TVT-8 Claw Pivot Lubrication

After extended use (possibly after each few hundred running hours) it might become necessary to lubricate the Claw Pivot. From this point, the pulldown claw hinges up and down, and in and out. If it is stiff here the claw may have trouble moving far enough, causing jitter or loss of loops. Super-8 mechanisms have the white plastic bearing piece as shown. This is not found on 8mm machines.

To reach this point, remove the Manual Advance knob with a .050” hex key, and 12 panel screws with a #2 Philips screwdriver. The Claw Pivot is very close to the shutter. (In this view the sprocket gears are not present. Some models will have a different shutter, or no shutter, and a different diameter pulley.)

For lubrication, we are currently using Misty Slip Shot II which is a red aerosol grease that comes out thin and runny to penetrate into close quarters, then thickens into a sticky grease. It is Amrep part number A00727 and sold by McMaster-Carr as their catalog number 1062K67. It is likely available from other industrial suppliers. Spray in between the various layers of the Claw Pivot. Turn the Manual Advance shaft to get better access.

While you are at it, you should also apply a dab of grease to the up-down and in-out cams on the main shaft. Also put a drop of light oil on both ends of both of the sintered-bronze bearings for the main shaft. The white plastic sprocket gears and metal sprocket shaft bearings (if present) and steel worm normally seem to do well without any additional grease. If the worm or up-down cam shows signs of rust, apply a thin layer of oil or grease to the surface.

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