

# Kent Hammer Troubleshooting Guide



Condition	Problem	Remedy	
<b>Does not hammer...</b>	Control valve does not operate.	Check connections between foot switch and valve solenoid.	
	Supply hoses have been reversed.	Pressure line from pump must be connected to port marked "IN". The return line connects to port marked "OUT".	
	Oil flow is not sufficient to cycle hammer.	Flow test pump circuit. Replace or repair pump, Adjust hammer valve.	
	Operating pressure not sufficient to cycle hammer.	Check and/or adjust relief settings. Adjust hammer valve. Adjust backhead gas pressure.	
	Supply hoses collapsed, plugged, or leaking.	Replace hose.	
	Backhead pressure too high.	Adjust pressure for ambient temperature.	
	Backhead chamber filled with oil.	Replace all hammer seals.	
	Shuttle valve stuck.	Disassemble and clean all valve ports. Replace worn valve.	
	Quick disconnects are faulty.	Check Q.D. connectors and replace as needed.	
	Screw couplings are faulty.	Check fillings and replace as needed.	
	<b>Hammer is slow or erratic...</b>	Hydraulic oil temperature is too high.	Oil temperature should not exceed 170° F If an oil cooler needs to be installed, an inline accumulator is needed to protect cooler.
		Low oil flow or pressure.	Test and repair hydraulic system. Adjust hammer valve. Adjust backhead pressure.
		Too little down pressure between steel and material.	Increase down pressure, or reposition carrier closer to work.
Accumulator pressure too high.		Adjust pressure to specification.	
Backhead gas charge too high.		Adjust backhead gas pressure for ambient temperature range.	
Too much grease in fronthead.		Remove steel, and clean fronthead. cavity. Do not over-grease.	
Steel is galled or sticking.		Hammer should be greased every 2 to 3 hours of operation. Grease the fronthead with hammer upright, and steel engaged fully.	
Working steel is not fully engaged.		Use correct down pressure. Be sure the steel and front cover are not worn, and have been properly greased.	
Working steel does not stay engaged, or extends under load.		Check backhead pressure, and carrier oil pressure. Adjust to specifications.	
<b>Hammering is weak...</b>	Insufficient oil flow.	Adjust control valve to rated specifications.	
	Operating pressure is low.	Check the pump and pressure relief valve.	
	Oil is contaminated, discolored, or cloudy in appearance.	Change hydraulic oil, and filters.	
	Oil level is low.	Refill to proper levels.	
	Return line back pressure is too high.	Check filter and hose connections.	
	Backhead pressure is too low.	Check gas pressure and recharge as needed.	
	Filter element is clogged.	Clean or replace.	
	Excessive amounts of oil are leaking out from chuck area. Oil flows off end of working steel.	Replace seal kit if oil consumption is greater than 1 pint per hour.	
<b>Pressure hose shakes or vibrates excessively...</b>	Accumulator pressure is low.	Recharge with nitrogen gas to specifications.	
	Diaphragm is torn or damaged.	Replace diaphragm, and charge with nitrogen gas to specifications.	
	Shuttle valve is warped or deformed.	Replace valve shuttle.	