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Technical Bulletin

RJ-900 and ValueJet CR/Y Overcurrent Errors

The RJ-900 and ValueJet models up to the VJ1614 all use the original cutter solenoid to release the head lock, as shown below. The machine pictured is an RJ-900; the parts are the same on the VJ-1204 and VJ-1304. The ValueJet 1604 and 1614 require you to reach inside a cutout in the head carriage cover with your finger before you can unlock the head.



Over time, ink can build up on the release mechanism until it begins to stick. When this happens, you will start seeing frequent CR Overcurrent or Y Overcurrent errors as the machine attempts to move the head off the capping station. This can happen either when you first start the machine, or in between print jobs.

The second common cause of these errors is a bent or damaged unlock mechanism. Early model ValueJet 1604s and 1614s had the unlock lever mounted on a bracket that could be easily bent if struck by the head carriage. On the RJ-900, ValueJet 1204 and ValueJet 1304, the lock is much harder to move but occasionally we have seen them drift out of position. In either case, it is possible to either unscrew and realign the head unlock (RJ-900, VJ12 and VJ13), or to bend the bracket back into shape (VJ16). We have not seen any cases where the unlock mechanism could not be cleaned or realigned.

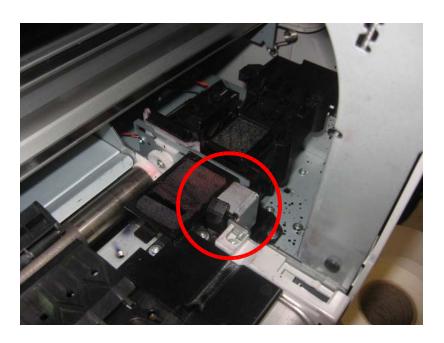
As seen in the image above, it is typically possible to unlock the head carriage by using your finger to click down on the cutter solenoid. About halfway down, you should hear a click and the carriage will move slightly. If you hear the click but the carriage does not move, try to look under the solenoid and see if the release is moving at all.



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Above is an illustration showing that part of the machine with the head carriage moved out of the way. The release mechanism is circled in red.



As shown above, it is possible to use a short #2 Philips screwdriver to reach in and remove the one screw holding the unlock mechanism in place.



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Figure 4. The unlock mechanism after removal. Note the ink buildup on the shaft and at the bottom.

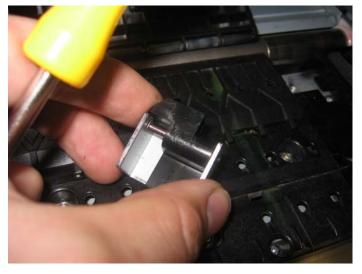


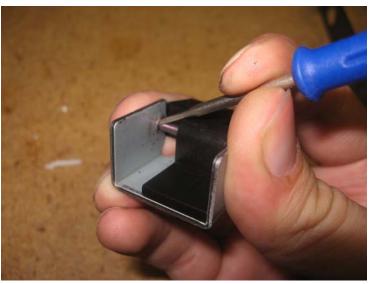
Figure 5. Pushing the unlock mechanism down. It should slide very freely; if it hesitates or binds at all, it will need to be cleaned.



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The above image shows how to remove the shaft for cleaning. It is held in place at the top with a C-clip. This clip *will* fly off when pried off with a small jeweler's flathead screwdriver; for this reason, you may want to remove this in a plastic bin where the clip will not fly very far. It is very small and almost impossible to see on a floor.



The disassembled release mechanism. Once you have pulled the shaft out, clean it with a rag and suitable cleaning fluid for the ink you are using. No grease is necessary; reassemble in the reverse order of removal. You will most likely need a pair of needle nose pliers to reinstall the C-clip.

