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Service Bulletin 2010-01
Inadequate Power May Cause Solenoid Control Malfunction
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To our valued Wood's Powr-Grip® customers:
We would like to thank you for selecting a below-the-hook vacuum lifter from Wood's Powr-Grip. We take pride in our products and are committed to providing you with the best service available.

According to our records, you are (or were) the owner of a vacuum lifter with a certain kind of solenoid controls. Such lifters include models CFPT4/69AC, CFVL4/69AC, MRPT89AC, MRPT1211LAC, MT89AC, PT410AC, PT10HV11AC, VLGG109/11LAC and VLPL4/69AC, among others.

We have discovered that ***operators who use these lifters well below the specified power requirements may experience an unexpected load release and risk endangering themselves or others.*** As a company that genuinely cares about the safety and satisfaction of our customers, Wood's Powr-Grip is advising you that such unintended use of our products can be hazardous.

What you can do immediately to avoid this problem:
As noted in warnings on the vacuum lifter and in the accompanying instructions manual, ***operators are directed to read and understand all instructions prior to operating the lifter.*** If the instructions supplied with your lifter are not available for any reason, please download the appropriate instructions for your model from the Product Info Downloads section of www.powrgrip.com. If you are not able to obtain the correct instructions for your lifter, please contact your dealer or a Technical Service Representative at Wood's Powr-Grip for assistance.

Operators are instructed to connect the lifter's AC power cable to an appropriate, current-protected power source, as specified on the lifter. However, if the lifter receives less than 70% of nominal power during operation, the solenoid control valves may begin to oscillate between open and closed positions and the vacuum pump may begin to stall out. If the lifter is supporting a load at such a time, the probability of a load release is high.

Various factors can contribute to a reduction of power at the lifter location: These include a "brown-out" or drop in power across the electrical grid; connecting too many electrical devices to a work site generator, causing it to be over-taxed for the work load; or using extension cords, which tend to increase the effect of any power loss. ***Operators must remain aware of any conditions which could compromise power input at the lifter, and avoid these conditions.*** If a power reduction happens suddenly or unexpectedly while lifting a load, the operator should immediately move away and keep other personnel away from the load.

If unexpected power reductions are possible in the work area, an AC-powered lifter may not be appropriate for the application: A DC-powered lifter could be used instead. Please consult your dealer or a Technical Service Representative at Wood's Powr-Grip about appropriate lifter applications.