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URGENT SAFETY ADVICE- PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

27/7/09

SB090727 – TT16/19 levelling cylinder hose entanglement

Application: GMJ EWP Models TT16 & TT19, units manufactured prior to 1998. Only applicable to units where the basket frame is mounted underneath the basket.

We have become aware of an incident involving a GMJ model TT19-250.

Circumstances: The EWP was positioned on top of a tree and when the EWP was moved, the basket levelling system failed and the basket inverted. No injuries were reported. An investigation revealed that the hoses connected to the basket levelling cylinder had become entangled in a branch and when the boom was moved, the holding valve on the basket levelling cylinder was pulled off, allowing the basket to tip.

Action Required.

1. To reduce the risk of entanglement of hoses with external objects: Ensure that all hoses located around the fly boom and basket are contained and as short as possible (but sufficiently long to prevent straining the hoses during normal movement of the basket around the fly boom).
2. Ensure that the cover underneath the basket is intact and properly secured.
3. Ensure that the holding valve on the levelling cylinder is secured to the cylinder using 2 worm drive hose clamps.
4. Ensure that the hard pipe connections between the cylinder and the holding valve are not damaged and in close proximity to the cylinder.

We recommend that the above actions are undertaken at every routine inspection and service. Operators should be made aware of the possibility of hoses becoming entangled in fixed obstructions and maintain clearance from such obstructions.

Product Development: GMJ advise that the following product upgrades are available for the above model EWPs:

1. A longer basket frame cover is available.
2. A smaller overcentre valve has become available and can be retrofitted to the levelling cylinder in place of the older larger model.

Please do not hesitate to contact GMJ Equipment if more information is required.

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