

AON SPRINKLER CERTIFICATION



Aon New Zealand

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Aon Sprinkler Certification Technical Note		
Note Number: 11-06	Issue: 1	Date: 3 February 2011
Subject	Pump Shaft Flexible Couplings	
Notice: Aon Sprinkler Certification Technical Notes provide guidance notes which may be used in certification of sprinkler installations by Aon New Zealand. If sprinkler installations are being certified by any other Sprinkler System Certifier, these Technical Notes may not apply.		

During the drafting of NZS4541:2007, the Committee were alerted to a number of pump-set flexible shaft coupling failures, both domestically and internationally.

As a result of this, NZS4541:2007 introduced an annual requirement to inspect pump couplings that rely on the elastomeric element to drive the pump, and a quadrennial requirement to replace such elements.

Clause 1202.4 Yearly Checks

(e) Any pump set flexible couplings that rely on elastomeric elements for transmission of drive shall be inspected for obvious wear and deterioration. If any evidence of wear or deterioration is obvious, the coupling's elastomeric element shall be replaced.



Clause 1202.6 Quadrennial Checks

(e) Pumpset flexible drive couplings, which rely on the integrity of the elastomeric element shall have the element replaced.

NOTE – If physically possible, it would be preferable to replace the pump coupling with a coupling complying with 607.1.4

Aon has recently been alerted to some recent failures which indicate that such inspections are not being carried out on all systems installed to superseded editions of the Standard. While, technically, compliance with the Building Act's Compliance Schedule Regime may not require such inspections, the Sprinkler Testing and Inspection Industry is reminded that these inspections and maintenance requirements are considered best industry practice, to achieve the reliability expectations of a sprinkler system.

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