

Western Power Distribution Versalift VOE36 MHI Self-levelling system inspection

Background

A WPD IAD (Insulated Aerial Device) fitted with a Versalift VOE36MHI experienced an uncontrolled movement of both buckets whilst in operation, reclining the operators without injury.

A thorough investigation at Versalift with an independent engineer present identified the cause for failure being a spiral roll pin that locates a pivot pin within the levelling system that had sheared, allowing the pivot pin to come out and the uncontrolled movement of the buckets.

As a precautionary measure a recall has been initiated by WPD Transport to inspect all VOE36 IAD platforms. Seven additional platforms have been identified to date as requiring remedial action and removed from service until repaired due to excessive spiral roll pin movement.

A copy of WPDs Service Action of the VOE36 is detailed below.



Movement of bucket from
its normal vertical position

Service action

All VOE36 platforms on the WPD fleet are to be inspected by the end of Tuesday 19th September 2017.

The inspection will be completed by Transport Workshop staff and specialist engineers, and will include (i) checking the pivot and associated spiral roll pins are securely located, and (ii) place marker paint on the pins and housing to aid future inspections.

In addition to normal workshop tools a flexible probe inspection camera (as supplied by Screwfix if required) and marker paint is required.

To undertake the inspection an operator needs to assist operating the boom to such positions to allow access to inspection covers which require removing.

(1) Slew the boom to the approximate position shown below.

Using access ladders remove the front knuckle protection cover and the near side boom inspection plate.

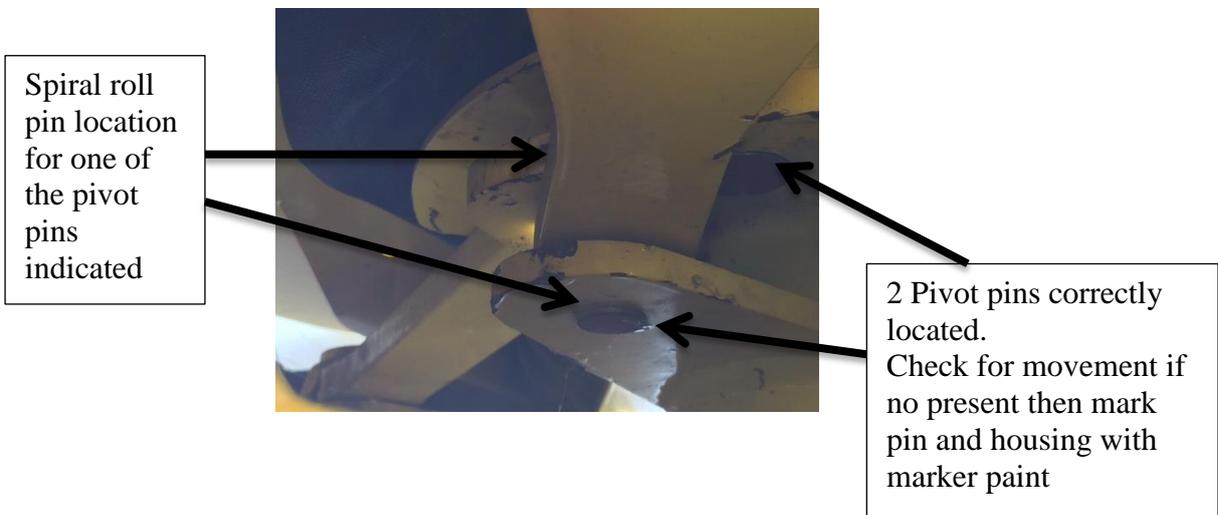


Location of near side inspection plate
 (Photo shows plate removed)

Front knuckle cover top securing bolts removed to allow access.

Through the two inspections access points (side and front) inspect the 3 pivot pins & associated spiral roll pins (see diagram below), check for any movement in the main pivot pins. Any lateral movement would indicate a potential problem with the spiral role pin which prevents it from sliding out.

Use an inspection camera to assist you to visually check spiral roll pins are fully located and test for any movement of the pivot pins.



Spiral roll pin location for one of the pivot pins indicated

2 Pivot pins correctly located. Check for movement if no present then mark pin and housing with marker paint

After the above inspection, dab the interface between the pivot pin and its housing with marker paint.

Reposition the boom completed over centre at the rear of the vehicle and carry out the same inspections and use marker paint. See picture below.



We have been advised that the spiral roll pins should be tight and flush to their housing when correctly fitted.

If a spiral roll pin is found to be proud of its housing or has movement, the vehicle must be removed from service and inspected by our maintenance supplier. Report your findings immediately to your Transport Area Controller.

Ensure the defect book is completed.

John Brooks
Transport Manager
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