Maintenance of Way ~ Work Equipment Bulletin

DATE: December 7, 2009

SUBJECT: LVDT Cable Recall – 22311168

RATING: □ DIRECTIVE  
(Proposal is required)  

□ INFORMATION  
(Proposal is optional)

□ ALERT  
(Potential Problem)

□ PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT  
(Enhance Product)

MACHINE MODEL(S): TRIPP Tie Exchanger

SERIAL NUMBER(S): 760125-760358

SUMMARY: The 22311168 LVDT Cable provides power to the Rail Lift LVDTs on the TRIPP machine. See Figure 1 on Page 2. On some of the cables, manufactured during December, 2008 and January, 2009, the positive and negative power leads were reversed.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT: If a cable with reversed power leads is installed on a machine, the LVDT will be destroyed and the Rail Lifter will not stop at the desired height but will try to lift all the way up to the limit of the cylinders. This can also occur if the LVDT cable is damaged or disconnected.

Our records indicate that potentially defective cables may have been sent to the following customers:

Atlas Railroad Construction
Balfour Beatty Rail, Inc.
BNSF Railway
Canadian National Railway
CSX Transportation
Union Pacific Railroad

ACTION: There are 2 different LVDT connectors used on these cables, a metal connector and a sealed, rubber-coated connector. See Figure 2 on Page 2. The rubber-coated cables have a silver part number tag on the cable near the connector. The reverse side of this tag may have a date code printed on it as shown in Figure 3 on Page 3. The date code is a 4-digit number followed by the letters “US”. If the reverse side of the tag does not have a date code, the cable is suspect and should be returned to Nordco for replacement. Cables with rubber-coated connectors with a date code or cables with metal connectors are not subject to this recall and will not be replaced. If a cable is already installed on a
machine, and the machine is working properly, the cable is not defective and does not have to be replaced. All replacement cables ordered from Nordco will have a date code printed on the tag.

WARRANTY: Only the 22311168 cables will be replaced under warranty. All defective cables MUST be returned to Nordco. Please contact the Nordco Service Department at 800-445-9258 to receive a return authorization number (GRFC) before returning any defective parts.

This warranty expires January 31, 2010.
DATE CODE
The date code is a 4-digit number followed by the letters “US”. The date code in this example is 0942US

GOOD CABLE
Part number tag with date code

Figure 3
Good cables will have a date code printed on the part number tag as shown on the top cable. Suspect cables will not have a date code as shown on the bottom cable.