DATE: December 30, 2002

MACHINE: Hydra-Hammer Model B
Hydra-Hammer Model B-2
Anchor Remover
Anchor Applicator Model E
Model C & 99C Spiking Machine
Model 44 Spike Driver
Super Claws LS-1 Spike Puller (with manifolds)
Grabber LS-2 Spike Puller (with manifolds)
M3 Multi-Modular Machine

SERIAL NUMBER(S): Hydra-Hammer Model B - All
Hydra-Hammer Model B-2 - All
Anchor Remover - All
Anchor Applicator Model E -All
Model C & 99C Spiking Machine – 410001 – 410346
Model 44 Spike Driver – All
Super Claws LS-1 Spike Puller – All
Grabber LS-2 Spike Puller – All
M3 Multi-Modular Machine – All

NOTE: THIS BULLETIN REPLACES PSB-363
Model 44 Spike Driver, Super Claws LS-1, Grabber LS-2 and M3 added to list of affected machines. This is the only change to this Bulletin.

SUBJECT: Replacement Brake Valve and Removal of Brake System Check Valve

The Brake system on the above listed machines incorporate a solenoid operated Brake Valve. This valve is electrically energized to release the brakes. In addition, there is a check valve in the pressure line going to the Brake Valve. This valve was installed to prevent the brakes from being applied if the machine was running on a downgrade.

It has been discovered that this check valve can cause the brakes to remain in the released position under certain conditions even if the engine is shut down. It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that this check valve be removed from the brake system.

This check valve is located under the Brake Solenoid Valve. See Figure 1.
Shorter Socket head capscrews will be required when removing this valve. The shorter capscrews are **10-24 x 1-1/4” Socket Head Capscrews**. These screws may be obtained locally or from NORDCO. NORDCO will supply shorter screws for any machine shipped in 2002. Please contact the NORDCO Service Department at 1-800-445-9258 to receive the shorter screws under warranty.

It is also possible that debris can cause the Brake Valve to stick in the Brake Released position. This also could cause the brakes to remain released. To help prevent this possibility, the brake valve on the machines listed above has been changed to an “open transition” style valve. This means that the valve “A” and “B” ports will be connected to the “T” or Tank port if the valve spool is in any position other than completely shifted to the end of its stroke. If debris prevents the spool from moving completely back when it is de-energized, the brakes will still set.

Brake Valve Kits are available both 12-volt and 24-volt versions. The **12-volt Brake Valve Kit**, p/n 98410142 and includes a **12-volt Open Transition Brake Valve**, p/n 1699036, and 4 capscrews. The **24-volt Brake Valve Kit**, p/n 98410143, includes a **24-volt Open Transition Brake Valve**, p/n 1699037 and 4 capscrews. The 24-volt kit and valve is only used on Model 99C Spikers s/n 410200 and above. All other listed machines use the 12-volt kit and valve.

Please contact your NORDCO Representative or the NORDCO Parts Department for pricing and availability.

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**Figure 1**

Model 99C Manifold shown, others are similar