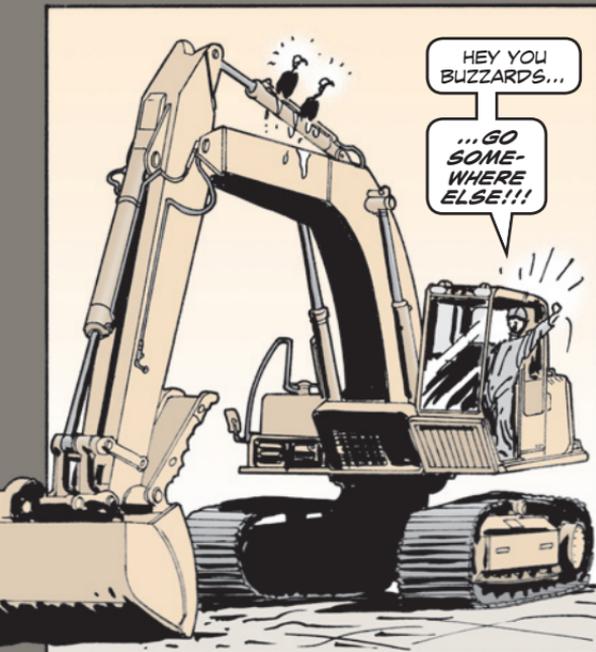


Hydraulic System PM



Operators, it takes the right amount of hydraulic fluid to lubricate the excavator's boom and keep it operating smoothly. That is, as long as the hoses are in good shape.

The excavator's hydraulic hoses get brittle from constant exposure to the elements. The biggest trouble spot is where the hoses are routed along the boom and arm.

There's something else that causes hose damage—buzzards!!! They'll actually sit on the boom and start pecking at the hoses. Go figure! Eventually, the hose will deteriorate until it springs a leak.

Look for stains along the boom and arm hoses when tracking down a leak. **Pinhole leaks in a high-pressure system can penetrate both the skin and clothing.** So, use a piece of cardboard—not your hand—to find the leak.

