

Fletcher

Product
Newsletter

J. H. Fletcher & Co.

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J.H. FLETCHER & Co.'s RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



Pictured from left to right, Greg Hinshaw and Bill Schwab.

Past issues of the Fletcher Product Newsletter we have featured articles on new products and machines. In this issue we are featuring the people behind these new products and product developments - namely Fletcher's Research and Development Department.

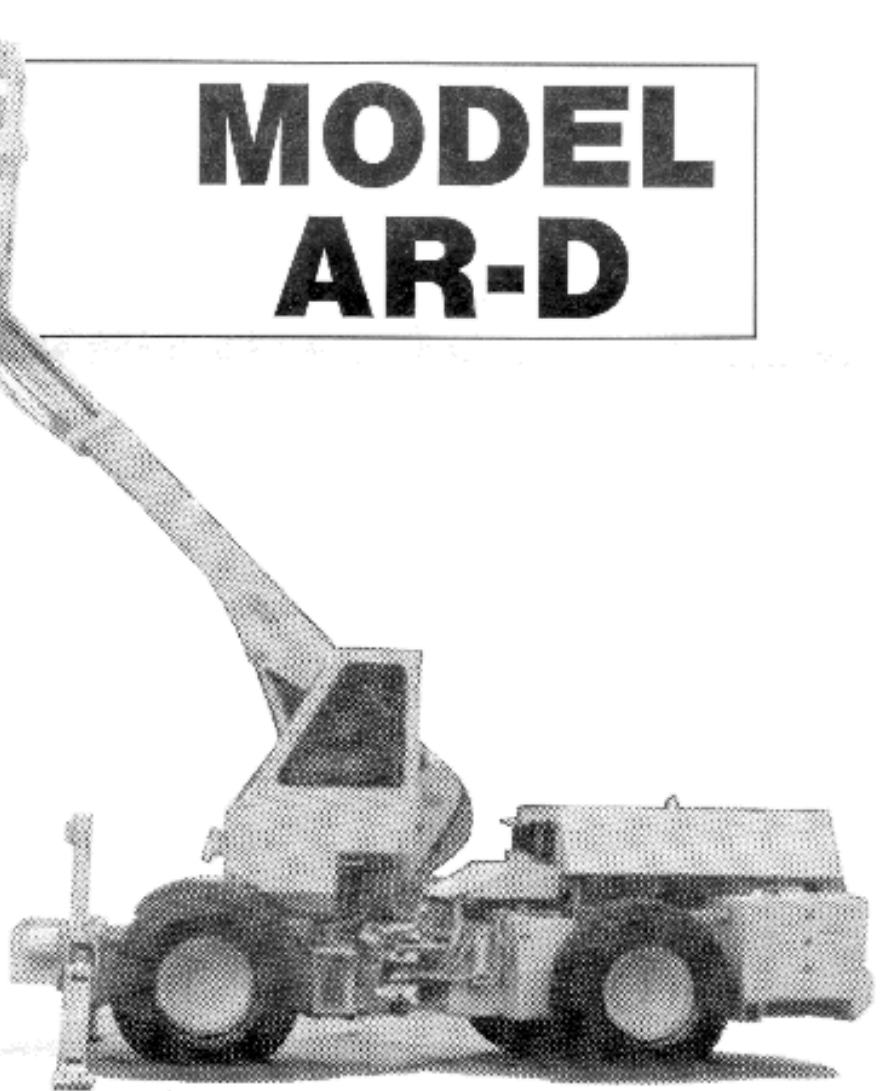
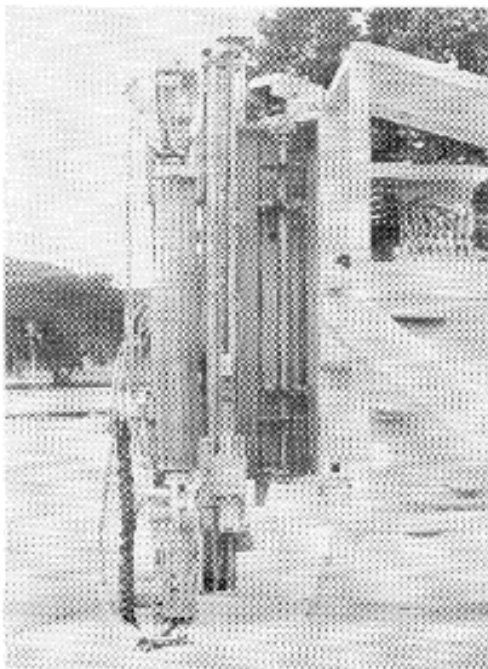
Development of innovative products for the underground mining industry is nothing new for Fletcher. Mr. J.H. Fletcher, founder of J.H. Fletcher & Co., was a pioneer in the development of rubber tire

developed and manufactured the first self-propelled hydraulic rotary roof drill, the product which has remained the mainstay of our product line to this day.

Until recently the development of new products had been the responsibility of our Engineering Department. As the company has grown it was felt that a separate department fully devoted to the development of new and improved products was

FLETCHER'S FIRST REMOTE CONTROLLED ROOF BOLTER

MODEL AR-D



J.H. Fletcher has successfully produced another mining industry first, a remotely operated roof bolting machine, the MODEL AR-D. Developed in cooperation with the Dravo Lime Corporation, the MODEL AR-D represents our most recent effort to improve mining safety. From the cab the operator can drill the hole, insert resin, install a bolt, and secure the plate up to 12 times. This process significantly reduces operator exposure to moving parts, and increases production. The bolter, seen here, is one of the first mechanical drive machines J.H. Fletcher & Co. has designed. With its 4 speed power shift transmission the machine is capable of a top speed of 12 mph. Its articulated body has become very accessible to different mining



NEW HANDLE GRIPS - IMPROVE SAFTY AND ELIMINATE MAINTENANCE HEADACHES

Clear and proper identification of control handles is essential for safe and efficient machine operation. Although the regular machine operator may be able to operate the machine by simply remembering which handle operates each function, a new operator or maintenance or supervisory employee may have no idea as to the function of the individual control handles.

In the past our handle identification tags have consisted of a metal tag banded to the control handle. This is generally a satisfactory method of handle identification. But, these tags were sometimes located in a difficult to see position, and often were damaged beyond recognition or torn off completely during operation of the machine.

In an effort to improve machine operation we have initiated the use of a new handle grip. It incorporates the identification tag into the handle grip.

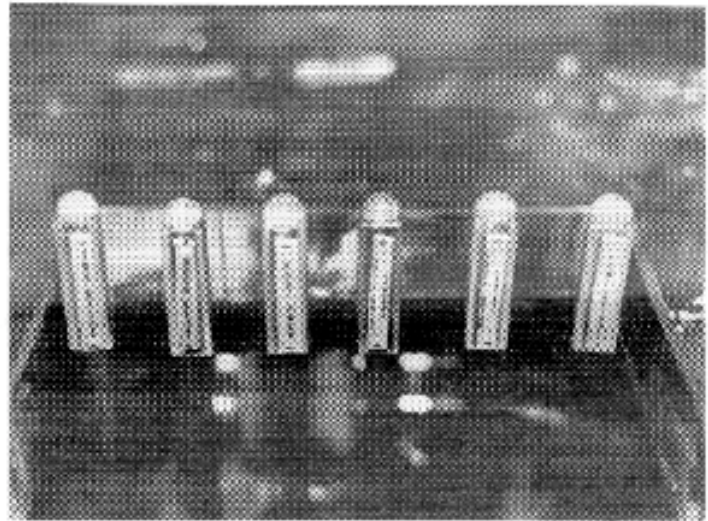
Since the identification tag is positioned inside the handle grip it is in a more visible location and is better protected from damage and loss.

Now replacement involves nothing more than inserting the appropriate identification tag into the grip and installing the grip on the end of the handle.

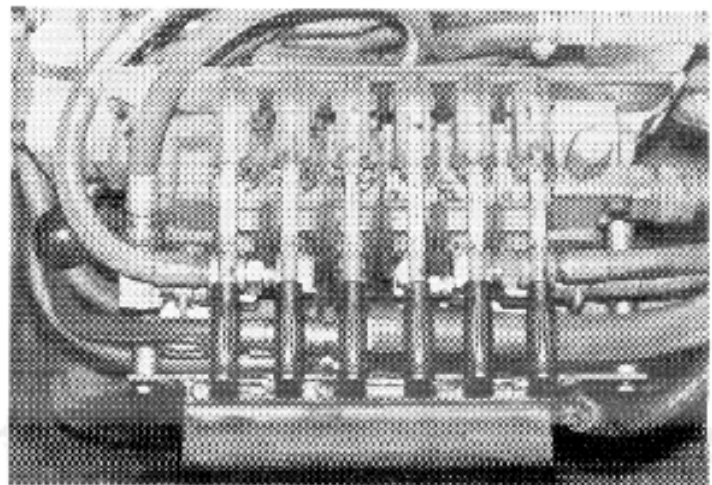
This method of handle identification is being utilized on all new Fletcher machines.

Retrofit of existing machines is encouraged and can be easily done.

To order please contact our Service Department (304) 525-7811. When ordering please indicate the functions for which each tag will be utilized.



NEW STYLE



OLD STYLE

PERSONNEL

J.H. Fletcher & Co. has recently secured the engineering talents of Gene Wilson. Gene, a 1975 graduate of Miami University of Ohio, comes to us from Fairmont, West Virginia. Gene's previous experience in mining engineering is currently being put to use on different products associated with our Research and Development Department. Gene, his wife Karen, and their daughter Natalie, will soon be residing in the Tri-State area. We welcome Gene into the J.H. Fletcher &



Greg cont. from p. 1

In January 1988 the Research & Development Department was organized under the leadership of one of our design engineers, Greg Hinshaw.

Greg, a 1980 graduate of Duke University in mechanical engineering and a registered professional engineer, immediately set about developing a program for the department and hiring a draftsman, Bill Schwab, to assist in detailing and design.

Today Greg and Bill have to their credit the development of our Mobile Roof Support (MRS) System and the Automated Remote Bolter (AR-D) which is featured in this issue.

Greg and his wife Susan, a registered nurse, live in South Point, Ohio, and enjoy snow and water skiing along with other outdoor activities.

Bill, his wife Kim, and his daughter Kyra live in Ironton, Ohio. His spare time interests are woodworking and auto detailing.

As to Fletcher's future in the mining industry Greg says,

"J.H. Fletcher & Co. is dedicated to maintaining its leadership in roof control technology for underground mining as evidenced by the creation of this department. We also plan to expand our line of mobile equipment into other products that require the same quality and reliability built into our roof drills. Ideas and innovations and new products from our customers mixed with available new technology and our design and manufacturing capabilities will result in new and better products from Fletcher for the mining industry."

JUST FOR YOUR RECORDS

Effective October 1st, 1989 in J.H. Fletcher & Co.'s desire to serve you better, Morgantown Machine and Hydraulics, Inc. has been named the exclusive authorized rebuilder of Fletcher equipment for all customers west of the Mississippi River.

Morgantown Machine and Hydraulics is a division of National Mine Service Company with division headquarters in Morgantown, West Virginia. They have six strategically located full service facilities throughout North America. Morgantown Machine and Hydraulics will provide an enhanced service effort to all Fletcher customers by providing authorized rebuilding of Fletcher components. They will use genuine Fletcher parts and the latest Fletcher technology. Lebcoc Inc. of Benton, Illinois will continue to serve the Southern Coal Basin.

J.H. Fletcher & Co. is pleased with our new affiliation with Morgantown Machine and Hydraulics, a leader in engineering, manufacturing, and repair services. Any questions concerning this article, please contact Mr. Bob Stach, Sales Manager, at our office in Huntington.

The information contained in this newsletter has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable, and the editors have exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy. However, J.H. Fletcher & Co. does not guarantee that contents of this publication are correct, and statements attributed to other sources do not necessarily reflect the opinion or position of J.H. Fletcher & Co.

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