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IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 124

TO: ALL OWNERS OF FLETCHER® ROOF DRILLS WITH TRAM COMPARTMENT

**FROM: J.H. FLETCHER & CO.
RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

DATE: JUNE 2014

SUBJECT: AUXILIARY VALVE BANK GUARD

J.H. Fletcher & Co. ("Fletcher") has recently been notified that some machine owners are removing the tram canopy from roof drills. Use of a roof drill without the manufacturer-specified tram canopy may result in unintentional operator contact with rock, roof material, debris, a tool or foreign object and could result in the inadvertent activation of a control lever. Any of these events could cause serious injury or death to a person or cause property damage. The tram canopy is an important guard for the tram operator and for the machine. Fletcher does not distribute any machine without a tram canopy because it is Fletcher's position that a machine should not be operated without this important safety feature.

However, Fletcher has been informed that due to low seam height conditions (below 42"), some machine owners have removed the tram deck canopy and that machines may exist in the field where the tram canopy has been removed. Because the tram deck canopy serves as a guard for the operator and the control levers in the tram deck, removal of the tram deck canopy eliminates one of the guards originally specified by Fletcher. The auxiliary control valve is active at all times. Fletcher recommends that the auxiliary control valve section be guarded at all times and, generally, this is by the tram canopy. If the tram canopy is removed, the auxiliary control valve handles are not protected from falling objects which may cause adverse events such as dangerous, unplanned machine movements.

Fletcher has developed a guard for the tram deck located auxiliary control valve (see picture pg. 3). The auxiliary control valve guard should be installed on any machine where the tram canopy has been, or could possibly be, removed.

The tram levers do not need the auxiliary control guard. The tram levers, as originally designed by Fletcher, will not activate without depression of the foot pedal enable switch mounted on the floor of the tram deck (see JHF Informational bulletin #77 for additional details).

If you have removed the tram canopy from your roof drill contact Fletcher to obtain the correct auxiliary valve guard for your machine. This guard should be installed above the auxiliary control valve levers (see photo) at the specified distance from the levers. This guard is a substitute for the protection ordinarily afforded by the tram canopy.

The guard is engraved with information as to the function each valve operates and, specifically, what direction (up/down, in/out) in which each control lever must be activated in order to operate the desired function. **Fletcher reminds owners and maintenance personnel to NEVER change the directional control of any control lever. The direction of machine movement in response to control lever activation should always be in accordance with Fletcher's original design.**

You may order the guard free of charge by contacting Mike Gissel, Customer Service, 304-525-7811, ext. 250, and providing the serial number of the machine(s) you want to retrofit so that the correct guard for your specific machine can be sent. There is a different guard for machines equipped with vertically-mounted tram deck control levers and those with horizontally-mounted tram deck control levers. The guard that matches the original manufacturer specifications for the tram deck control lever panel on your machine will be supplied.

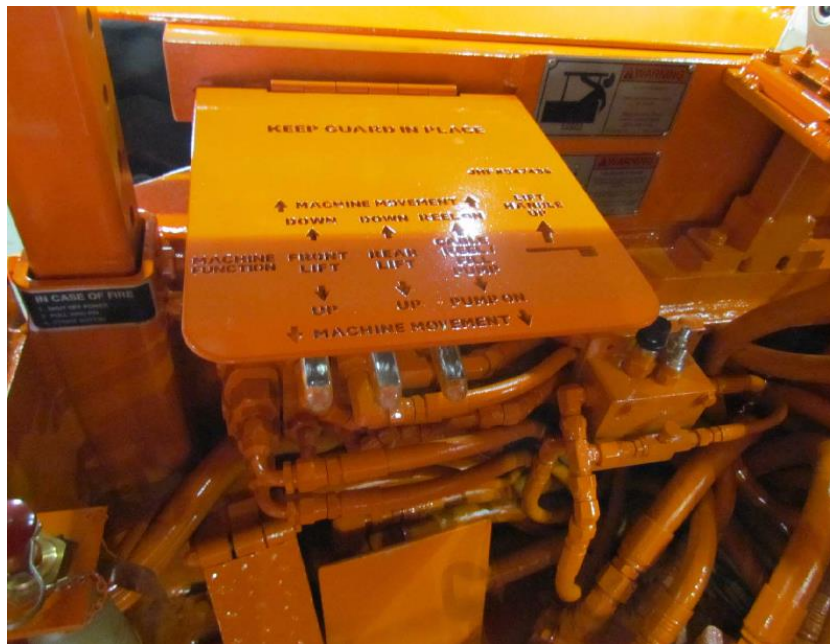
When you receive the guard, Fletcher recommends the following steps be taken:

1. Inspect the existing tram deck control lever panel on the machine. Ensure all handles, pins, cotter keys, etc. that hold each control lever on the valve bank are in good and safe condition. Ensure each control lever moves freely and is spring-returned (returns immediately to neutral when released). Repair any missing, broken or worn control lever parts and any sticking or malfunctioning lever.
2. Inspect each control lever. Confirm that the directional control (the direction the machine moves in response to lever activation) matches the directional control in the Fletcher Operator's Manual for the machine. Make sure the control lever placard that describes the machine movement matches the way the machine actually is working. If you do not know the correct directional control or have any question, consult the Operator's Manual or call the Risk Management department at Fletcher.
3. Install the guard above the valve bank in accordance with Fletcher's installation instructions. The guard should be installed at a specified distance in relation to the control valves as set forth in the specific installation instructions. Confirm that the directional control for each lever matches the engraving on the guard for each control lever.

4. Train your personnel about this guard and remind each operator of the functions of each control lever. Remind operators that by removal of the tram deck canopy, there is no protection for the operator for falling roof, rock, debris, tools or supplies that may be on or around the machine. Remind operators to use caution at all times and maintain a look out for falling roof, rock, debris, tools or supplies that may be on or around the machine. Remind operators to avoid over stacking the roof bolting machine with tools or supplies. A roof bolting machine is not and was not designed to be haulage equipment.
5. Place the drawing of the guard in the parts book for the specific machine.
6. Upon installation of the guard, complete the enclosed form and mail it to our Risk Management department, or email it to us at dcooper@jhletcher.com.

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, or on the technical application of this component to your machine, please contact your Fletcher Sales/Service representative.

EXAMPLE OF GUARD ON AUXILIARY VALVE BANK. YOUR MACHINE MAY LOOK DIFFERENT THAN THIS. THE CORRECT GUARD FOR YOUR MACHINE WILL BE SENT WHEN YOU PROVIDE THE SERIAL NUMBER OF YOUR MACHINE UPON ORDERING.



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