, more connected equipment, the demand for dependable, high-performance components will only increase. Suppliers like Regal Rexnord are not just manufacturers, they are innovation partners helping OEMs bring more efficient, reliable, and user-friendly machines to market. Integrated solutions are paving the way for the next generation of agricultural machinery, where every seed counts, and that kind of precision makes all the difference.

Image captions:



Image 1 Precision seed control minimizes waste and improves yields.



Image 2: Product development process ensures every component is optimized for the machine's unique requirements.



Image 3: Precision drills rely on components like wrap spring clutches for accuracy.

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Regal Rexnord Corporation is a global leader in the engineering and manufacturing of automation sub-systems, industrial powertrain solutions, automation and power transmission components, electric motors and electronic controls, air moving products, and specialty electrical components and systems, serving customers around the world. Through longstanding technology leadership and an intentional focus on producing more energy-efficient products and systems, Regal Rexnord helps create a better tomorrow – for its customers and for the planet.

Following the acquisition of Altra, and commencing with its 1Q 2023 earnings release, Regal Rexnord will report under four operating segments: Industrial Powertrain Solutions, Power Efficiency Solutions, Automation & Motion Control and Industrial Systems. Regal Rexnord is headquartered in Beloit, Wisconsin and has manufacturing, sales, and service facilities worldwide.

For more information, visit [RegalRexnord.com](https://www.RegalRexnord.com)

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