

TB 129

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

SAFETY ISSUE

For the Attention of : Service Engineers, Installers, Trade Customers, Testers, Training Departments, H & S Managers

Date : 25/06/2012

Product : Maxilift Hydraulic models

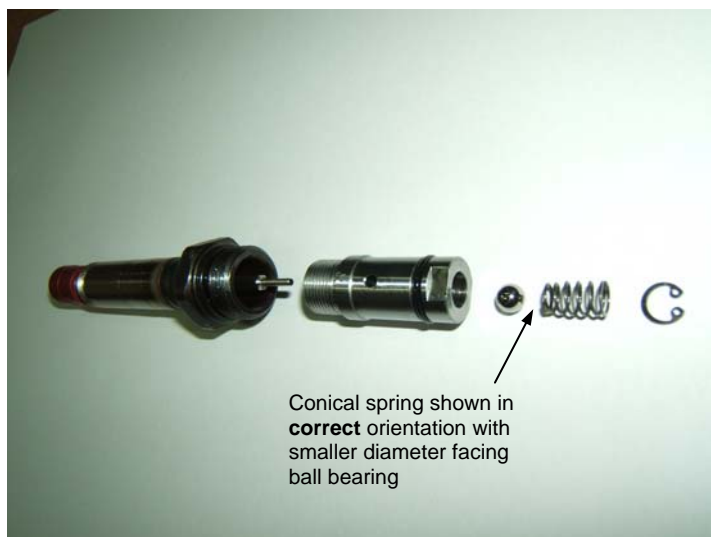
Subject : Emergency manual lowering valve (VSMA)

Pages : 2

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The purpose of this bulletin is to raise awareness of a safety issue which has been brought to our attention by site engineers and has resulted in a 'near miss' report being issued.

The issue relates to the emergency manual lowering valve on the NGV and NGV-A3 electronic valve block supplied by GMV. There have been 4 separate instances where the conical spring, which acts on the ball bearing to close the valve, has been assembled the wrong way round. This can result in the ball bearing becoming lodged inside the spring after using the manual lowering button to relieve the high pressure when undertaking a 200% pressure test or pressure relief test. As a consequence, the valve will be jammed in the open position and the lift will continue to descend at slow speed when the button is released.



Exploded assembly of emergency manual lowering valve (VSMA)

There have been no reported instances of the valve malfunctioning during normal operation i.e. at or below full load pressure.

This quality issue is under investigation with our supplier GMV who have implemented checks within their own test procedures and are looking to design out the possible fault for the future.

Actions:

It is recommended that site personnel are extra vigilant when operating the emergency manual lowering valve, particularly, immediately after higher pressure testing.

When operation of the manual lowering button can only be undertaken by personnel located in the pit then it is vital that the pit prop is installed in line with company safety procedures.

If the above fault does occur during testing of the lift then the manual lowering valve must be disassembled and the spring reoriented to its correct position or the complete valve replaced.