Maintaining And Adjusting Cable Operated Tank Valves BH 3260EL

- 1. Drain and flush your tanks.
- 2. Raise the tank valve side of the trailer by placing 2 2x6 blocks under the tires.
- 3. Remove the access panel from the basement.
- 4. You can either remove the corrplast bottom completely or do as I did and cut a rectangular access hole under the valves. I fabricated a 10 ga aluminum plate 1-1/2" larger than the hole all the way around that spans the frame cross members.
- 5. Once you have access to the problem valve. Remove the screws that hold the outer cable to the



valve. Loosen the Allen screw in the end of the actuator rod, to remove the inner cable. For now lay the cable aside.

6. Just because your valve is leaking doesn't necessarily mean it's bad. Sometimes just adjusting it and the cable will solve your problem. Sometimes you have to go deeper. If there's something stuck in the valve, you're going to have to cut the drain pipe to remove the whole valve, and use rubber couplings and

band clamps when you go back. If you're lucky and it's leaking because it's not sealing all the way, then:

- a. Loosen the 4 bolts that hold the valve together. Then tighten them back until the star lock washers start to bite into the plastic. They should be snug but not tight.
- b. Spray the actuator rod with silicon spray and work it in and out. You should be able to easily move it and should be able to tell when it bottoms out. If it doesn't move easily either you've tightened the bolts to tight or there are other problems in the valve.
- Once you have the valve working properly. Go to the basement and track your cable. This cable should be a nice gentle arc from the back of the UDC to valve, chances are it won't be.
 Disconnect the cable by removing the nut at the back of the UDC, and pull the whole cable out.
 Be careful not to lose the nut.
- 8. Once you have it out and flat on the ground, pull the inner cable out. Lubricate the inner cable with white assembly grease (any auto parts store), and reinstall.
- 9. Feed the whole cable back into the UDC, slide the nut over the cable. Now route your cable in a gentle arc to the valve and reattach the nut at the back of the UDC.
- 10. The manufacturer sends the cables out with a red spacer_lf you don't have that spacer, cut a slot in a ½" thick wood block and slide it over the cable behind the pull handle on the cable. Push the handle up tight.
- 11. Go back to your valve. Make sure the valve is closed until it stops. Now reinstall the cable into the valve. You may have to adjust the outer housing or the inner cable at this point by cutting one or the other. An angle grinder works the best. To cut the outer housing pull the inner cable out until it's past where you need to cut. When the inner cable and the outer housing are the correct length they will fit properly in the valve without pushing or pulling on the actuator rod.



12. Once you have the length right, tighten the Allen screw on the actuator rod, and the screws that hold the outer cable.

- 13. Now go to the UDC, remove the spacer and try the valve. You should be able to operate the valve with one finger. When you close it the spacing you added should allow enough pressure to fully seat the valve.
- 14. Replace the corrplast or if you fabricated the plate, use caulking around the perimeter and self tapping screws to hold it to the cross members.
- 15. I used expanding foam to fill in around where the pipes come through the bottom.
- 16. Replace the basement wall.
- 17. As part of your yearly maintenance it's a good idea to spray the actuator rods with silicon, which is why the removable plate is a good idea.