



Basic hydraulics Things to know

Oil Flow

A hydraulic pump produces flow. Flow is the amount of fluid coming out of the pump.

Pressure

Pressure occurs when there is resistance to flow.

Oil Flow Pressure

Pascal's Law

Pressure applied at any point upon a confined liquid is transmitted undiminished in all directions (Fig.1). This means that when more than one hydraulic cylinder is being used, each cylinder will pull or push at its own rate, depending on the force required to move the load at that point (Fig. 2).

Cylinders with the lightest load will move first and cylinders with the heaviest load will move last (Load A), if the cylinders have the same capacity.

To have all cylinders operate uniformly so that the load is being pulled or pushed at the same rate at each point, control valves (see Valve section) must be added to the system (Load B).

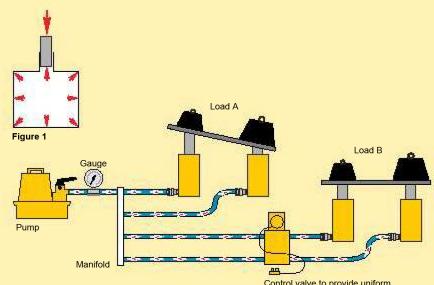


Figure 2

Control valve to provide uniform clamping of the work piece

Area

Force

The amount of force a hydraulic cylinder can generate is equal to the hydraulic pressure times the "effective area" of the cylinder (see cylinder selection charts).

Use the formula F = P x A to determine either force, pressure or effective area if two of the variables are known.

