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

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 117

TO:	**ALL OWNERS OF J.H. FLETCHER & CO. EQUIPMENT WITH MANUALLY OPERATED FIRE SYSTEMS**
FROM:	**J.H. FLETCHER & CO. RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**
DATE:	**AUGUST 2011**
SUBJECT:	**MANUAL FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEM ENHANCEMENT**

J.H. Fletcher & Co. is pleased to announce an upgrade for immediate installation into the manual fire suppression system provided on Fletcher equipment. The reason for the upgrade is to incorporate into the approved fire system a nozzle cap with a lanyard designed by ANSUL. The new red cap with lanyard can only be used in conjunction with a new nozzle that has been tested with the cap to ensure blow off of the cap when the system is activated (see Attachment A).

The fire suppression upgrade includes a cap with an integral tether that is part of the red cap and fits around the base of the nozzle. This will ensure that the cap is not lost during the operation of the machine. Missing caps are a common problem found during required periodic inspections of fire suppression systems. The red color helps distinguish them from previous caps and identify them as part of the fire suppression system. If the cap is kept securely over the nozzle it keeps the nozzle clean and protected from damage. The red tethered cap may be easily removed so that the nozzle can be inspected and readily secured back over the nozzle once inspection is complete.

The fire suppression system nozzles must be kept clean and free of debris in order for it to be operational. The nozzle works by dispersing fire suppressing chemicals when the fire system is activated. A clogged, damaged or non-functioning nozzle creates a serious risk of injury or death because it deprives the mine of the benefit of a properly working fire suppression system.

Inspection of the nozzle and tethered cap system to ensure that the cap is securely in place should be an ongoing part of equipment inspections and safety evaluations. The fire system should be inspected monthly, or more often, depending on operating and/or environmental conditions. No machine should be operated unless the nozzle is

aimed correctly, openings are clean and not obstructed and the blow off caps are properly installed.

This new upgrade is a safety enhancement. ANSUL recommends the caps be replaced annually; therefore, this upgrade kit will be free for one year from the date of this notice. After one year from this notice there will be a charge for the upgrade kit. You should immediately obtain the upgrade kit and install it on the manually operated fire suppression systems of any Fletcher machine you may own or operate.

Fletcher has packaged a comprehensive kit that it will ship **free of charge** so that you may immediately take advantage of this upgrade (P/N: 512995). The upgrade kit will contain all the components we believe you should change out on the system, including check valves and an inspection tag your personnel can use to document required inspections of the fire suppression system. This upgrade can be completed by maintenance personnel at your mine. Fletcher personnel are available to answer any questions you may have concerning the fire suppression system.

To order the upgrade kit for the manual fire suppression system, call Fletcher at 304-525-7811; ask for the Service Department; provide the serial number of each machine on which you will be installing the kit and request P/N: 512995. Once you have installed the upgrade kit Fletcher asks that you complete a control document and return it to Fletcher for its records. **THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS KIT.**

If you no longer own or operate a Fletcher machine that has a manual fire suppression system and may be affected by this notice, please help Fletcher in ensuring that it notifies the new owner of the machine by telling Fletcher to whom you sold, transferred, leased or otherwise relinquished control of the machine by completing the “Inactive Equipment Status Form” (see Attachment B) or notify the Risk Management Department by phone at (304) 525-7811 or by email at dcooper@jhfletcher.com.

If you have any questions about your machine, the applicability of this bulletin to any machine, or any other safety issues, please contact Fletcher’s Service Department or Risk Management Department or your local Fletcher Field Representative.

NOZZLE WITH UPGRADED CAP UNATTACHED

NOZZLE WITH UPGRADED CAP ATTACHED

Attachment B

INACTIVE EQUIPMENT STATUS FORM

SOLD OR TRANSFERRED EQUIPMENT:

MODEL: _____ OWNER: _____
SERIAL NO: _____ ADDRESS: _____
_____
PHONE NO: _____ TRANSACTION DATE: _____

MODEL: _____ OWNER: _____
SERIAL NO: _____ ADDRESS: _____
_____
PHONE NO: _____ TRANSACTION DATE: _____

EQUIPMENT THAT IS PERMANENTLY OUT-OF-SERVICE:

MODEL: _____ MODEL: _____
SERIAL NO: _____ SERIAL NO: _____

MODEL: _____ MODEL: _____
SERIAL NO: _____ SERIAL NO: _____

Person completing form: _____
Printed Name

_____
Signature

Title: _____
Name of Company: _____
Address: _____
_____
Phone: _____

Please return to: J. H. FLETCHER & CO.
ATTN: RISK MANAGEMENT DEPT.
402 HIGH STREET
HUNTINGTON WV 25705