

# Fletcher® Product Newsletter



**J. H. Fletcher & Co.** UNDERGROUND MINING EQUIPMENT  
INDUSTRIAL MINERALS / ROCK DIVISION

[www.jhfletcher.com](http://www.jhfletcher.com)

2012 Issue 1

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The Fletcher Product Newsletters are available online at [www.jhfletcher.com](http://www.jhfletcher.com). You can download from there or subscribe to receive the newsletter by e-mail.

## J. H. Fletcher & Co. Shipping Equipment to Zimbabwe, South Africa



J.H. Fletcher, through our distributor GHH Mining Machines, has now placed a roof bolter in Zimbabwe in Southern Africa. The machine is the first single head man-in-position roof bolter for Anglo Platinum. The machine is equipped with a low profile drifter that was specifically designed for hard rock applications. The bolter's low profile carrier, 1.4 meters, along with an efficient diesel/electric power combination will significantly improve the bolting productivity. The first machine has been shipped with an additional 8 machines to be completed and shipped over the next several months.



A similar machine will be on display in the Fletcher booth at MinExpo in September. For additional information on this machine contact Billy Goad at J.H. Fletcher & Co.



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## REPLACING HYDRAULIC HOSES

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We have all done it. Been working on something and cut our finger. Rather than stopping and cleaning the wound, we continue working. Later, the next day or so, we wind up with a painful sore finger – all because we failed to eliminate “contamination” (germs) from the cut. We knew what to do, but we didn’t take the time to do things properly, clean the contamination from the cut. Medical professionals learned long ago that it is necessary to clean and disinfect before cutting into an area of the body to eliminate the consequences of outside contamination (germs in this case).

When working with hydraulics, changing a hose or component can be thought of in the same way. We are opening up the system to the possible introduction of contamination. Due to the close clearances and small passageways used in all modern hydraulic systems, this contamination can cause serious problems – including premature component wear and failure. Not to mention, malfunctioning or sticking valves (a serious safety concern).

Usually contamination of the hydraulic system happens for the same reason as our painful finger – we didn’t take the time to do things right and eliminate contamination.

Almost always, a hose fails without warning during production, and the immediate reaction is to get the hose changed and the machine back to work. Money is not being made while the machine is down, people are being paid and not producing. So a hose is dragged to the machine and quickly installed without properly cleaning the fittings or making sure the replacement hose is clean, or of the correct length and pressure rating. Yes, the machine may be back in operation – but at what real price? The answer: much higher than you would think! We have already mentioned the problems with contamination, but also a hose of incorrect length can interfere with machine functions (or even create a safety hazard), and a hose not properly rated for the circuit pressure can at best fail prematurely and at worst cause serious personal injury or even death.

Here are some general guidelines to follow when replacing a hydraulic hose:

**1. Make sure the replacement hose pressure rating is correct.**

The pressure rating of the hose is embossed on the hose (this is an MSHA requirement). When replacing the hose check the hydraulic circuit for your machine and determine the pressure rating of the hose required. Don’t depend on replacing the hose with the same pressure rating as the failed hose (it may have been incorrectly installed previously).

**2. Make sure the replacement hose is the correct size and length.**

**3. Clean the inside of the replacement hose.**

**4. Clean the replacement hose fittings and plug with clean plugs to prevent contamination during delivery to the machine.**

**5. Before removing the failed hose, thoroughly clean the hose ends and fittings with an approved aerosol cleaner – make sure all dirt is removed.**

**6. After removing the failed hose, cap the fittings with clean caps to prevent the introduction of contamination.**

**7. Route the hose properly, don’t take shortcuts.**

**8. Use the correct torque when tightening hose ends.**

*Note: There are additional measures which must be taken when replacing rockdrill hoses. See the Service Manual for instructions concerning changing rockdrill hoses.*

Does this take extra time and effort? Yes. BUT, REMEMBER THAT SORE FINGER YOU GOT FROM NOT TAKING THE TIME TO DO THINGS RIGHT IN THE FIRST PLACE!



Please join J.H. Fletcher & Co. at Booth 2615 for MIN-Expo® INTERNATIONAL 2012 – the world’s largest mining show! Scheduled for September 24-26 at the Las Vegas Convention Center, the show is on track to set records again.

Por favor únase a J.H. Fletcher & Co. en el stand 2615 del MINExpo INTERNACIONAL ® 2012 - ¡el espectáculo de minería más grande del mundo! Programado para tomar lugar del 24 al 26 de Septiembre en Las Vegas Convention Center, el espectáculo está en camino a establecer records nuevamente.

Noticia para nuestros clientes de habla Hispana: Algunos manuales de operadores genéricos se encuentran ahora disponibles en español.

## Universal Warning Sign

This is the new Fletcher Universal Warning Sign. When you see this sign, it is a reminder to STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN and failure to use safe operating practices at all times can and will result in serious injury or death to you or to others.

You will start to see this symbol at various places throughout Fletcher operator’s manuals, training materials, and orientation videos. Fletcher wants you to have a safe and productive work day.



## J. H. Fletcher & Co. Enters Distribution Agreement with Joy Mining Machinery

HUNTINGTON, WV – January 16, 2012 – J. H. Fletcher & Co. and Joy Mining Machinery are pleased to announce the signing of an exclusive distribution and authorized service agreement. This agreement which is effective immediately gives Joy the right to market, sell and service all Fletcher products to coal mines, and only industrial minerals and hard rock mines that use Joy cutting products. The agreement includes locations worldwide with the exception of North America (including Mexico and Canada), Australia and Norway and coal mines in Poland where Joy will not have exclusive rights. Fletcher will continue to manufacture, market, sell and service its products in these areas as it has in the past.

Fletcher’s product line includes high, medium and low seam roof bolters, mobile roof supports, pan line bolters, long hole drills, diesel tractors, drill jumbos, scaling vehicles and beam setters.

Greg Hinshaw, CEO said, “Fletcher is excited about the distribution agreement with Joy Mining Machinery. Joy’s industry leading global network of company direct-to-customer sales and service locations will be beneficial to our existing customers

and expand Fletcher’s international presence”. Jez Leeming, Joy’s Global Product Director for Bolter Miners and Bolters said, “Fletcher’s mobile roof bolters are a welcome and complementary addition to Joy’s existing product line allowing Joy to offer customers a broad line of bolting solutions including mobile roof bolters for low seam applications under 1.8 meters (6’).”

J. H. Fletcher & Co. is the leading custom designer and manufacturer of roof bolters, mobile roof supports, and mobile drills for underground mining in both the coal and industrial minerals industries worldwide. The company has been serving the mining industry since 1937 by providing the safest and most productive equipment available. For more information go to [www.jhfletcher.com](http://www.jhfletcher.com).

Joy Global Inc. is a worldwide leader in manufacturing, servicing and distributing equipment for surface mining through P&H Mining Equipment and underground mining through Joy Mining Machinery. Its headquarters are in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For more information visit [www.joyglobal.com](http://www.joyglobal.com).



It is extremely important when you purchase a piece of production equipment that unexpected "down time" is limited. However, required maintenance on your Fletcher equipment does not have to interrupt your production objectives. J.H. Fletcher & Co. now provides maintenance services through Fletcher Service, Inc. This company's purpose is to provide timely audits on Fletcher equipment to identify areas that require attention and prevent unscheduled down time. Fletcher Service Inc. can provide you a cost effective audit program on your Fletcher equipment and perform needed repairs before a problem turns into lost productivity. Through a planned audit program, you can always keep ahead of required maintenance issues on your equipment. If you are interested in this service, please call Mike O'Leary, Sales Manager in our Industrial Minerals Department. You can email Mike at moleary@jhletcher.com.

## Q&A

- Q.** How often should the HEPA filter in the environmentally controlled cab be changed?
- A.** The HEPA filter and the Pre-Filter should be replaced after every 250 hours of machine operation. The filter pleats in each are very fragile so don't touch or allow the pleats to come into contact with other objects.
- Q.** On the Jumbo Drill, when should the striking bar be replaced?
- A.** The striking bar should be inspected after every 40 hours of machine operation. Disassemble the front of the drill and remove the striking bar. Check the internal female thread, the back surface of the splines and the impact end of the bar. Replace the bar if the threads show significant wear or if either the back of the splines or the striking end of the bar show any damage. Failure to replace a damaged bar may result in drill failure.

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.

**Published by J. H. Fletcher & Co.**  
**Box 2187**  
**Huntington, WV 25722-2187**  
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