



# Service bulletin concerning fatigued manifold block bolts

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Document Summary
Bolt fatigue on cylinder manifolds

## Version History

Status	Author	Approver	Date
Working Draft	Marc Paish		24 / 03 / 2022
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## Authorising Signatures (must be in place prior to distribution)

Status	Aldercote authority	Signature	Date
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# 1 Description

Two cases have just been reported of fatigue occurring on the bolts which hold the manifold blocks onto the jib (upper boom) cylinders. As shown in Figure 1, below:

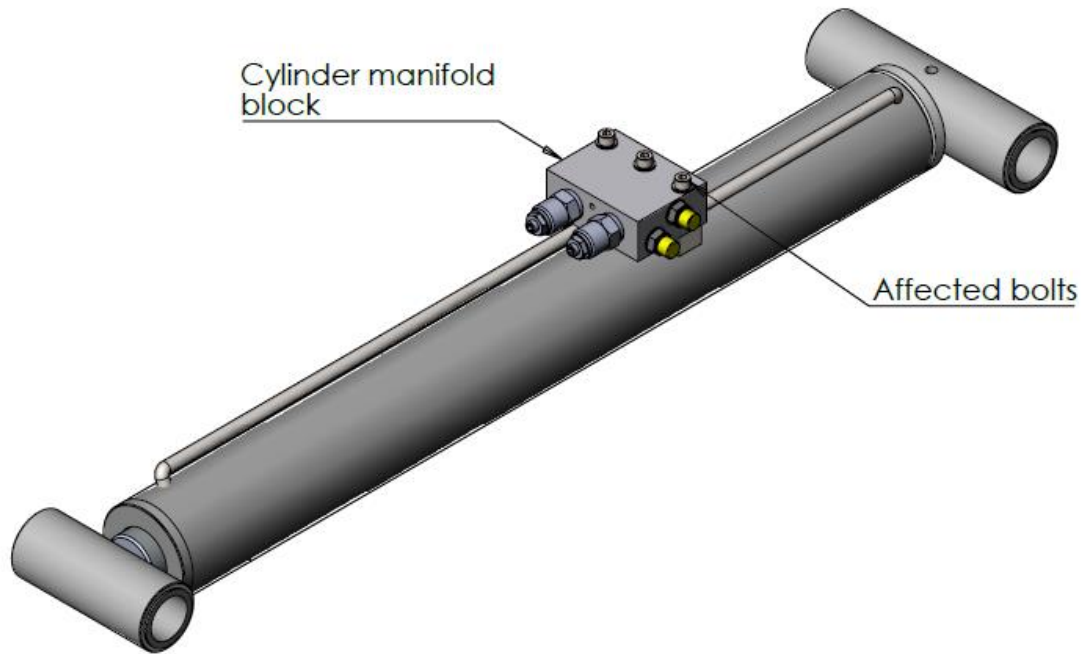


Figure 1 cylinder showing the affected bolts



Figure 2 Failed bolt

In both cases one of the bolts had fatigued and the bolt head was lost. There has been no immediate risk of health and safety incidents, as each manifold is secured with three bolts, and the remaining bolts in both cases appeared to be in good condition. Nevertheless, any deterioration in the connection between the manifold block and the cylinder is serious, as total failure would lead to the uncontrolled descent of the booms.

Manifolds are fitted in this way to the main boom cylinder, jib cylinder, levelling cylinder (VZ, and VZX only) and the lower boom cylinder (VZX and VX only) as illustrated below.

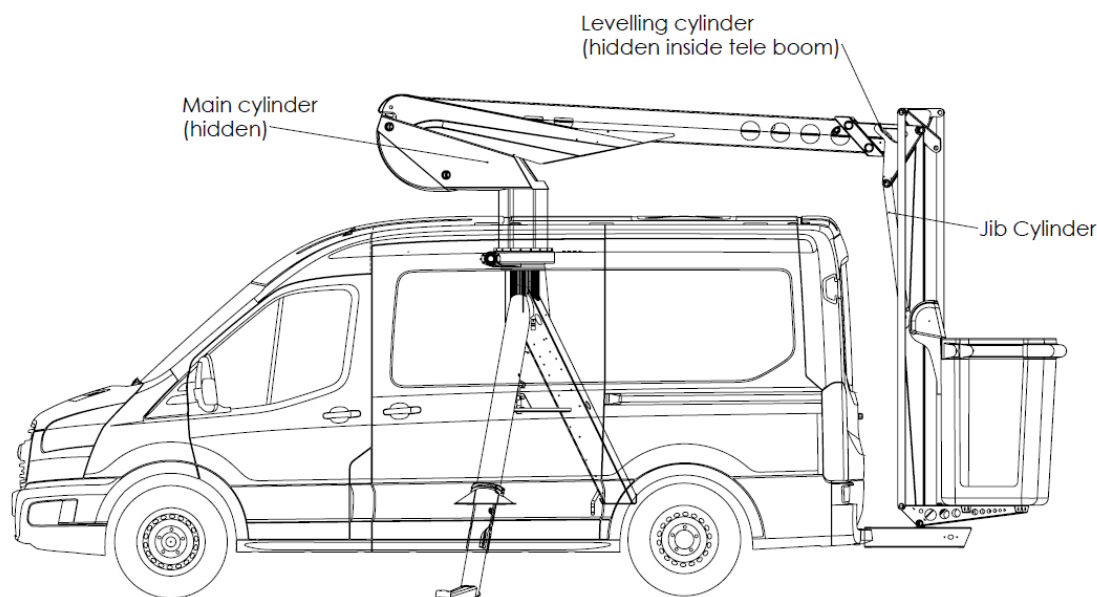


Figure 2 Cylinders affected by the possible defect

## 2 Action required

All V, VZ, VX and VZX systems which have been in service since 2016, must be checked, this means any system with a serial number greater than 13417.

If any damaged bolts are found, the owner / operator must remove the platform from service immediately, and contact Aldercote, to arrange a repair.

If all bolts are found to be in good condition, the system can continue in use, but the bolts should be checked as part of the routine daily checks.

The bolts on the jib, main boom and lower boom cylinders should be replaced at the next LOLER inspection. Aldercote will provide the necessary bolts free of charge. Please contact the service manager to request the bolts required for your system.

When fitted, the bolts must be torqued to no more than 10Nm. A medium strength thread locking adhesive should be used.

For any further information or guidance on this issue please contact:

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