HALE PUMPS

CUSTOMER SERVICE

PRODUCT INFORMATION

SERVICE BULLETIN #42

DATE: November 20, 1981

TO: All Hale Midship Customers

SUBJECT: HALE 5" SUCTION TUBE & CAP THREAD ENGAGEMENT

IMPORTANT: This bulletin concerns the potential for thread engagement problems on 5" suction tubes and caps shipped from Hale between June 1980 and December 1980. Suction tubes and caps are not normally considered to be a potentially dangerous area, however, under certain conditions inadequate thread engagement could cause severe injury.

When pumping from a hydrant or in relay a potential for fast shutdown and a water hammer exists when positive pressures replace negative pressures (normally found in draft or tank operation). If a suction tube cap is not properly engaged, when a water hammer is imposed on the pump, the suction tube threads could fail and the cap could be forced off (usually with great force). Damage to surrounding property or injury to fire fighters could result.

A machining problem (Higbee thread starts too far from suction tube face) may aggravate the failure possibility of certain 5" tubes. Not all 5" tubes are affected, but we strongly urge you to notify all of your customers who received your pumpers equipped with 5" tubes between June of 1980 and July of 1981.

We strongly suggest a simple check be made to determine if a potential problem exists. First, thread a cap on each suction tube until it is tight. Second, back the cap off slowly until it is just released from the threads. Third, retighten the cap; if you have one full turn or more on the cap before it "bottoms out" on its gasket, the tube and the cap are probably within tolerance.

If the cap turns less than one full turn before bottoming out, the potential for thread failure exists. Please notify me immediately and I will arrange to have replacement tubes sent to the Fire Department.

We appreciate your assistance in checking your pumpers delivered during the above time span. Certainly, neither Hale nor your company wants to risk having anyone injured because of improperly machined suction tubes.

We would appreciate receiving copies of letters sent to your customers.

Fred Buchler

Fred Buchler, Mgr.
Customer Service

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