



J. H. FLETCHER & CO. Box 2187 – Huntington, WV 25722-2187 – 304/525-7811 – FAX 304/525-4025

IMPORTANT SERVICE NOTICE

INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 56

TO: ALL J. H. FLETCHER & CO. FIELD SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES – GROVER

FISCHBECK, BILL MARSTON, GREG MARSTON AND BOB MILLER

FROM: RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

J. H. FLETCHER & CO.

DATE: JUNE 1995

SUBJ: RELIEF VALVE, PART NO. 150759

J. H. Fletcher & Co. recently has begun utilizing this relief valve on new equipment. On the most recent machine manufactured with this valve, it was noted that the valve had been mounted horizontally, rather than vertically (see attached.) The relief valve manufacturer advises that the valve should be mounted vertically, because "horizontal mounting could affect the alignment of the moving parts and affect the operation of the valve." (See attached "Safety Valve Installation" sheet.) To ensure that all of these valves currently in the field have been mounted properly, I am requesting that you check the valve position the next time you are at the mine. If the valve is mounted horizontally, use an elbow or other appropriate device to remount the valve vertically. If you experience difficulty in remounting the valve, contact Tim Burgess. After checking each machine and either confirming the valve is mounted vertically or remounting the valve, complete the attached "Service Verification Form" and return it to me.

Attachments

cc: Tim Blevins Tim Burgess Bill Goad

Greg Hinshaw





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ELECTRICAL

PUMP SYSTEM

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DRILLING UNIT

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SAFETY COMPONENT

VALVES

WATER (OPTIONAL)

ORDER FORM



NOTE: NO PARTS RECOMMENDED FOR FIELD SERVICE



The following information is of a general cautionary nature only. For specific information consult the appropriate design data and local and industry codes. The Co. assumes no responsibility beyond it's stated warranties.

It is essential to the proper operation of safety valves that cleanliness be observed in storage, handling, and installation. Each valve should be stored under cover so that foreign matter will not enter the valve or lodge in the inlet or outlet ports. Inspect each valve before installation and make sure that it is clean. Foreign matter can be carried into or through the valve during operation, which may damage the seat, resulting in leakage. Prior to installation of the valve, clean the piping of all foreign matter.

Valves should be mounted vertically. Horizontal mounting could affect the alignment of the moving parts and affect the operation of the valve. If vertical mounting is not possible please consult the factory. The valve should be installed in a location that will not direct the discharge at personnel traffic areas. Mount the valve in a location that will subject it to the loast vibration possible. Severe vibration can affect the valve sealing and possibly damage the valve. Valves subject to vibration should be set at as high a pressure over the system operating pressure as is practical to avoid premature opening, this is particularly important when the valve is to be used with engine driven system.

Care should be taken not to damage or distort the valve during installation. Use only the wrench flats closest to the bottom of the valve during installation and use the proper size wrench to avoid damage to the surface of the valve and to prevent distortion which can interfere with the valve operation or may after the set pressure.

Normal installations require that valves be set a minimum of 5 P.S.I. or 10%, whichever is higher, over the operating pressure of the system. When checking the pressure setting of a valve use a test gauge of known accuracy. The first "pop" of a valve can vary considerably from the set pressure. The valve should be operated several times prior to taking a pressure reading. The set pressure can deviate from the marked pressure by plus or minus 2 P.S.I. at settings below 70 P.S.I. and plus or minus 3% at settings of 70 P.S.I. and above.

If a valve is discovered to be leaking it can often be cleared by manually operating the valve or by connecting the valve to a pressure that will cause it to operate. Please note that valves with metal to metal seats are not absolutely "bubble tight" and they will allow a pressure loss over a period of time. Commercial seat tightness is defined by API Standard 527 which is used as a leakage criteria. If a valve has a leak it should be replaced as leaks are self propagating.

Safety relief valves must be inspected and tested for operation periodically. It is the users responsibility to determine the frequency of inspection as he is the only party familiar with the operating conditions and the relative hazards of an inoperative valve. It is recommended that at the very least each valve should be inspected semi-annually. Local ordinances may require more frequent inspection. Testing should be done by operating the valve either through the use of the operating device on the valve or if it doesn't have an operating device it should be connected to a source of pressure that will cause it to operate.

The capacity of a valve should be selected to be over the maximum capacity of the combined sources of air supply, it should also be noted that the capacity should not be over 150% of the supply as the valve may "chatter" when it discharges. Each Installation must be properly engineered and flow piping should be sized with reference to establish criteria such as the pressure piping code and ASME Pressure Vessel design data or any applicable design criteria for specific usage. When designing system protection for extreme high or low temperatures or use with gasses other than air consult the factory.

Valves that are capacity certified by the ASME are factory sealed. Tampering, altering, or adjustment of these valves voids any warranty and liability of the manufacturer. Repairs or resetting will be made only by the factory. Please contact the factory prior to returning any valve for service and securely package valves for shipping.

End use of "products is the sole responsibility of the user.

We hope that the foregoing information is useful to our customers and if there are any questions about valve usage or installation please contact us and we will be pleased to provide any assistance that we can.



SHEET NO. DM-145

150759

TITLERELIEF VALVE

DATE 3-29-95

J. H. FLETCHER & CO.

402 HIGH STREET HUNTINGTON, WV

Information Bulletin No. 56

Subject: Relief Valve, Part No. 150759

June 1995

SERVICE VERIFICATION FORM

CUSTOMER NAME:
MINE NAME:
MACHINE SERIAL NO.:MACHINE MODEL:
RELIEF VALVE WAS CORRECTLY MOUNTED:
RELIEF VALVE WAS INCORRECTLY MOUNTED:
IF RELIEF VALVE WAS INCORRECTLY MOUNTED, DESCRIBE IN DETAIL THE STEPS TAKEN TO REPOSITION THE VALVE:
DATE:
SUBMITTED BY: