

The Milli-grip adjustable spanner from HTM Products Ltd.

I will start by saying I'm not a real fan of adjustable spanners - my logic is why not have a full set and do the job properly? However, at the rear of the hall at Stafford I noticed a small stand offering such a device and I initially (only out of curiosity I must add!) examined the goods on offer. In summary, I was rather impressed. Firstly, this Milli-grip spanner is designed and made in the UK - a good start in my opinion. Next, the spanner weighs a lot. Call me shallow, but with my engineering eye it's easy to see there have been no shortcuts in the design. Lastly, and most importantly, the ratchet system which allows simple adjustment is made from quality chrome vanadium - seriously hard stuff to the uninitiated. So, in short, this is a quality tool through and through. Having invested a mind-numbing six figure sum in the

development of this single tool (staggering, I know), over 20,000 have been purchased to date ... make that 20,002. I simply couldn't resist! Oh yes, it also just happened to win two product design awards at the British Invention Show!

The principle of operation is simple. Press the little button on the side and the jaw drops open. Place over the nut in question and push the jaw closed. Once set to size, it will not move and allows you to tighten the nut. Having a ratchet of 1 mm intervals this is for metric fasteners only, but an imperial alternative is in the pipeline. Having used my purchase for a few jobs (some of which were around the house), I'm extremely impressed. Here is an example of its use in the garage: I had to help assemble a front suspension set-up on a kit for a friend the other day. Faced with numerous bolts and nuts of differing sizes, I used the Milli-grip to undertake the initial assembly - no scrambling for spanners, no accusing my friend of stealing the 13 mm open ender; it was so simple and quick. OK, the final torque settings required my socket set, but the first 'fix', so to speak, took no time at all.

Consequently, I'm not saying this little tool will replace your spanners, but I assure you if it's in your tool box it will be the first port of call when you need to



Milli-grip in both sizes.

quickly nip something up.

Go to the website at www.milli-grip.com and you can watch a video of this nifty little tool in action. Don't confuse it with cheaper alternatives because it has a real feel of quality and is the genuine article. You can order online or call **01273 494844**. Available in two sizes: the 25 mm jaw version is £14.95 inc VAT and the larger 32 mm version (ideal for plumbing compression joints) is £17.95 inc VAT.



Quality construction.



Simple to use.