

03/18/03

## **Filter Installation Scrubber Water Level Control**

On part 36 diesel-powered permissible equipment, the engine's exhaust gas is cooled before it exits the tailpipe. Most machines use a water bath scrubber to cool the exhaust. The exhaust gas is bubbled through water in the scrubber. The hot exhaust gas evaporates the water in the scrubber that then has to be replenished. Some systems require the water to be manually replenished while others have a water make-up tank that can automatically supply additional water stored on the machine.

One of these automatic make-up systems used on certain machines manufactured by Atlas Copco Wagner, Inc. (see attached list) had an overflow hole built into the scrubber. This hole allowed excess water to drain from the scrubber. The hole was incorporated into this design since excess water in the scrubber could, under certain conditions, flow into the engine through the exhaust pipe and damage the engine. The scrubber was approved with this hole long before the DPM regulations became effective.

It has now been found that the hole permits the discharge of unfiltered exhaust gas. ***This condition does not meet the DPM regulations and must be corrected.*** Since the scrubber is part of the approved safety system, do not make any changes without MSHA approval.

MSHA is working with Wagner to redesign the system so that no unfiltered exhaust gas is discharged. Owners of the affected machines will be notified by Wagner and MSHA when an MSHA approved retrofit is available. MSHA's compliance assistance personnel will then work with mine operators to ensure the retrofits are installed in a timely manner.

Mine Operators are requested to notify MSHA if they have one of the affected machines at:

MSHA  
Approval and Certification Center  
Attention: Mike Snyder  
251 Industrial Park Rd.  
Triadelphia, WV 26059  
Tele: 304-547-2047  
Fax: 304-547-2071  
e-mail: Snyder-Michael@MSHA.Gov

The following Wagner machines may have the overflow hole in the scrubber:

<u>Machine Approval No.</u>	<u>Model No.</u>	<u>Power Package Approval No.</u>
31-66-2	LST-5S	31/D64-1
31-67	LMTT-410-14S	31/D64
31-213	LST-5S	31/D64
31-85-2	LST-5S-20X	31/D80
31-113	220 FP	31/D80
31-114	220FP	31/D80
31-118	LST-5S-25X	31D/80
31-122	MDL R-62	31/D80
31-129	LMTT-414S	31/D80
31-124	LST-5S-20X	31/D80
31-218	LST-5S-25X	31/D80
31-129	220FP	31/D80
36C-007	ST3-1/2S	7F-0007
36C-010	LST-25X	7F-0019
36C-011	LST-14X	7F-0019