ADVANTAGE: CAT®

CAT[®] GENERAL DUTY UNDERCARRIAGE VS ITR

KEY ADVANTAGE

Cat[®] joints use premium seals that keep oil in the joint longer for enhanced track life. At the end of the test that substantiates this claim, ITR bushings were 48 percent worn. The link assembly joints went dry, causing the track to fail at 2,936 hours. As the track extended from dry joints, the track recoil spring extended as much as possible to accommodate it.

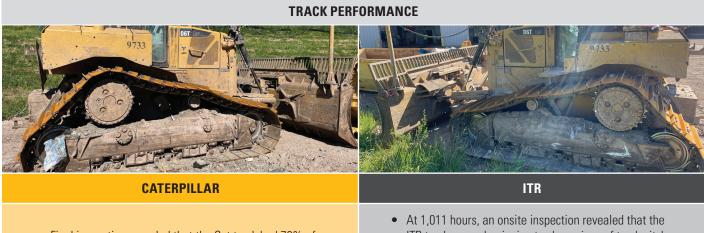
At 2,936 hours, when the test ended, the Cat bushings were only 18 percent worn. The link wear percentage was only 29 percent, and the joints had oil in them. Caterpillar estimates that the Cat link assembly would have lasted up to 10,000 hours.



TEST EXECUTION

The testing team outfitted a D6T LGP with new ITR undercarriage on the left side and new Cat General Duty undercarriage on the right side. The undercarriage test took place in a landfill application and lasted 2,936 hours. Installed components included rollers, idlers, segments and track. The test occurred from December 2021 through March 2024 in the Midwest region of the United States. The local Cat dealer PSSR and the Undercarriage Product Group team monitored the test on a regular basis.





- Final inspection revealed that the Cat track had 70% of life remaining.
- The Cat track would have lasted approximately 10,000 hours.

- At 1,011 hours, an onsite inspection revealed that the ITR tracks were beginning to show signs of track pitch extension. The customer could wiggle them by hand.
- The customer extended the frame twice before ending the test at 2,936 hours because the track was too loose.



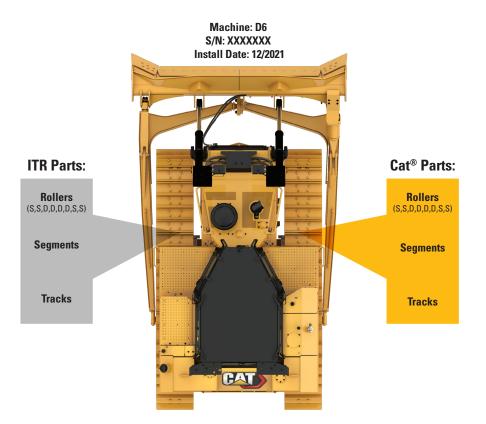
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RESULTS

The testing team compared and analyzed the Cat General Duty and ITR components visually, dimensionally and mechanically.

Data shows the Cat joints remained lubricated while the ITR parts were dry at the end of the test (2,936 hours). Dry joints accelerate wear over time and are caused by metal-on-metal connection. ITR track joints had no oil and "could be wiggled by hand" throughout the test, according to the customer.

INSTALLED IRON: CAT AND COMPETITION





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