



## *Service Manual*

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# Schlicker Electro-Pneumatic Windchests

by Lynn Dobson

Year: 1959 - Valparaiso  
Straight Chest; pitman

Basic Theory of Operation: pouches mounted vertically on side of channel bar.

Common problems:

At Valparaiso there were problems with ciphers from the very beginning. In the summer of 1996, we took the chests out and releathered them. During the process we observed that the pouch springs were unusually light making the pouches not seat in a uniform or reliable manner from note to note. Additionally, when the pouch boards were removed, we could see from impressions on the valve pads that their size was only marginal in covering the wind hole borings. The pads seemed to not change size when the boring size changed so the problems seemed to be where boring sizes changed, but pad sizes remained the same. The combination of weak springs and valve pad sizes being too small and mounted in the vertical position made these chests unreliable from the day they were built. Heroic efforts were made over the years to "fix" the problems. However, the real problem seemed to not be recognized, and they always remained unreliable. Since our releathering, changing the springs and fitting proper valve pad sizes, these chests now are completely reliable. If anyone has to releather Schlicker chests from this period, they might want to watch out for these same problems.