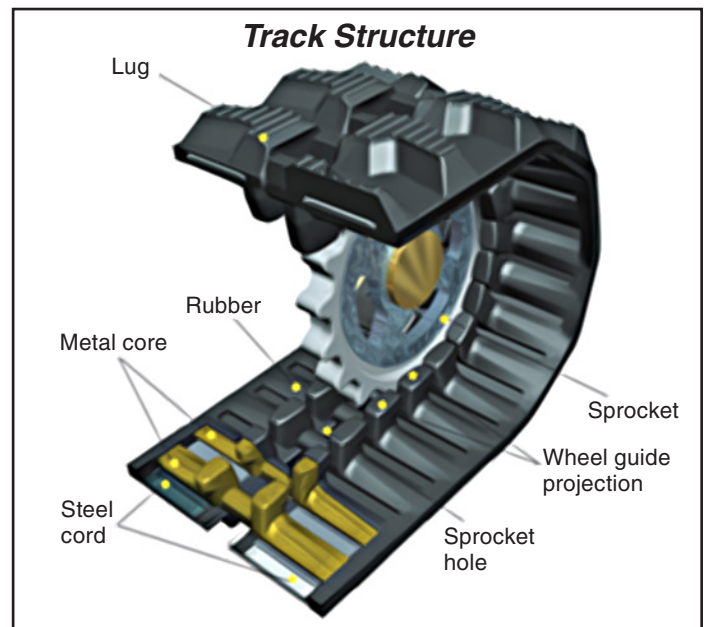


UNDERSTANDING THE RUBBER TRACK DRIVE

The MQ Whiteman WTB16 buggy features a ladder-track design selected for its durability and engineered to meet contractor requirements.

As with the tires on any piece of machinery, they will withstand normal wear and tear, but understanding the design will help you minimize downtime and maximize performance.

The image at right details the construction of a typical track system.



How to maximize the service life of rubber track drives.

Avoid sharp turns and spins. Tight, or sudden, changes in direction increases surface friction and may cause tracks to prematurely loosen. A larger turning radius during operation helps maintain proper track tension.

Avoid making turns in loose gravel. Stones can kick into the drive sprocket causing deep gouges exposing metal cord.

Remove debris from undercarriage. Keeping it clean and free of debris reduces downtime. Foreign objects may cause binding, stretching of tracks, and premature failure. Dry mud can become as hard as concrete and its abrasiveness can wear the tracks and over-stress the drive system.

Inspect track tension every 50 hours. Loose tracks may cause drive sprocket to skip and possible derail.

Avoid travel over objects that can damage or fray rubber. Jagged base rock, scrap iron and concrete curbs can cut rubber tracks, allow water to enter, rusting the steel core and lead to eventual failure.

Avoid continuous operation on concrete or asphalt. Hard surfaces create more friction than soil and will cause premature wear.

Monitor travel speed. Unnecessary acceleration and sudden stops can cause premature wear, especially on hard surfaces such as concrete and asphalt.

Approach slopes/grades directly – not at an angle. Cutting across a slope accelerates wear to guide lugs, sprocket and rollers. Traveling straight up and down minimizes wear and tear.

Avoid contact with chemicals. Some chemicals, including oil, may cause rubber to deteriorate. Washing immediately after contact will help extend service life.

Protect from sunlight when not in use. Minimize exposure to UV by storing inside building or cover tracks with tarp.

Rotate tracks when not in use. Rotate tracks at least once a month when not in use for a prolonged period of time. This prevent stress being continuously placed on the same area of the tracks.