Hydraulic Piston Accumulators

Installation
All accumulators shipped from the factory will be pre-charged to a nominal pressure in order to seat the piston on the hydraulic cap. In this case the precharge will not be listed on the label. However, in some cases they will be shipped with a nitrogen charge, the value of which will be marked on the label/nameplate.

Keep the hydraulic port covered to keep out foreign material until ready to make the hydraulic connections.

The accumulator can be mounted in any orientation. However, it should be rigidly mounted using any combination of the mounting holes provided at the hydraulic cap or proper clamps. The hydraulic circuit, which contains a connection to the accumulator should be designed so that it automatically discharges all hydraulic fluid from the accumulator when the equipment is turned off.
Pre-Charging

Use an inert gas such as nitrogen for pre-charging piston accumulators. Do not use oxygen or shop air.

If water pumped nitrogen is not available, oil-pumped nitrogen may be used. (C.G.A. standards: Nitrogen gas bottles for water pumped nitrogen has a right-hand valve thread which requires charging and gauging assembly †144595XX00 for units up to 3000 psi. Oil-pumped nitrogen requires a left-handed valve thread (use †144596XX00). For all 3000 psi rated accumulators, use assembly †144595XX00 (Figure 1). For accumulators rated over 3000 psi and the precharge requirement is above 2300 psi, use †870816XX00 (See Figure 3).

If equipment other than the above listed is used, make sure it is compatible with the gas valve assembly. Nitrogen source and all components must be rated for a pressure at least as high as the nitrogen source. It is strongly recommended that the nitrogen bottle used have the appropriate pressure high pressure regulator (not included).

Make sure nitrogen supply is shut off. Attach hose to nitrogen bottle. If accumulator has a gas valve as shown in Figure 5 follow steps A through L and skip steps F and J. If accumulator has a gas valve as shown in Figure 6, follow steps A through L and skip steps E and I.

Accumulator having gas valve as per Figure 5.

(A) Remove gas valve guard and gas valve cap.
(B) Back gas chuck “T” handle all the way out (counter clockwise) before attaching charging assembly to accumulator gas valve.
(C) Close bleed valve.
(D) Making sure not to loop or twist the hose, attach swivel nut to gas valve and tighten (10-15 in. lb.) (11.5-17 cm kg).
(E) Turn gas chuck “T” handle until the gauge starts showing the pressure in the accumulator. Do not turn the “T” handle all the way down, as it will damage the valve core.

(F) For gas valves as shown in Figure 6, hold gas valve at point “C” with one (1) wrench while un screwing hex nut at point “D” with a second wrench. This will open the poppet inside the gas valve. Note: Three (3) turns will fully open the valve.

(G) Crack open nitrogen bottle valve and slowly fill accumulator. Shut off when gauge indicates desired pre-charge.

(H) Let the pre-charge set for 10 to 15 minutes. This will allow the gas temperature to stabilize. If the desired pre-charge is exceeded, close nitrogen bottle valve, then slowly open bleed valve (Figure 1). Do not reduce pre-charge by depressing valve core with a foreign object. High pressure may rupture rubber valve seat.

(I) When finished pre-charging accumulator, turn “T” handle all the way out on gas chuck (Figure 1), then open bleed valve.

(J) For gas valves as shown in Figure 6, with a wrench, tighten hex nut at point “D” to close internal poppet (5-8 ft. lbs.) (5.7-9.2 cm kg).

(K) Hold gas valve to keep from turning, loosen swivel nut, remove assembly. Check for precharge leak using a common leak reactant.

(L) Replace gas valve cap (10-15 in. lbs.) (11.5-17 cm kg) and valve guard. (Gas valve cap serves as a secondary seal.)

† “XX” Denotes to gauge pressure.
Maintenance

Repair Kits (see Parts List) are available for all accumulator models. When ordering repair kits, state complete model number from nameplate. Also specify fluid and temperature at which used.

Occasional replacement of V-o-ring seal on the piston is generally the only maintenance required. Replacement of other seals on end caps and gas valve is recommended (see Kit Numbers).

Periodic checking of pre-charge pressure will detect if V-o-ring wear is sufficient to begin reducing sealing performance. If pre-charge is low, also check for gas valve and/or end seal leakage. Allowing for temperature differences, if any, from time of pressure checking, pre-charge pressure will rise if oil gathers in the gas side and will fall if gas leaks into the oil side or out past gas end seals. It is suggested that a check be made a week after installation, and thereafter once a month.

Pre-charge Checking Procedure

Using appropriate valve in the hydraulic system, discharge all oil from accumulator and allow piston to bottom against hydraulic end cap.

For accumulators rated for 3000 psi or less, with cored gas valve, use gauging assembly as shown in Figure 2 (Part #085122XX00). For accumulators rated over 3000 psi up to 5000 psi, use assembly as shown in Figure 4 (Part #871247XX00).

Accumulators having gas valve as per Figure 5.

1. Remove gas valve guard and gas valve cap.
2. Back gas chuck "T" handle all the way out (counterclockwise) before attaching charging assembly to accumulator gas valve.
3. Close bleed valve.
4. Attach swivel nut to gas valve and tighten (10-15 in. lb.) (11.5-17 cm kg).
5. Turn gas chuck "T" handle until the gauge starts showing the pressure in the accumulator. Do not turn the "T" handle all the way down, as it will damage the valve core.
6. To remove gauging assembly turn "T" handle all the way out on gas chuck (Figure 1), then open bleed valve to relieve residual gas charge in the gauging assembly.
7. Hold gas valve from turning, loosen swivel nut, remove assembly.
8. Replace gas valve cap (10-15 in. lbs.) (11.5-17 cm kg) and valve guard.

Accumulators having gas valve as per Figure 6.

10. Close bleed valve.
11. Attach swivel nut to gas valve and tighten (10-15 in. lb.) (11.5-17 cm kg).
12. Hold gas valve at point "C" with one (1) wrench while unscrewing hex nut at point "D" with a second wrench. This will open the poppet inside the gas valve. Turn 2-3 times and read pre-charge. Note: Three (3) turns will fully open the valve.

(13) With a wrench, tighten hex nut at point "D" to close internal poppet (5-8 ft. lbs.) (5.7-9.2 cm kg) then open bleed valve to relieve residual gas charge in the gauging assembly.
(14) Hold gas valve at point "C" with wrench and remove swivel nut assembly.
(15) Replace gas valve cap and tighten (10-15 in. lb.) (11.5-17 cm kg), and install gas valve guard.

Remove from Hydraulic System

Shut equipment down and make certain that hydraulic pressure at the accumulator is at zero. At this point the piston will be bottomed at the hydraulic end.

For accumulators having gas valve as shown in Figure 5, attach gauging assembly as shown in Figure 2 following Steps 1 through 5. Then, open bleed valve until all gas pre-charge is relieved from accumulator. Then remove gauging assembly and gas valve.

For accumulators having gas valve as shown in Figure 6, remove gas valve guard and gas valve cap. Then hold valve at point "C" with one (1) wrench while unscrewing hex nut at point "D" with a second wrench. Wait until all gas pre-charge is relieved from the accumulator and then remove gas valve.

Remove accumulator from hydraulic system. Threaded holes in hydraulic cap may be used as a means of attachment for lifting, or use a sling around the body.

Disassembly of Accumulator

Once the gas valve is removed - lay the accumulator horizontal and hold down with a strap wrench or in a vise. Some accumulators may have both end caps threaded into the body and some units may only have the gas cap threaded into the body. IN BOTH CASES ALWAYS REMOVE THE GAS CAP FIRST (end cap which contained gas valve). To remove cap or caps, install three (3) pins into the holes in the cap, then, using a long bar working against the pins, unthread the cap from the body. Remove o-rings and back-up rings from end cap.

Remove piston by pushing from hydraulic end with a bar. NEVER TRY TO REMOVE PISTON BY APPLYING COMPRESSED AIR AT OPPOSITE END. To remove V-o-ring from piston, lift seal with O-ring pick or similar tool, moving the tool around the piston several times while using the other hand to work ring off the piston.

Cleaning

Thoroughly clean metal parts in solvent and dry with compressed air. Clean bore of body with a clean, lint-free cloth soaked in clean solvent. Bore must be clean of any visible particles or particles detectable to touch.

Inspection

Inspect piston for cracks, burrs around o-ring grooves, or damage. Examine body bore, using a light, for scratches or scoring. Inspect end caps for damaged threads or burrs on o-ring grooves.

Repair and Replacement

Minor nicks, scratches or light scoring of the body bore can be removed by using crocus cloth. Dress bore until all apparent imperfections have been removed. Replace PTFE wear rings, V-o-rings, o-rings and their respective back-up washers if the original assembly contained them.
Piston Accumulators

Reassembly
Coat all internal parts with clean hydraulic fluid before reassembly.

It is highly recommended to use a piston starting sleeve for reassembly of piston accumulators. Call the factory for price and delivery. Starting sleeve dimensions are shown below. Insert the piston in the starting sleeve with the dished side of the piston toward the gas end. Insert the starting sleeve in the accumulator tube until it rests square on the tube.

Use hammer and a brass rod to tap piston into place until all of piston is 2 inches below beginning of honed bore.

Install new back-up ring first, then a new o-ring on threaded end cap or caps and install into body bore. Care should be exercised not to drag o-ring over threads. End cap will stop against chamfer leading into honed bore (all caps must be tightened to proper torque as per following chart). Cap should be above the end of accumulator body within 1/32" to 3/32".

Install gas valve after replacing the o-ring.

Remount accumulator and connect to hydraulic system. Precharge accumulator to desired precharge pressure (where space is a problem it may be necessary to pre-charge accumulator before connecting it to the hydraulic system).

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**PARTS LIST**

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Maintenance Instructions

Part List — Hydraulic Accumulators

Seal Kit Numbers (Includes items 5, 5A, 6, 7, 7A, 8A)

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<td>C.F.*</td>
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* C.F. = Consult Factory

Item | Part Description
--- | -------------------
1* | Body
2* | Hydraulic Cap
3 | Gas Cap
4 | Piston
5 | V-O-Ring
5A | V-O-Ring Back-Up Washers
6 | PTFE Ring (Piston)
7 | O-Ring
7A | O-Ring Back-Up Washer
8A | Gas Valve
8A | Gas Valve O-Ring
9 | Gas Valve Guard
9A | Screw

* Some units may have these two components welded together.

▲ A.S.M.E. Units, 7", 9" and 12" bore sizes, and some units rated above 3000 PSI will have valve per Figure 6 (Part No. L07689000*). Other units will have gas valve per Figure 5 (Part No. L07471000*) which will contain gas valve core Part No. 582220000. Use tool (Part No. 5824410000) to remove and replace new core.