DATE: September 18, 2004

SUBJECT: Auto-Lift Rail Lift Counterbalance Valve - 1606963

RATING: □ DIRECTIVE (Action is required) □ INFORMATION (Action is optional) X ALERT (Potential Problem) □ PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT (Enhance Product)

MACHINE MODEL(S): Auto-Lift LS Rail Lifter

SERIAL NUMBER(S): 500-790658

SUMMARY: Replacement of existing Pilot-operated Check Valve Module, p/n 1606962, with Counterbalance Valve Module, p/n 1606963.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT: The Pilot-operated Check Valve Module (Figure 1) supports the rail while it is raised. These check valves can chatter when the rail is lowered and can fail due to the chattering. The rail will also drop freely when lowered which can cause additional wear on the machine. The replacement Counterbalance Valve Module (Figure 2) will solve this problem since it will not chatter while the rail is being lowered. In addition, the lowering speed is controlled to prevent the rail from dropping freely and may be adjusted with the adjustment screw.

ACTION: The Counterbalance Valve is a direct replacement for the existing Pilot-operated Check Valve. Longer valve mounting bolts are required and are included with the valve. The Pilot-operated Check valve will no longer be available and the all orders for p/n 1606962 will be filled with the Counterbalance Valve p/n 1606963. Note: The Counterbalance Valve ports are labeled “Cap” and “Rod” which refers to the 2 ports of the Lift Cylinder. It is very important to connect these ports to the correct cylinder ports.

WARRANTY: None
Figure 1
Rail Lift Valve with P.O. Check Valve Module

Figure 2
Rail Lift Valve with Counterbalance Valve Module