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SERVICE BULLETIN

VIBRATORY HAMMERS • POWER UNITS/AUGER SYSTEMS • DIESEL & HYDRAULIC HAMMERS
DRILL RIGS • HYDRAULIC PILING RIGS • WICK DRAIN INSTALLERS • LEAD SYSTEMS

Dec. 10, 2015



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#26 Servicing Top Drive Drill Filters

Take extreme care to clean the components thoroughly before servicing. This is the time when foreign particles are most often introduced into a hydraulic system.

Filters:

These filters are unidirectional, as they filter the hydraulic fluid in one direction only. The fluid flows around the filter in the opposite direction. These filters are rated for high pressure (6000 PSI) and are not equipped with a bypass valve in the filtering flow direction. As the filter element fills with particulates, it requires more and more pressure to push the fluid flow through the filter element.

The best way to get full service life out of these filter elements is to establish an operating baseline, then monitor the pressure difference across the filter.

To establish an accurate baseline, establish the following:

A consistent flow rate, or motor speed

A consistent fluid temperature (plus/minus 10 F degrees)

Because these are drills, they spend the majority of their time rotating in the drilling direction, the filter in the reverse direction does not see the same volume of fluid. Compare the drive and reverse pressures, when you notice a substantial difference (300-400 PSI) move the reverse element to the drive side and replace the return element.

APE HEADQUARTERS

7032 S 196TH STREET
KENT, WA 98032
(800) 248-8498 • (253) 872-0141
FAX (253) 872-8710

NORTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE

401 HARTLE ST.
SAYREVILLE, NJ 08872
(888) 217-7524 • (732) 432-6604
FAX (732) 432-6608

APE CHINA

BUILDING No. 233, FU QIAO ROAD
GU CUN INDUSTRIAL ZONE BAOSHAN DISTRICT
SHANGHAI, CHINA 201906
011-86-21-5677-1221
FAX 011-86-21-3604-0553

LOUISIANA REGIONAL OFFICE

39266 A DOYLE DRIVE
GONZALES, LA 70737
(225) 644-7722
FAX (225) 644-7626

GULF REGIONAL OFFICE

3975 FM Hwy 1485
CONROE, TX 77306
(800) 596-2877 • (936) 271-1044
FAX (936) 271-1046

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE

500 NEWTON ROAD, #200
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23462
(866) 399-7500 • (757) 518-9740
FAX (757) 518-9741

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE

1345 INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD
MULBERRY, FL 33860
(800) 570-3844 • (863) 324-0378
FAX (863) 318-9409

MID-WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

50 GERBER INDUSTRIAL DR.
ST. PETERS, MO 63376
(877) 296-8044 • (636) 397-8400
FAX (636) 278-4278

WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

2985 LOOMIS ROAD
STOCKTON, CA 95205
(888) 245-4401 • (209) 942-2166
FAX (209) 942-2455



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Accumulators:

IMPORTANT SAFETY WARNING:

This component is filled with compressed nitrogen and presents a potential hazard.

Using shop air is extremely dangerous.

ALWAYS PRECHARGE ACCUMULATOR WITH DRY NITROGEN GAS (N2) ONLY!

Use a proper charging harness.

Don not use automotive valve stems.

Always think Safety.

The Nitrogen pre-charge pressure will dissipate over time. It should be considered a maintenance item, prior to every deployment to a job.

Pre-charge to desired pressure by increasing gas flow slowly.

Check the valve stem for leakage, with soapy water

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