

SUBJECT UPDATE – Pressure testing of hose

DATE 19 June 2019

TO All personnel

FROM Paul Turner, National Operations Manager; John Rasmussen, National Manager Rural Operations



Action All personnel are to follow the instructions below when pressure testing hose.

Situation This notice is an update to [notice 013/2019](#).
Last month, a hose burst while it was being pressure tested resulting in a firefighter sustaining a serious injury.

The investigation into this event is still ongoing however, the ban of pressure testing all hose has now been lifted subject to personnel following the instructions below.

The normal washing and drying, visual inspections and routine maintenance and repairs of hose and couplings can continue.

Crews are also reminded to:

- Make sure you are familiar with the Hose Washing and Testing procedure and what the Test Pressures, are as per section 3 of the [E4-1-TM, The Hose Technical Manual](#).
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the tasks they are undertaking.

Instructions for pressure testing of hose

Until the investigation is complete, pressure testing of hose may only be undertaken following the below instructions:

- Only one length of hose from each outlet on the hose testing rig.
- Under no circumstances should hose be joined together over multiple lengths.
- Hose must be laid in a straight line.
- Hose must be tethered at the female end to eliminate any whipping.
- Personnel must maintain a safe distance of at least 10 metres from the charged hose.
- If a hole is identified *while the test pressure is being built up*, the pressure should be released before personnel go forward to mark the hose. The hose should then be removed from the hose testing rig before restarting the test.
- If a hole is identified *at test pressure*, personnel should not mark the hose until the pressure in the hose has been reduced to below the stated working pressure for that hose.
- After testing, the pressure in the hose and test rig should be released at the pump before personnel approach them.

Related links [E4-1-TM, The Hose Technical Manual](#).

Contact

Any questions please contact

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End of notice.