



TECHNICAL BULLETIN
ETI SINTERED FILTERS –(for LOP TYPE ACTUATORS)

CIRCULATION : ETI distributors and associated technical staff.

PREAMBLE:

ETI has a commitment to constant testing and improvement so that ultimately customers have more reliable fire systems. Sintered filters are used in ETI Loss Of Pressure Remote Actuators. They provide a vent to exhaust compressed nitrogen during actuation. Their function is to prevent intrusion of dirt and contaminants during normal service to ensure the actuator functions correctly. Blocked or partially blocked filters can prevent reliable actuation of the fire system.

CARE TO BE TAKEN ON NEW INSTALLS

ETI established that during assembly of a fire system, if care was not taken to ensure all lines were cleared and free of contaminants, it was possible during testing to partially block the sintered filter internally. Therefore it is important that during assembly of fire systems that the all lines are blown clear before the remote actuator is connected.

SERVICE PROCEDURE CLARIFIED

At the 12 month service, it is also important to check that the filter is free flowing. This can be done two ways. It can be replaced with a new filter, or it can be cleaned and flow tested. Flow testing can be done in the workshop simply. The filter can have a 1.2 metre length of 16mm hose plugged over the 3/8" BSP thread in a manner that will prevent leaking. Hold the hose vertically with the filter at the bottom. Pour 200 Mls of clean potable water into the top of the tube allowing it to drain through the filter. The drain time normally will be 8 to 18 seconds. The filter fails the test if the drain time is longer than 20 seconds. For cleaning filters, we find the best medium is penetrating dispersants like WD40 and the use of compressed air or nitrogen used with equipment and methods that are acceptable OH&S procedures.

PART IDENTIFICATION
PART - FILTERSIN



SUMMARY

- 1) Check that Loss Of Pressure LOP actuator lines are clear of contaminants before connecting actuators on new installations.
- 2) An annual service procedure now applies for LOP actuator sintered filters requiring them to be tested or replaced.

Please ensure that all related technical personnel are informed of this procedure. Please add a copy of this technical bulletin in the appropriate section of your ETI technical manual.

Yours sincerely

LEIGH WALDON
Technical Director