Quick Start Guide

Safety Notes

Handling ammunition and its constituent parts carries an inherent risk. The VPF is no exception, and the same precautions that are taken for reloading are applicable here.

To protect yourself and your property, please ensure that you have at least the following precautions in place;

- Always use in conjunction with a suitably designed and installed blast shield. We recommend that the VPF is installed behind its own blast shield, sperate from the powder supply for the machine.
- Keep the work area clean and free from loose items.
- Never store primers or propellants in the work area.
- Keep the number of primers in the bowl as low as is practically possible. The more primers in the bowl, the higher the risk if a detonation was to occur.
- When installing the VPF, ensure that there is a slight misalignment between the primer infeed on the press, and the primer outfeed of the VPF (see figure 1). This will allow the flexible tube to easily detach in the case of a detonation at the press.

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- Regularly clean the bowl, outfeed tooling and flexible tube regularly to remove dirt and any build-up of primer ‘dust’.

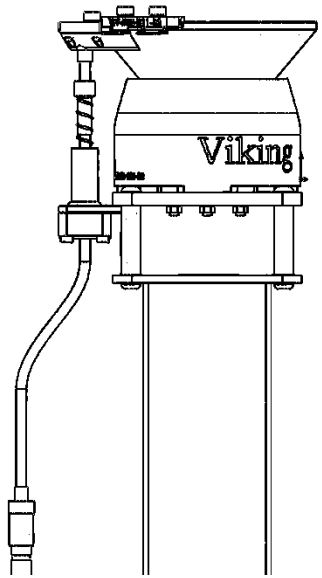

Figure 1 - Primer Tube Offset

- Utilise a static dissipating spray on all working surfaces of the VPF. Apply and reapply in accordance with the manufacturer’s directions.
- Never try and force a primer out of the VPF. If you suffer a jam, stop and disassembly the unit, and carefully poke the primer loose with a ‘soft’ material. Bamboo skewers work well here. Primers jammed in the soft tube can usually be blown out.
- Ensure that the appropriate power supply and plug is used for the machine. The electrical connection must be done by a competent person and done in accordance with local regulations.
- Ensure that your reloading operation complies with all local regulations for the handling of dangerous goods.
- Always ensure the feeder is firmly mounted in a way that it cannot be knocked over.
- These safety notes are a guide and reminder of important details. Your own risk assessment and safety measures should always be applied.

By using this product, you acknowledge and assume these risks, and cannot hold Viking Machinery Ltd. responsible for any harm or damages resultant from use of this machinery. If you do not accept these terms, you may return the unused machinery to your reseller for a full refund (please note that some resellers may require a re-stocking fee).

Specifications

- Supply Voltage: ~220-250VAC
- Maximum Power: 1,100VA
- Fuse: 6A Maximum
- Feed Rate: 3,600 Primers per Hour
- Maximum Primer Capacity: 2,000
- Weight: 5.75kg
- Made in New Zealand

Operational Notes

The VPF primer feeder is intended to be used by professional reloaders for high volume production.

The primers are passed through a high precision ‘tooling’ block for orientation and feeding into the tube. A very close fit is required for this to function as intended, and fine tuning will be required for maximum performance.

Full set up instructions are covered in the document *VPF Setup and Operation Guide*, but here is a quick list of tips:

- Mount the feeder securely. The vibration unit requires mounting to a rigid mass. Our heavy mount kits are engineered to give flawless operation, but should you wish to DIY a mount, ensure that it has at least 5kg of rigid mass. When shelf mounting, be careful not to produce a ‘diving board’ situation where the unit induces a bouncing effect.
- Keep everything clean. Dirt build up in the tooling block and tube will cause jams. We recommend using lukewarm water and dish soap for this.
- Always use the correct tooling kit for the size of primer you are feeding. Use of the incorrect tooling will cause jams.
- Ensure that the plastic tube is well seated in the push fittings. Gaps between the tube and the fittings will cause jams.
- Ensure that the bowl of the VPF is mounted level in a plane parallel to the ground.
- Always use the same brand of primer for the same tooling set. A change in primer brand will usually require a tooling adjustment. A mixture of primers in the same bowl will give you problems.
- The VPF is provided with an automated level control sensor. Use of this is not strictly required, but is strongly recommended.
- The VPF will feed primers at a rate of up to 1 per second. Please consider this a maximum, not a target! The feeder should be set to deliver primers about 20% faster than the loading rate. This will keep the buffer stack full, resulting in consistent operation.
- Avoid kinking the plastic feed tube, or installing it with sharp bends. If the tube is kinked or dented, it can usually be repaired at home (see training videos for details).
- When trimming the feed tube, use a sharp pair of airline tube cutters (please see our accessory list if you wish to order one from us) to give a clean, square cut. You may need to trim the inside of the tube end if there is any imperfection with the cut. We use a small surgical scalpel for this at the factory.
- When aligning the tooling block, we recommend using a gauge pin to ensure concentricity between the tooling and tube (please see our accessory list if you wish to order one from us). You can also use the shank end of a twist drill for this.
- Maintain a suitable level of primers in the bowl. The feed rate decreases once the number of primers gets low. We recommend keeping 100 primers in the bowl as a minimum.
- If using an autodrive, we recommend using our low primer alarm to stop operation when the primer feeder is empty.
- The upside-down primer rejection tooling is adjustable. It will usually need adjusting between different primer sizes and brands. It is also possible to adjust it to the ‘fast’ or safe’ limits. At the ‘fast’ limit, there are less erroneous rejections, but a greater risk of an upside-down primer passing through. At the ‘safe’ limits, there will be a greater number of erroneous rejections, but it is virtually impossible for an upside-down primer to pass through the feeder. Adjust these limits to suit your particular needs.
- Condensation, particularly in the soft tube, will cause problems. After cleaning (or blowing into the soft tube), ensure that the feeder has time to dry fully.
- Wherever possible, control the temperature in your reloading area. Excessive heat and cold will have an effect on the high tolerance portions of the feeder.
- Do not over tighten the primer tube nut. This only needs to be finger tight. Over tightening can cause binding in the primer shuttle area.