

The dry firing would be caused from using the machine not in normal post driving situation such as not maintaining downward pressure the entire time the hammer is working, driving a post or peg to ground level until the guide tube touches the ground, or touching the throttle trigger when down pressure is not being applied on top of a post. All of which causes the bottom striker to move down in the guide tube until it hits the internal stop then causing the hammer to not hit the post with the same force anymore, instead the hammer will then drive against the stop until the guide tube drives out of the machine, or on the larger models with flange adaptor, it breaks the bolts or smashes the front out of the flanged adapter. This type of damage will never happen under normal operation of the machine and will not be considered for warranty work.

Please inform your customers to inform all the operators of the driver to: "never drive posts to ground level", "always maintain 10 pounds of downward pressure whenever the hammer is working", and also "always release throttle when not on a post or driving" These are all considered mis-use of the machine as per warnings / operator instructions listed in the manual and on the driver barrel itself.

Operators need to educate themselves on recognizing the dry fire symptoms which include a reduction in power and different sound in the hammering. To prevent this type of damage, you simply need to pick the driver up off the post and slam it back down to re-engage the hammer as soon as dry fire is suspected.

A more detailed explanation of what is happening in dry fire:

The machine works from the top piston which moves only air down to the center hammer, which is what then strikes the bottom hammer. In between there are very intricate tolerances and other parts. There is a safety built in so that when the machine is dry fired from not hammering a post correctly, barrel contacting the ground, or engaging throttle while loading/unloading, the machine will operate at a slightly reduced power and sound a bit different because the center hammer is banging against the internal stop and not fully banging the bottom hammer.

When operated in the dry fire (disengaged hammer) state for a length of time, the driver will literally damage itself and move the internal parts... which then increases the intricate tolerances inside, and the machine will drive with increased vibration and jumping action due to the fact there is more room inside for the hammers to move. This will eventually break the machine in half, or drive the bottom barrel out of the housing. This is considered operator error while using the machine, and is not due to faulty parts or workmanship.