ME1503
ME1903
ME2203

Compact Excavator

OPERATOR'S MANUAL

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Mustang ME1503, ME1903 and ME2203 Compact Excavator Operator Manual (909825D)

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Main contents

- Chapter 1 - General Information
- Introduction
- Specifications
- Chapter 2 - Safety
- General Safety Information
- General Safety Rules
- Fire Hazards
- Additional Safety Equipment
- Maintenance Safety
- Lifting the Machine with a Crane
- Transporting
- Safety Decals
- Chapter 3 - Operation
- Operating Controls
- Machine Operation
- Chapter 4 - Maintenance
- General Information
- Maintenance Schedule
- Lubrication
- Tool Kit
- Side Covers
- Engine
- Air Cleaner Service
- Checking and Adjusting V- belt Tension
- Fuel System
- Coolant System
- Electrical System
- Hydraulic System
- Track System
- Cab/Canopy Removal/ Replacement
- Long-Term Storage
- Chapter 5 - Troubleshooting
- Indicator Lamps

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Sample pages follow. Full manual: machinecatalogic.com

CHAPTER 2 – SAFETY

GENERAL SAFETY INFORMATION

Manitou Americas, Inc, in cooperation with the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE), has adopted this safety alert symbol: ⚠ This warning symbol, used with a "signal word," indicates situations or conditions that can cause injury or death if precautions are not followed. The signal words used with the safety alert symbol are:

"**CAUTION**," "**WARNING**," and "**DANGER**," which indicate the level of risk and severity of hazards. All three levels indicate that safety is involved. Observe the precautions whenever you see the safety alert symbol, no matter which signal word is used.

The following signal words are used throughout this manual and on decals on the machine to warn of potential hazards:

⚠ DANGER

"DANGER" indicates an imminently hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

⚠ WARNING

"WARNING" indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

⚠ CAUTION

"CAUTION" indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury. May also alert against unsafe practices.

IMPORTANT

"IMPORTANT" is used to draw attention to a procedure that must to be followed to prevent machine damage.

GENERAL SAFETY RULES

Before operating the machine, first read and study the safety information in this manual. Be sure that anyone who operates or works on the machine is familiar with the safety precautions. This includes providing translations of the warnings and instructions for operators who are not fluent in reading English.

It is essential that operators be thoroughly trained in the safe operation of the machine and handling loads. Operators must not be physically or mentally impaired. Do not allow minors or unqualified personnel to operate the machine, or to be near the machine unless they are properly supervised. It is recommended that the operator be capable of obtaining a valid motor vehicle operator's license.

Only trained and authorized personnel, with a full awareness of safe procedures, should be allowed to operate or perform maintenance or service on the excavator.

Read the operator's manual provided with each attachment before using it.

Use of the machine is subject to certain hazards that cannot be eliminated by mechanical means, but only by exercising intelligence, care and common sense. Such hazards include: hillside operation, overloading, load instability, poor maintenance, and using the machine for a purpose for which it was not intended or designed.

Manitou Americas, Inc. always takes operator's safety into consideration during the design process. Guards and shields are provided, which protect the operator and bystanders from moving parts and other hazards. Operators must be alert, however, because some areas cannot be guarded or shielded without preventing or interfering with proper operation.

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TRANSPORTING

Obey state and local over-the-road regulations. Check state and local restrictions regarding weight, width and length of a load. The hauling vehicle, trailer and load must all be in compliance with local regulations. Refer to the Transporting section of this manual.

SAFETY DECALS

The machine has decals shown on the following pages that provide safety information and precautions. These decals must be kept legible. If missing or illegible, they must be replaced promptly. Replacements can be obtained from your dealer.

Refer to the Parts Manual for decal part numbers and ordering information.

New Decal Application

Surfaces must be free of dirt, dust, grease and foreign material before applying the decal. Remove the smaller portion of the decal backing paper and apply the exposed adhesive to the clean surface, maintaining proper position and alignment. Peel the rest of the backing paper and apply hand pressure to smooth out the decal surface. Refer to the following pages for proper decal locations.

If replacing a part that has a decal on it, ensure that the replacement part has the same decal.

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MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

The following service schedule is a recommended. Maintenance work must be done at regular intervals. Failure to perform scheduled maintenance work will result in excessive wear and early machine failures. The following service schedule is a recommended.

Check, Clean and Inspect

Service Activity	Daily	Every 50 Hours	Every 250 Hours	Every 500 Hours	Every 1000 Hours	Customer	Dealer
Engine oil level	x					x	
Engine coolant level	x					x	
Hydraulic oil level	x					x	
Check engine/hydraulic oil radiator and air conditioning for debris; clean if necessary	x					x	
Cab machines: windshield wipers condition; replace if necessary	x					x	
Cab machines: windshield washer reservoir; fill if necessary	x					x	
Check cooling system, heating and hoses for leaks and pressure (visual check)	x					x	
Air filter for damage; squeeze dust valve	x					x	
Serial Numbers AG00580 and up: drain approx. 1/2 oz. (10 ml) fuel/water mixture from fuel filter. Dispose properly.	x					x	
Inspect water separator pre-filter; drain water if necessary	x					x	
Check V-belt condition and tension	x					x	
Check exhaust system for damage	x					x	
Check rubber tracks for cracks or cuts	x					x	
Check track tension; adjust if necessary	x					x	
Inspect cylinder piston rods for damage	x					x	
Ensure bucket and attachment pins are secure and locked	x					x	
Inspect hydraulic line clamps for tightness/damage; hydraulic system for leaks and loose fasteners	x					x	
Clean hydraulic couplings/dirt build-up on the hydraulic system dust caps	x					x	
Grease central lubrication system	x					x	
Inspect engine cover gas strut	x					x	
Fill fuel tank	x					x	
Check primary pressure relief valve pressure[a]		x		x			x
Check fasteners for tightness[a]		x		x			x
Check indicator lights for correct function[a]		x		x			x

a. Check after first 50 hrs; every 500 hrs thereafter.

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Battery

⚠ WARNING

Before servicing the battery or electrical system, disconnect the negative cable from the negative battery terminal, or if the machine is equipped with a battery disconnect switch, turn the switch to the "OFF" position.

Explosive gas is produced while a battery is in use or being charged. Keep flames or sparks away from the battery area. ALWAYS charge the battery in a well-ventilated area.

To prevent short circuits keep metal parts on your clothing and metal watchbands away from the positive (+) terminal of the battery.

In case of acid contact, wash immediately with water for several minutes. In case of eye contact, get medical attention immediately.

The battery is located under the engine cover, near the left rear by the counterweight. See (1, Figure 4-16).

To access the battery, open the engine compartment according to "Engine Cover Latch" on page 3-15. raise, and if necessary prop the engine cover open.

The battery cables must be clean and tight. Remove any acid or corrosion from the battery and cables using a sodium bicarbonate and water solution. Cover the battery terminals and cable ends with battery-saver grease.

Note: *The battery is maintenance-free and requires no other service.*

Using a Booster Battery (Jump-Starting)

⚠ WARNING

- **Keep arcs, sparks, flames and lighted tobacco away from batteries. When jump-starting from a booster battery, make final connection (negative) at the engine frame away from the battery. A discharged battery can create flammable gases. Sparks or open flames can cause the gas to explode.**
- **Do not jump-start a frozen battery, or it may explode. A discharged battery can freeze at 14°F (10°C). Warm battery to 60°F (16°C) before connecting to a charger. Unplug the charger before connecting or disconnecting cables to the battery.**

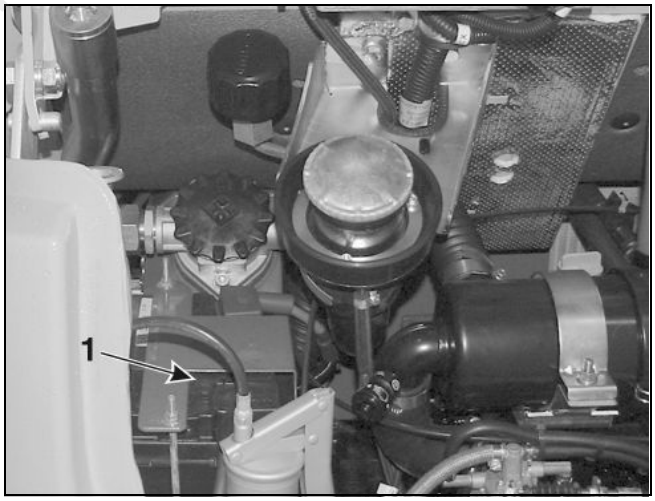

Figure 4-16 – Battery Location (early model shown; other models similar)

IMPORTANT

When jump-starting from another machine, be sure the second machine is not running while using the unstarted machine's engine pre-heater. High voltage spikes from a running machine can damage the pre-heater.

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