

DIRECTED ENERGY, INC. PVX-4140 PULSE GENERATOR OPERATION MANUAL

SERIAL NUMBER:_	
DATE:	

Directed Energy, Inc. 2401 Research Blvd., Ste. 108 Fort Collins, Colorado 80526 970/493-1901 FAX 970/493-1903

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****** WARNING *******

SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURES AND PROPER USE OF THE EQUIPMENT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE USER OF THIS SYSTEM.

Directed Energy, Inc (DEI) provides information on its products and associated hazards, but it assumes no responsibility for the after-sale operation and safety practices.

ALL PERSONNEL WHO WORK WITH OR ARE EXPOSED TO THIS EQUIPMENT MUST TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST POSSIBLE SERIOUS AND/OR FATAL BODILY INJURY. DO NOT PERFORM INTERNAL REPAIR OR ADJUSTMENTS UNLESS ANOTHER PERSON CAPABLE OF RENDERING FIRST AID AND RESUSCITATION IS PRESENT.

1.0 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The DEI PVX-4140 pulse generator is a high voltage solid state pulser designed to drive capacitive loads such as grids, deflection, reflection and acceleration plates.

The PVX-4140 will generate an output voltage swing of 3500 volts, and output current of 25 amperes peak and 0.100 amperes continuous. It produces very flat voltage pulses to DC into a capacitive load.

The PVX-4140 Pulser can generate single-ended output pulses from ground to +3500V or from ground to -3500V, and can also generate pulses originating from a voltage offset from ground. This offset can be from -3500V to +3500V, with a maximum power supply voltage differential ($V_{high} - V_{low}$) \leq 3500V.

2.0 SPECIFICATIONS

All specifications are measured into a 50pF load connected with 6 feet (\sim 1.8M) of RG-59 (75Ω) coaxial cable

INPUT DC VOLTAGE +V IN (V _{high})	into root (1.0m) of the oc (1.012) ecanial capite
Source	External
Maximum Value	+3500V above -HV IN level
Minimum Value	0 volts
Input Connector	Type SHV, Rear Panel (+HV IN)
INPUT DC VOLTAGE -V IN(V _{IOW})	1 - 3
Source	External
Maximum Value	-3500V below +HV IN level
Minimum Value	0 volts
Input Connector	Type SHV, Rear Panel (-HV IN)
OUTPUT PULSE VOLTAGE	
Maximum Value	±3500V (-HV IN - +HV IN)
Minimum Value	0 volts
Means of Adjustment	Controlled By Power Supply Input Voltages
Output Connector	Type SHV, Rear Panel (OUTPUT)
GATE	
Gate Source	External
Gate Input	+5V ±1V into 50Ω
Gate Rise Time	<20ns
Gate Input Connector	Type BNC, Front Panel
VOLTAGE MONITOR	
Voltage Monitor Type	1000:1 into 1 MegΩ
Voltage Monitor Connector	Type BNC, Front Panel
CURRENT MONITOR	
Current Monitor Type	10A/V into 50Ω
Current Monitor Connector	Type BNC, Front Panel
OUTPUT PULSE ELECTRICAL CHARA	CTERISTICS
Pulse Rise Time	≤25ns 3500V (10%-90%, 50pF load)
Pulse Fall Time	≤25ns (10%-90%)
Pulse Width	<60ns to DC, controlled by input gate
Pulse Recurrence Frequency	Single Shot to 30KHz, controlled by
	input gate (into a 50pF load)
Droop	<1% into a capacitive load
Maximum Duty Cycle	Continuous
Maximum Power Dissipation Into A Capacitive Load (CV ² F)	100 Watts

These specifications are measured driving a 50pF load connected with 6 feet of RG-59 cable, at 3500V output. However the PVX-4140 can drive loads of a few picofarads to several hundred picofarads of capacitance, limited by its maximum power dissipation capability⁽¹⁾. At lower load capacitances and/or voltages less then 3500V, the PVX-4140 can operate at continuous pulse recurrence frequencies up to 400KHz. The PVX-4140 can also drive resistive or inductive loads, within limitations. Contact DEI for additional information and applications assistance.

(1) The power dissipated in the PVX-4140 when driving a capacitive load is defined by the formula CV²F, where C is the total load capacitance, including the capacitance of the load, interconnect cable, and the internal capacitance of the PVX-4140, V is the pulse voltage, and F is the pulse repetition frequency (or the total pulses per second). (For these calculations, the internal capacitance of the PVX-4140 is 120pF, and RG-59 cable is 21.5pf/foot.) Given the maximum dissipation of 100W, the maximum load capacitance, frequency and/or voltage at which the PVX-4140 can operate can be approximated using this formula. This formula also approximates the high voltage power supply requirements needed to drive a given load at a specific voltage and frequency. This formula is not applicable when driving resistive or inductive loads.

3.0 SAFETY

The high voltage of this device dictates the use of caution when operating or servicing this equipment. The following is a summary of general safety precautions that must be observed during all phases of operation and repair of the PVX-4140.

3.1 Operating Safety Summary

The safety information contained in this summary is for both operating and servicing personnel. Specific warnings may be found throughout this manual, but may not appear in this summary.

3.1.1 Power Source

The PVX-4140 is designed to operate from a power source that will not apply more than 240 volts between the supply conductors or between either supply conductor and ground.

A protective grounding connection by way of the grounding conductor in the AC power cord is essential.

3.1.2 Grounding

The PVX-4140 is grounded through the grounding conductor of the AC power cord. To avoid electrical shock, plug the PVX-4140 into a properly wired receptacle before making connection to any input or output connectors. Use only a power cord that is in good condition.

3.1.3 Cover Removal

To avoid personal injury, do not remove the covers. **Do not operate the** PVX-4140 **while the covers are removed.** The covers do not contain a safety interlock!

3.1.4 General Operating Precautions

Do not remove the input or output cables while the pulser is in operation. Never short-circuit the output of the unit. Failure to observe these precautions can result in potential electric shock to personnel, arcing, and damage to the connectors and system.

The top cover of the PVX-4140 is not safety interlocked. Extreme caution should be exercised when removing the cover.

Any pulsed power system is capable of random triggering via transients. Therefore when the PVX-4140 is turned on, or dangerous voltage is present in the chassis, assume it is possible to get a pulse on the output connector.

3.2 Servicing Safety Summary

The PVX-4140 contains dangerous voltages and stored energy. DEI strongly recommends that all repairs and adjustments be performed by factory qualified personnel. DEI will not be responsible for personal injury or damage to the driver that occurs during repair by any party other than the factory.

3.2.1 Servicing Procedure

Do not perform internal repair or adjustments unless another person capable of rendering first aid and resuscitation is present.

3.2.2 Internal Energy Storage

The PVX-4140 contains capacitors that are used as energy storage elements. When charged, these capacitors contain approximately 0.5 joules of stored energy. This is sufficient energy to cause serious injury. Assure that the AC power cord is disconnected from the driver, and that the capacitor bank is fully discharged and a shorting strap installed before any repairs or adjustments are attempted. Verify with a voltmeter that all circuits are denergized before servicing. The voltmeter used to make these measurements must be certified for use at 3500VDC and 220VAC or greater. Dangerous voltages, floating ground planes and energy storage exist at several locations in the PVX-4140. Touching connections and/or components could result in serious injury.

4.0 OPERATING CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Output Cabling

The PVX-4140 is designed to drive capacitive loads with fast rise times. Since the current out of the PVX-4140 is limited, the lower the capacitance, the faster the risetime. Given fixed load characteristics, only the interconnecting cable type and length will vary the output capacitance.

The unit is supplied with an 6 foot length of RG-59 coaxial cable which has a capacitance of 21.5pF per foot. The unit is series terminated in the characteristic impedance of this cable, which is 75Ω . DEI recommends that the shortest length of cable possible be used to ensure the fastest possible rise times and best pulse fidelity.

4.2 Load Simulation

This unit was tested with a 50pF capacitive load connected to the output with 6 feet of RG-59 coaxial cable.

4.3 Trigger Input

An input trigger of +5V ±1V into 50Ω with a risetime of <20ns is required to gate on the PVX-4140. Departure from these values can result in a loss of performance. These trigger requirements are met by any high quality low voltage pulse generator. The trigger should be set to +5V ±1V into 50Ω before the trigger cable is attached to the PVX-4140 trigger input. The input trigger amplitude should be set using a 50Ω load (e.g. a 50Ω scope input) before connecting it to the PVX-4140. If the trigger input is greater than +5V into 50Ω , pulse stretching can occur.

4.4 Pulse Voltages +HV IN and -HV IN

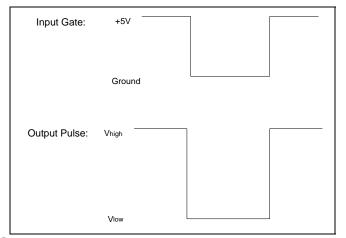
The PVX-4140 Pulser is rated at a maximum pulse output voltage of ±3500VDC. Proper precautions should be taken by the user to ensure that the maximum voltage is not exceeded.

4.5 Output Pulse Considerations

The PVX-4140 Pulser can generate single-ended output pulses from ground to +3500V or from ground to -3500V, and can also generate pulses originating from a voltage offset from ground. This offset can be from -3500V to +3500V, but the maximum power supply voltage differential (V_{high} - V_{low}) should never exceed 3500V. The V_{high} supply should always be equal to or greater than the V_{low} supply, but never greater than 3500V above the V_{low}

supply. Therefore the V_{low} supply may be set to any voltage between -3500V and +3500V, and the V_{high} supply may be set to any voltage between -3500V and +3500V, but the voltage difference between V_{low} and V_{high} should never exceed +3500V. If the unit is operated with a single power supply (i.e. single-ended), the unused power supply input should be grounded.

When the input gate is high, the V_{high} supply is connected to the output. When the input gate is low, the V_{low} supply is connected to the output. Therefore the PVX-4140 can be used to generate a negative-going pulse by logically inverting the input gate, so that the input gate is high until the unit is pulsed. When the input gate goes low, the V_{low} supply is connected to the output, thereby generating a negative going pulse (see the example in the figure below).



Generating a Negative Pulse With The PVX-4140

The control gate may also be internally inverted using the remote INVERT function. See Section 4.7.

4.6 Controls and Indicators

4.6.1 Power Switch and LED

The switch labeled "POWER" controls all AC power in the chassis. The LED also labeled "POWER" above the switch illuminates when AC power is turned on.

4.6.2 Enable Switch and LED

The enable switch enables and disables the pulse output. When the switch is on, the output is enabled, and the "OUTPUT ENABLED" LED above the switch is illuminated.

4.6.3 Gate Connector

The BNC connector labeled "GATE" is the input to gate the pulser. The input should be +5V into 50Ω , with a rise time less than 20ns. The output pulse width and frequency are controlled by the input gate's width and frequency.

4.6.4 Gated LED

The LED labeled "GATED" illuminates when a gate signal of the appropriate amplitude and width to gate the pulser is received. If the "GATED" LED is not illuminated, the PVX-4140 will not generate an output pulse.

4.6.5 Over Current LED

The LED labeled "OVER CURRENT" illuminates if the output pulse current exceeds 10A. If this LED illuminates, and the unit is in AUTORESET mode (See Section 4.7) the pulse output will be inhibited for 6-7 milliseconds. If AUTORESET is not enabled, the unit must be manually reset. This is done by pressing the ENABLE button twice: Once to reset the fault, and the second time to enable the output. The unit may also be reset through the remote reset function - See section 4.7.

If the LED illuminates continuously, the cause of the over current fault should be corrected before attempting to operate the pulser.

4.6.6 Control Error LED

The LED labeled "CONTROL ERROR" does not function in this configuration. The function has been disable in order to allow the user to be able to operate in a burst mode.

4.6.7 Current Monitor

The BNC connector labeled "I MON" provides a 10A/V monitor of the output current. This monitor should be terminated into 50Ω , such as the 50 Ω input of an oscilloscope.

4.6.8 Voltage Monitor

The BNC connector labeled "V MON" provides a 1V/1000V monitor of the output pulse. This monitor should be terminated into $1\text{Meg}\Omega$, such as the $1\text{Meg}\Omega$ input of an oscilloscope.

4.7 Remote Control

The PVX-4140 has the capability to be operated through remote controls. The following table provides the pinout of the 15 pin DSUB connector on the rear panel.

PIN	FUNCTION	
1	GND	Ground
2	GND	Ground
3	GND	Ground
4	GND	Ground
5	GND	Ground
6	NC	No connect
7	NC	No connect
8	NC	No connect
9	ENABLE	Unit enables, disables, resets on a low to high edge
10	INVERT	LOW internally inverts the gate pulse
11	REMOTE	LOW for remote operation
12	INTERLOCK	LOW to satisfy the interlock
13	AUTO RESET	LOW for enabling auto reset
14	NC	No connect
15	NC	No connect

The control pins on the remote connector are internally pulled high. For remote operation, the REMOTE pin should be pulled low. This disables the Front Panel ENABLE switch to prevent local operation. The remote ENABLE, INTERLOCK, INVERT, and AUTO RESET inputs are always active, regardless of the state of this REMOTE signal. If the ENABLE signal is momentarily pulled low, the unit will be enabled, or a fault will be cleared, on the rising edge of that signal. If the INVERT pin is pulled low, the gate pulses going in to the unit will become inverted internally. Therefore, the output pulse will be inverted from that of the input gate.

The INTERLOCK pin must be pulled low or jumpered to pin 4 in order to satisfy the PVX-4140's interlock circuit. If the INTERLOCK pin is not pulled low or jumpered to pin 4, the user will not be able to enable the output. If the user is using the INTERLOCK pin, it should be pulled low to satisfy the interlock. Otherwise, it should be jumpered to pin 4.

The AUTORESET function allows the user to choose how to clear the faults. If the AUTORESET pin is pulled low, the unit will reset itself after 6msec when a fault occurs such as an overcurrent or interlock fault. If the AUTORESET is not pulled low, the user will have to reset faults manually. To reset a fault, the ENABLE pin should be pulled low two times: Once to reset the fault, and the second time to enable the output. If the user does

not want to operate in the remote mode, pins 4 and 12 and pins 5 and 13 should be jumpered together. This satisfies the interlock and enables the autoreset function.

The PVX-4140 is shipped with a mating DSUB connector installed, and with pins 4 and 12 and pins 5 and 13 jumpered. Therefore as shipped, remote operation is disabled. This connector must be installed in order to satisfy the interlock circuit. If it is not installed, the unit cannot be enabled.

5.0 PREPARATION FOR USE

5.1 General

After unpacking, initial inspection and preliminary electrical check procedures should be performed to assure that the unit is in good working order. If it is determined that the unit is damaged, the carrier should be notified immediately. Repair problems should be directed to the service department, Directed Energy, Inc. (DEI), Fort Collins, Colorado. Telephone: (970) 493-1901.

5.2 Initial Inspection

- 1. Inspect unit for exterior mechanical damage.
- 2. Inspect power input cord and input power module for obvious signs of damage.

5.3 Electrical Installation

Standard units are shipped ready for use with a nominal 100 to 240 VAC input.

5.3.1 Input Power Cord

The input power cord terminates externally in a three-prong polarized plug. The unit chassis is wired to the plug through the line cord, and therefore, the insertion of the plug into a compatible receptacle, hooked up to a grounded input, will automatically ground the unit. The unit should not be operated without a grounded AC input!

5.4 Electrical Check

Before proceeding, please review the precautions in Section 3.

5.4.1 Power-Up

The unit should be powered up using the following procedures:

1. Install the mating rear panel DSUB connector supplied with the unit. This connector has pins 4 and 12 and pins 5 and 13 jumpered. Therefore as shipped, remote operation is disabled. This connector must be installed in order to satisfy the interlock circuit. If it is not installed, the unit cannot be enabled. In order to operate the PVX-4140 remotely or to use an external interlock, wire the DSUB connector accordingly (see the "Remote Control" section above).

- 2. Before connecting the pulse generator to the PVX-4140, set up the pulse generator output to deliver a +5V pulse ($\pm 1V$) into 50Ω , with a rep rate of approximately 500Hz, and a pulse width of $1\mu s$.
- 3. Connect the positive output power supply to the rear panel SHV connector labeled +HV IN. Connect the negative output power supply to the rear panel SHV connector labeled -HV IN. For +3500V single-ended output, -HV IN must be connected to ground. The power supply input should be grounded if no power supply is connected. Ensure that both power supplies are turned off.
- 3. Plug the power cord into the AC power input and turn on the front panel Power switch. The "POWER" indicator LED should turn on, indicating that the PVX-4140 is operational. If this does not occur, unplug the unit from the AC power, and refer to the Troubleshooting Section of this manual.
- 4. Connect the pulse generator to the front panel BNC connector of the PVX-4140 labeled "GATE".
- 5. The PVX-4140 is powered up in a faulted condition. Once the Gate is connected, the fault should be cleared within 5 seconds.
- 6. Enable the pulses by pressing the "ENABLE" button. The green LED labeled "OUTPUT ENABLED" should light. Note that if the above mentioned fault is not clear, the output will not be enabled until the 5 second time limit has expired and the "ENABLE" button in pressed again.
- 7. Connect an appropriate load to the rear panel SHV output connector.
- 8. It is possible to monitor the output voltage in two ways. One way is by connecting an appropriate high voltage probe to the output load, utilizing an appropriate attenuator if necessary. The second and easier way is to attach a coax to the V-MON connector on the front panel (1Meg Ω termination). Please note that the rise and fall times are from the launch point of the pulse and may differ slightly from the ones displayed at the load.
- 9. Slowly turn up the high voltage power supplies. The PVX-4140 should produce an output pulse, with a pulse width and pulse recurrence frequency following that of the incoming trigger.
- 10. If there is no output from the PVX-4140, or the output is severely distorted, turn OFF the high voltage power supplies. Leave the PVX-4140 connected to the AC input without pulse voltage and with all connectors in place for approximately five minutes to bleed off the stored energy. Disconnect the AC power to the unit and refer to the Troubleshooting Section of this manual.

6.0 OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

This section provides basic operating instructions for the PVX-4140. Additional application information may be found in Section 7.0.

WARNING

- To avoid personal injury, do not remove the covers. Do not operate the PVX-4140 while the covers are removed. The covers do not contain safety interlocks!
- 2. Do not remove the input or output cables while the driver is in operation. Never short-circuit the pulse voltage output of the pulser. Failure to observe these precautions can result in potential electric shock to personnel, arcing, and damage to the connectors and system.
- 3. The covers of the PVX-4140 are not safety interlocked. Extreme caution should be exercised when removing the covers.
- 4. Pulsed power systems are capable of random triggering via transients and therefore when the PVX-4140 is turned on, or voltage is present in the chassis, assume it is possible to get a pulse on the output connector.

6.1 Power-Up Procedures

The unit should be powered up using the procedures detailed in Section 5.4.1. When this is accomplished, the driver can be adjusted for the particular application through the following procedure:

- Monitor the output of the PVX-4140 on an oscilloscope utilizing a high voltage probe connected to the output load, or with a coax attached to the V-MON in the front panel. Set the output amplitude of the PVX-4140 to the desired level by adjusting the output voltage of the high voltage power supplies.
- 4. Set the output pulse width and pulse recurrence frequency by varying the controls of the input pulse generator. The output pulse width should be set by monitoring the output of the PVX-4140. The output pulse voltage will follow the input trigger, but will not replicate in time the exact duration of the input trigger due to the system propagation delay.

6.2 Power-Down Procedures

- 1. Set the controls of the high voltage power supplies to zero.
- 2. Turn off the high voltage power supplies.

- Leave the PVX-4140 connected to the AC input without high voltage and with all connectors in place for approximately five minutes to bleed off the stored energy.
- 4. Disconnect the AC power to the unit.

7.0 TROUBLESHOOTING

WARNING

The PVX-4140 contains capacitors that are used as energy storage elements. When charged, these capacitors contain approximately 0.5 joules of stored energy. This is sufficient energy to cause serious injury. Assure that the AC power cord is disconnected from the driver, and that the capacitor bank is fully discharged and a shorting strap installed before any repairs or adjustments are attempted. Verify with a voltmeter that all circuits are deenergized before servicing. The voltmeter used to make these measurements must be certified for use at 3500VDC and 220VAC or greater. Dangerous voltages, floating ground planes and energy storage exist at several locations in the PVX-4140. Touching connections or components could result in serious injury.

7.1 Troubleshooting Procedures

Before attempting to service or troubleshoot the PVX-4140, review the servicing safety summary in Section 3.0.

The power MOSFETs utilized in the PVX-4140 are mounted on the printed circuit board. In the unlikely event that the MOSFETs need be replaced, it is highly recommended that the unit be returned to the factory for servicing.

The table below summarizes potential problems and their solutions. If these recommendations do not resolve the problem, DEI customer service can be contacted for further assistance.

SULTITIONS

SOLUTIONS
 AC power not plugged in.
 Fuse(s) are blown. See fuse replacement instructions in Section 7.1.1
 External remote interlock circuit is not satisfied
 Output is not enabled
 External remote interlock circuit is not satisfied
 No input trigger
 Input trigger voltage too low
 Input trigger pulse width too short. Increase width.
 Input trigger frequency too high. Reduce frequency.
 No high voltage. Check power supplies
 Output not connected correctly. Check all cables and connections.
 Pulser is damaged. Contact DEI customer service.

7.1.1 Fuses

To avoid fire hazard or damage to the driver, use only the fuse types listed below. Fuse replacement should be performed by qualified personnel only. Assure that the AC power cord is disconnected from the driver, and that the capacitor bank is fully discharged and a shorting strap installed before fuse replacement is attempted. Verify with a voltmeter that all circuits are de-energized before servicing. The voltmeter used to make these measurements must be certified for use at 3500VDC and 220VAC or greater.

FUSE LOCATION

CAMPLOM

FUSE VALUE

AC Entry Module

3A, 250VAC Fast Blow

7.2 Factory Service

If the procedures above fail to resolve an operational problem, please contact the factory for further assistance: DIRECTED ENERGY, INC.

2401 RESEARCH BLVD SUITE 108
FORT COLLINS, CO 80526
(970) 493-1901
FAX (970) 493-1903
EMAIL deiinfo@directedenergy.com

8.0 SYSTEM FAILURE MODES

The PVX-4140 is capable of generating large amplitude current pulses with very fast rise and fall times. There is limited over-current or over-voltage protection circuitry, and it is the user's responsibility to assure that the interconnect cables and load do not create transients, over-current or over-voltage conditions that could damage the PVX-4140. FAILURE TO DO SO VOIDS THE WARRANTY.

8.1 Over-Current Failure

When the output is shorted, the PVX-4140 can deliver in excess of 10A of current (depending on cabling, pulse power supply setting, etc.). A current pulse of this magnitude is in excess of the driver's specifications. If allowed to operate into a short for an extended period of time, damage to the unit, load and/or associated cabling may result.

9.0 WARRANTY

There are no warranties, express or implied, including any implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose nor any IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTIBILITY made by Directed Energy, Inc. (DEI) except as follows:

DEI warrants equipment manufactured by it to be free from defects in materials and/or workmanship under conditions of normal use for a period of one year from the date of shipment to the purchaser. DEI will repair or replace, at DEI's option, any product manufactured by it which is shown to be defective or fails to perform within specifications within one year from the date of shipment to the purchaser. OEM, modified and custom items of equipment are similarly warranted, for a period of ninety (90) days from date of shipment to the purchaser.

Equipment claimed to be defective must be returned, transportation prepaid, to DEI's factory in Fort Collins, Colorado within the warranty period. Returns must be preauthorized by contact with DEI's customer service department. Written documentation of such preauthorization shall be included with the returned item.

At DEI's discretion, DEI may elect to repair or replace the equipment claimed to be defective or refund the original purchase price, plus taxes and transportation charges incurred by the purchaser.

This Warranty shall not apply to any product that has been:

- 1. Repaired, worked on, or altered by persons unauthorized by DEI;
- 2. Subjected to misuse, neglect, or damage by others; or
- 3. Connected, installed, adjusted, or used in a manner not authorized in the instructions or specifications furnished by DEI.

This warranty is the purchaser's sole remedy for claimed defects in the equipment sold or manufactured by DEI. DEI's liability to the purchaser is limited to the repair or replacement of the claimed defective equipment or, at DEI's option, refund of the purchase price, taxes and transportation charges incurred by the purchaser. DEI will not be responsible for or liable to the purchaser for consequential losses or damages asserted to be attributable to a claimed defect in the equipment provided.

Changes made by DEI in the design or manufacture of similar equipment which are effected subsequent to the date of shipment of the warranted equipment to the purchaser are reflective of DEI's program of constant product development and improvement and shall not be construed as an acknowledgement of deficiency in the product shipped to purchaser. DEI will be under no obligation to make any changes to product previously shipped.