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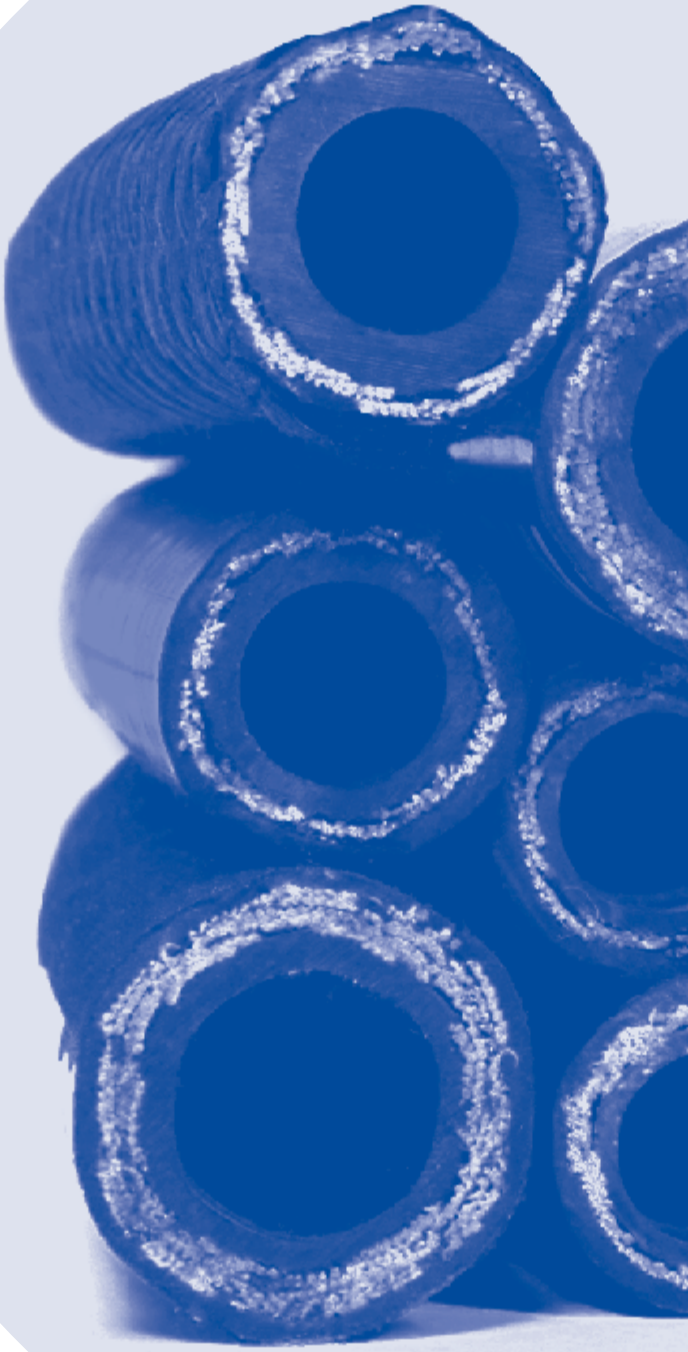
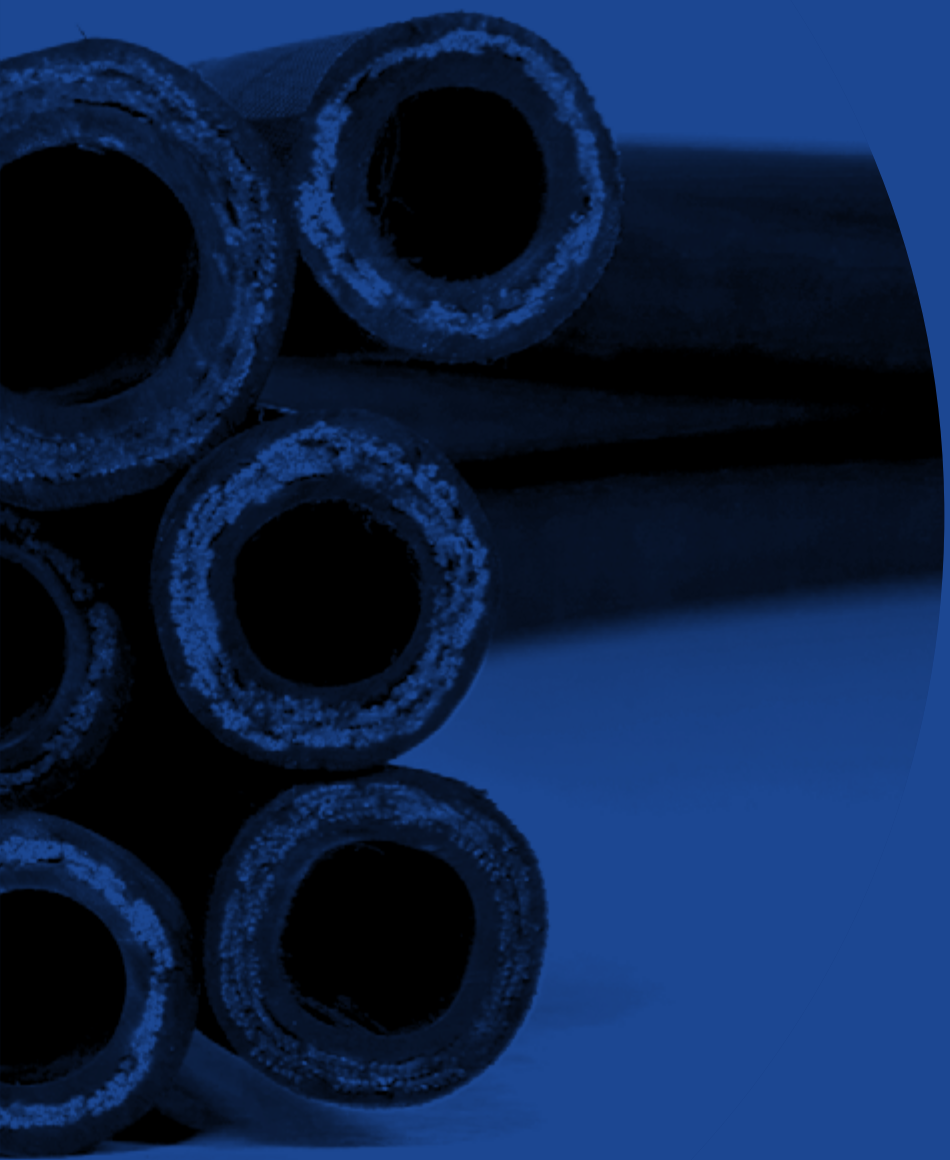
Appendix



GESFLUID



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Selection of hydraulic hoses

Working pressure

When selecting a hose it should be considered that it's working pressure should be higher than the maximum operating pressure of the system. For determination of the maximum operating pressure the system engineer should always consider possible pressure peaks during start up and inversion. Pressure peaks may be so short that they are only measurable with electronic devices. In suction applications, the capacity of the hose to withstand negative pressure is a decisive factor. Working pressures are given for working temperature of +20°C (+68°F). For increased temperatures a de-rating factor should be considered. The rated working pressures of Balflex® hydraulic hoses are summarized in table 1.

NOTE: Only an accurate knowledge of the pressure history of the service cycles of the equipment should lead to a sub-dimensioning of the hose by the engineer, bearing in mind the recommendations of SAE J 1927 standards.

Temperature

Excessive temperature is one of the main limitations of rubber and induces accelerated aging. Fluid temperature, either in motion or with the equipment stopped, should not exceed the maximum working temperature recommended for each hose. Likewise, surrounding temperature should be considered, specially when resulting from heat sources in the proximity of the hose assembly.

Air and Gaseous applications

Hose assemblies that are to be used in air and other gaseous applications shoud be pin-pricked, through the cover, prior to use.

These micro perforations allow gas that has permeated the inner tube of the hose to escape into the atmosphere. This prevents gases from accumulating and blistering the hose cover.

Fluid compatibility

Fluid compatibility with the hose and the coupling should be verified. Fluids that chemically attack the hose can lead to the contamination and obstruction of the hydraulic system and to premature failure of the hose. Handling gases requires special attention. As an orientation, the **Balflex®** Hydraulic Hose Fluid Compatibility Chart gives a classification of compatibility with some fluids. Consult **Balflex®** for compatibility of other fluids and rubber compounds. Whenever in doubt test before application.

Assembly geometry

Installation should guarantee that the minimum bend radius of the hose is respected and that bending occurs only in one plane. Hose length may suffer a variation between –4% and +2%, when submitted to pressure. The assembly length should provide enough margin for this change in length. Torsion and traction of the assembly must be avoided and protection and restrain of the assembly should be considered if there are obstacles to avoid. Mechanical loads acting on the assembly, including vibration, should be kept at a minimum. Free swivelling connectors should be used whenever torsion is present. Whenever hose failure may result in whipping (for example in gas applications) restraint through a steel cable to the connecting parts should be considered. When connecting a moving part, the free movement of the assembly without touching any surface should be assured. Positioning of the assembly should consider that risks of bodily injure and equipment damage through spillage or fluid ejection are minimized. Table 4 shows some correct and incorrect installation situations.

Permeability

All hoses present a certain degree of permeability, especially with gases and highly volatile liquids. The designer should consider the possibility that this permeability results in system or environment contamination.

Environmental compatibility

The hose and couplings compatibility with the working environment factors, as temperature, fire hazard, UV light, ozone, chemicals and electrical charges should be considered. External protection sleeves require an adequate assembly.

Dimensioning

Dimensioning of all components should guarantee that pressure loss is kept at a minimum, in order not to reduce power transmission and to avoid overheating or turbulence of the fluid that might lead to deterioration of the lining.

Electrical conductivity

To minimize the risk of Explosion or Eletrocution from electrical discharge through the assembly due to static electricity build up or non-conductivity. Whenever the hose is not unequivocally branded either non-conductive or anti-static, its electrical characteristics should always be considered as not controlled.

Abrasion

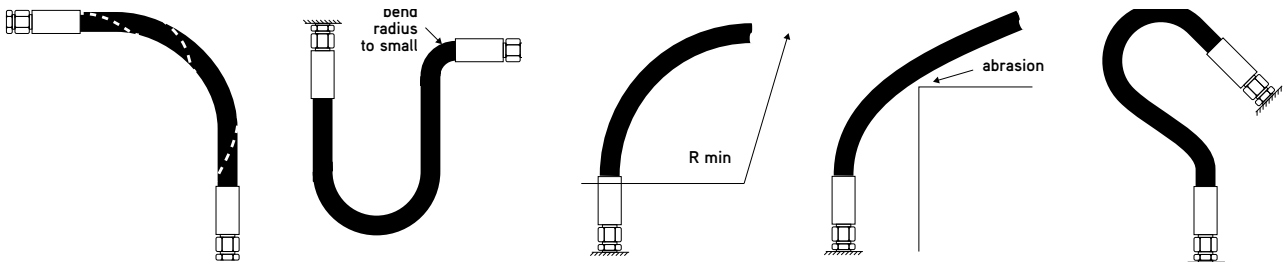
Accelerated external abrasion, through contact in motion or exposure to projected particles reduces drastically hose life and leads to premature failure through exposure of the reinforcement. For special applications Balflex® recommends hoses with special abrasion resistant rubber compounds or protection through adequate sleeves.

Couplings selection

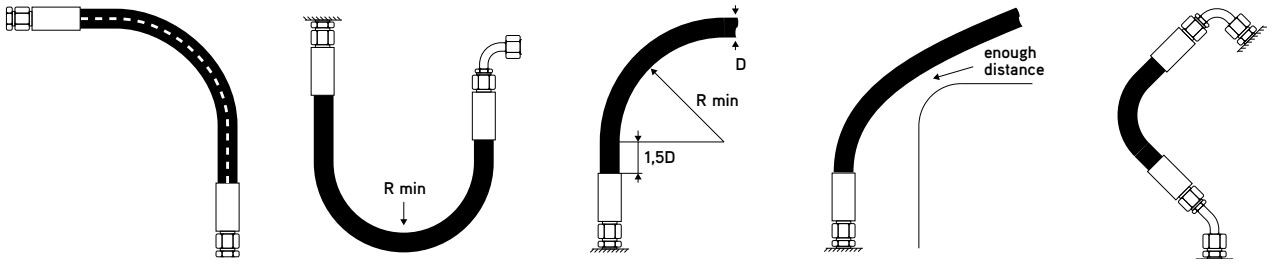
Couplings are a fundamental part of the geometry of hose assemblies. The compatibility of sealing and securement of the couplings to the system ports should be verified. The recommended coupling series for each hose should be used and the assembly instructions carefully followed. Inadequate couplings may damage the hose and lead to a premature failure.

Table 4: Examples of installation of hoses assemblies

Incorrect



Correct



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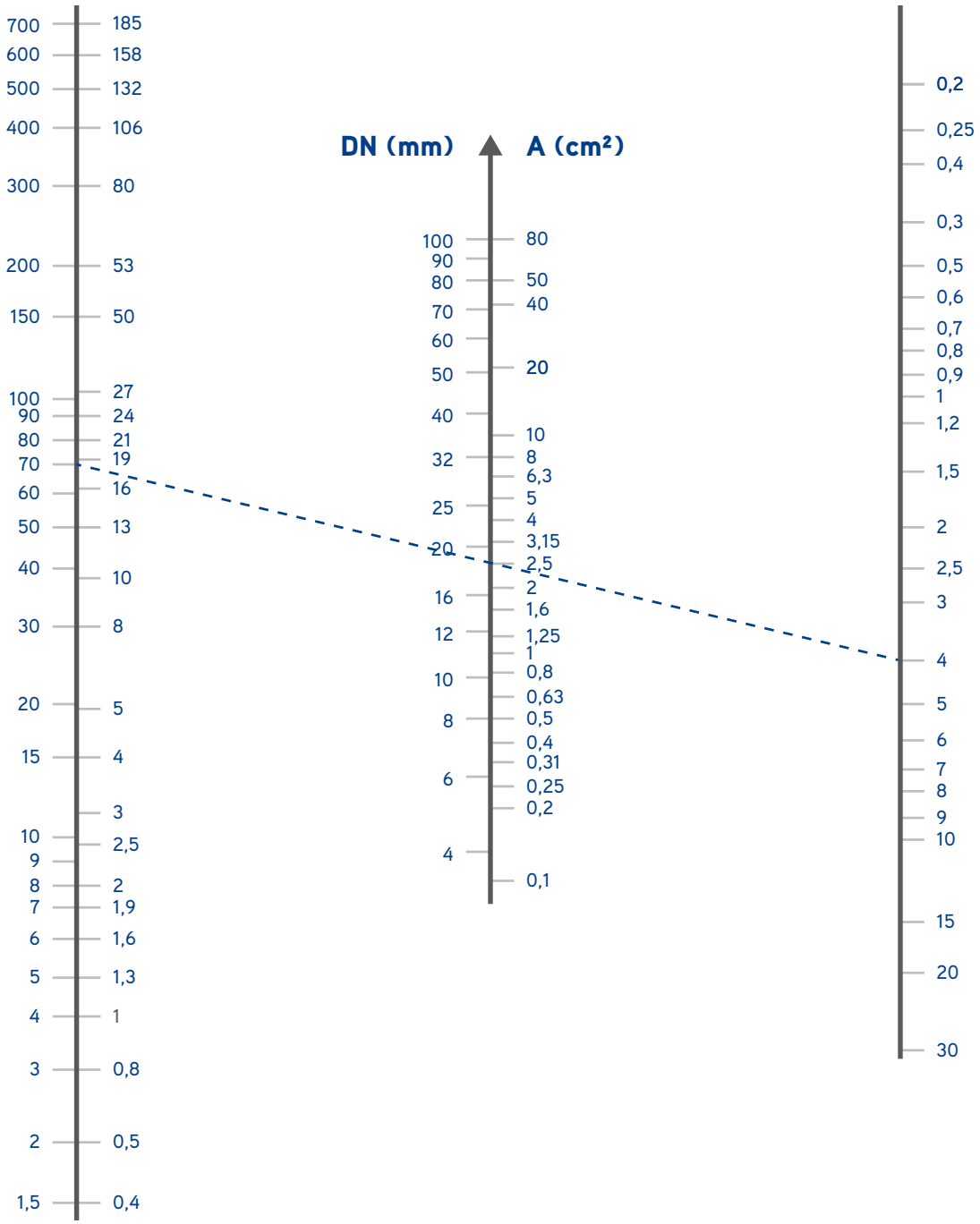
Hose Selection Chart

This graphic helps finding the Nominal Hose Diameter-DN (mm) or the Dash Size. Firstly, one must know the Flow Rate and Fluid Velocity values that are being used. These two pieces of information must be found in the outer graphic lines. Then by linking these two values with a straight line, one should obtain the Nominal Hose Diameter-DN (mm) or the Gauge Diameter-A (cm²). The example below shows that for a fluid velocity of 4 meters per second and a flow rate of 70 liters per minute or 19 gallons per minute, one should choose a hose with DN of 19mm it means 3/4" hose or a dash hose -12.



Storage

Recommendation for correct storage

Rubber is subject, by nature, to change in physical and chemical properties. These changes, which normally occur over the course of time, according to the kind of rubber used, can be accelerated by one particular factor or by a combination of these. Reinforcement materials are also adversely affected by unsuitable conditions of storage. The following recommendations give some precautions to be taken to ensure the minimum deterioration to stored articles.

Storage life

Storage time should be reduced to the minimum through programmed warehousing rotation. When it is not possible to avoid long term storage, it is necessary that the user, as indicated in ISO 8331, carries out a complete check of the hose before its use, according to the following criteria:

- maximum two years storage for assembly;
- maximum four years storage for hoses.

Temperature and humidity

The best temperature for the storage of rubber hoses varies from 10 to 25 degrees centigrade. Hoses should not be stored at temperature above 40˚C or below 0˚C. When the temperature is below -15˚C it is necessary to take precautions when handling. Hoses should not be stored near sources of heat nor in conditions of high or low humidity. A humidity level of a maximum of 65% is recommended.

Light

Hoses must be stored in dark places, avoiding direct sun light or strong artificial light. Should store rooms have windows or glass openings, these must be screened with suitable filters.

Oxygen and ozone

Hoses should be protected from circulating air by suitable packing or by storing in air-tight containers. Ozone has a particularly aggressive action on all rubber products, the storage area must not contain any ozone producing devices such as high voltage electrical tension wires, electric motors or other devices which can provoke sparks or electric arcs.

Contact with other materials

Hoses should not come into contact with solvents, fuels, oils, greases, volatile chemical mixtures, acids, disinfectants or other organic liquids in general. Furthermore, direct contact with some metals (for example manganese, iron, copper and its alloys) and relative mixture exercise harmful effects on some types of rubber. Contact with PVC and creosote impregnated timber or fabrics should also be avoided.

Heat sources

The temperature limits given in point dedicated to temperature and humidity must be respected. When this is impossible, it is necessary to use a thermic shield at a distance not less than one meter.

Electric or magnetic field

Variation in electric or magnetic fields must be eliminated in storage facilities as these could provoke currents in metal coupling, heating them. Similar fields could be caused by high-tension cables or high frequency generators.

Storage conditions

Hoses must be stored in a relaxed condition free from tension, compression or other deformation and not in contact with any objects that could potentially pierce or cut the hose. It is preferable to store hoses on special shelves or on dry surfaces. Coiled hoses must be stored horizontally avoiding piling. When this is not possible the height of the piles must be such to avoid permanent deformation of hoses stored underneath. The inside diameter of the coil, during the storage, must be such as to not compromise the performances of the product. In particular, this diameter must not have a value less than those indicated by the manufacturer. It is advisable to avoid storing coiled hoses on poles or hooks. Furthermore it is advisable to store hoses to be delivered straight, horizontally, without bending.

Rodents and insects

Hoses must be protected from rodents and insects. When such a risk is probable adequate precautions must be taken.

Marking or packaged items

It is advisable that hoses are always easy to identify even if packed.

Exit from storage

Prior to delivery, hoses must be checked for integrity and must correspond to the required use. After long storage if couplings are not clipped, swaged or built-in, it is necessary to check that locking collars are tight.

Return to storage

Hoses that have been used must be free from all substances prior to storage. Particular attention must be paid when abrasive or similar substances have been conveyed. After cleaning, the hose must be checked for integrity.

Handling

Hoses must be moved with care avoiding knocks, dragging over abrasive surfaces and compression. Hoses must not be pulled violently when twisted or knotted. Heavy hoses, normally delivered in a straight line, must be laid on special supports for transport. Should wood supports be used these must not be treated with creosote or painted with substances which could damage the rubber.

Bending radius

Installation underneath the minimum bending radius reduces the life of the hose considerably. Moreover it is necessary to avoid bending at fitting ends.

Torsion

Hoses are not manufactured to work in torsion, except for specific purposes.

Test Recommendations for Hydraulic Hose and Hose Assemblies

Age	Recommendations
Up to 3 years	Use without further testing.
3 to 5 years	A pressure test at 1.5x the working pressure needs to be performed on all hoses.
5 to 8 years	Selected samples should be subjected to burst tests, cold bend tests, electrical tests and impulse tests. All hoses should be tested to 1.5x working pressure.
Over 8 years	These should be destroyed.

Test Recommendations for Thermoplastic Hose and Hose Assemblies

Age	Recommendations
Up to 3 years	Use without further testing.
5 to 8 years	A pressure test at 1.5x the working pressure needs to be performed on all hoses and selected samples should be burst tested.
8 to 12 years	Selected samples should be subjected to burst tests, cold bend tests, electrical tests and impulse tests
Over 12 years	These should be destroyed.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Causes	Solutions
End connector blow-off from the end of the hose	- Hose and/or fitting may be unsuitable for the application or wrong match - Hose maybe too short, twisted or that the radius of the bend is lower than the minimum bending radius	- Replace fittings and/or hose with more suitable alternatives - Increase the hose length and make sure no twisting occurs during operation
	- The hose maybe crimped to the wrong swaging dimension	- Check the assembly is being performed correctly. Make sure the crimping diameter is correct
	- Hose maybe incorrectly assembled or crimped incorrectly	- Check assembly is being performed correctly
	- Skiving of the hose maybe required or the skiving may have been performed incorrectly	- Check the specifications of the hose fittings/hose and whether skiving is required. Also find a skiving diameter and length from the manufacturer
Hose bursts on the outer surface of a bend	- It is highly likely that the hose exceeded the minimum bend radius and therefore the reinforced inner braid or spiral layer has opened, causing a weak point in the hose structure	- Increase the length of the hose assembly, use 90˚ or 45˚ fittings to remove the tight bends or alternatively use a more compact hose with a lower minimum bending radiusor spiral layer has opened, causing a weak point in the hose structure
	- The pressure increased past the minimum burst pressure of the hose	- Replace the hose with one more suitable for the application or reduce the pressure within the system

Problem	Possible Causes	Solutions
Hose Liner deteriorates or swells, throughput is reduced, or leaks occur	- Hose liner is incompatible with the medium inside the hose	- Change the type of the hose to one more suitable for the medium within the hose
	- Temperature maybe outside the tolerance of the hose. This maybe the medium running through the hose or an environmental factor	- Change the type of hose to one more suitable for the temperature of the medium. If it is caused by the temperature of the surrounding environment, then a hose with a more temperature resistant cover maybe used
Hose has burst, and the wire reinforcement is rusted at the burst point	- Hose cover has been broken by trauma or abrasion	- Remove any routing issues that may cause trauma or abrasion. Possibly use a hose with a more resilient cover. Use some spiral wrap or other hose protection
	- Hose cover has been broken by extreme temperatures or chemical attack	- Choose a hose more suitable for the temperature and/or volatility of the medium
	- Hose cover has been broken by improper skiving of the hose	- Check that skiving is being performed correctly and to the right dimensions
	- Hose cover has been broken by gases trapped between the layers	- If gas is building up inside the cover, the hose may need to be perforated (pin-pricked). This lets the gas escape and prevents a pressure build up under the cover, which will eventually cause it to burst

Problem	Possible Causes	Solutions
Leaking occurs at the threaded connector	- Sealing surface or thread maybe affected by contamination	- Clean the connectors, and make sure no damage has occurred to the threads or the sealing cones
	- The connector may be loose, or conversely the connector may be over tightened	- Tighten the connectors or replace them as necessary
	- The O-ring or soft seal may have deteriorated	- Replace the seals if necessary
	- It may also be worthwhile to check that the sealing surfaces match. It could be possible that the threads match, but a sealing cone may not be present	- Change the adapters to a matching connection

Hydraulic Hose – General Safety Guidelines

Maintenance technicians, fabricators, end-users and installers need to be aware of the potential safety hazards when handling or even when in proximity to hydraulic hose assemblies. The following conditions can lead to personal injury and property damage:

1. …—Always use hose in well-ventilated areas; some fluids may permeate the hose cover and create fume and/or fire hazards.

2. Hydraulic systems typically operate at very high pressures. Any leak of pressurized fluid can penetrate the skin, causing severe tissue damage and burns. One good approach is to use guards or shields around the hose assembly to reduce the risk of injury.

3. Whipping – under high operating pressures, the hose and/or fitting can come loose or blow, causing the end of the hose to whip with great force. Again, the hose assembly should be shielded, guarded and, whenever possible, secured to avoid injury or damage from whipping.

4. Hydraulic fluids are flammable and can explode with a source of ignition. To avoid possible injury or property damage, care should be taken to eliminate ignition sources and to properly route the hose assembly to minimize the chance of combustion.

5. Most hose is conductive. Some applications require use of non-conductive hose to avoid electrocution.

6. When hydraulic hose assemblies fail, the equipment it powers will fail, too, sometimes abruptly and without warning. Never work directly beneath hydraulically powered booms, shovels or other large, heavy pieces of equipment.

7. When air or gaseous materials are being conveyed, the correct hose should be used. A pin-perforated cover may be required. Perforations in the cover will prevent permeated gases from accumulating and blistering the cover. Check with your supplier for the correct hose specification.

8. Extreme care should be used when operating hand-held hydraulic tools where the operator is in proximity to the hydraulic hose assembly. The following steps should be taken to avoid injury:

   a. Use strain relievers on each end of the hose to prevent kinking, excessive bending or stress on the hose at the coupling.

   b. Never use the hose assembly to pull or carry the tool.

   c. Exposed hose near the operator should be guarded in case hose assembly fails to prevent injury from high pressure or high temperature fluid.

   d. Operators should be protected with the required safety clothing for the job and fluids being used.

   e. The hose should be protected against any external damage.

9. Hose assemblies should be properly routed to avoid strain and the possibility of the hose bursting. Proper routing will also protect the assembly against flex fatigue, excessive heat or abrasion.

10. When selecting a hose style and assembly, check for hose compliance to all relevant government, industry, and safety standards or regulations.

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High-Pressure Injection Hazards

High-pressure injection injuries (also known as grease gun injuries), are caused by the accidental injection of a foreign material, such as grease, oil, or solvent under pressure, through the skin and into the underlying tissue. This is analogous to medical techniques used to administer immunization shots without a needle.

A grease gun injury can cause serious delayed soft tissue damage and should be treated as a surgical emergency. Any person sustaining an injury of this sort should seek immediate medical attention, regardless of the appearance of the wound or its size.

Accidents involving injection injuries can occur when using any type of pressurized equipment. Two common cases in which petroleum products may be involved are accidents with pressurized grease guns or with hydraulic systems.

Pressurized grease guns are commonly used in service stations, garages and industrial plants. Typically, most service stations have grease guns operating at 500-1.000 kPa (90-150 psi) air pressure. Most modern industrial hydraulic systems operate in the range of 13 to 35 MPa (2,000 to 5,000 psi). A stream of oil ejected from a nozzle or leak under pressure of this magnitude has a velocity comparable to the muzzle velocity of a rifle bullet.

The most common sites of injury are the fingers or hand. However, any part of the body can be involved. With grease guns, especially, accidents usually occur when the injured person wipes the tip of the nozzle with his finger or the nozzle slips off the grease fitting while being held in place.

Grease may also be injected into the body from a leak in the grease line. In **hydraulic system accidents**, a leak in a hydraulic line can emit a high-velocity stream of oil and cause injury if it strikes a person. Workers are commonly injured when they try to stop the leak by covering it with their hand or finger.

Chemical irritation is not a major problem with most petroleum products because hydraulic oils and greases are generally non-irritating and low toxicity to skin. However, the resulting bacterial infection can be a problem because of the damaged tissue and circulation in the wound, even though it has been surgically opened and the foreign material removed. One of the dangers from this type of injury is that it is not recognized quickly by the injured person as being serious. Often the initial wound may be very small and essentially painless. The injured person may even continue working. However, in every case in which a person receives this type of injury, he or she should stop work and get immediate medical treatment.

The following are some basic rules that must be observed:

DON'T

- × Play around with or use a grease gun for practical jokes;
- × Touch the end of a grease gun;
- × Use any part of the body to test a grease gun for grease flow;
- × Use any part of the body to stop a leak in a hydraulic line.

DO

- Routinely check all hoses for wear and possible weak spots;
- Handle a grease gun with respect for its power;
- Take special care when starting up a new hydraulic system to be sure that every part of the system can withstand the operating pressure.

IN CASE OF A GREASE GUN ACCIDENT, SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL TREATMENT. Identify the grease or oil involved in the accident. Contact the supplier or the manufacturer to obtain the product's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) about possible toxicity if a physician or hospital needs more information.

Hydraulic Hose and Electrocution

Although it is a mercifully infrequent occurrence, workers have been burned or electrocuted when using metal-reinforced hoses on aerial bucket trucks near energized power lines. Hydraulic hose, fluid and power lines are a deadly combination. Electrical contact between two power line phases through a metal-reinforced hydraulic hose can generate sufficient heat to rupture the hose and cause a fire. In addition, an electrocution hazard can be created if a metal-reinforced hose on the boom of a truck contacts an energized power line and allows current to flow through the truck chassis. Either scenario can quickly result in serious injury or death.

OSHA standards require that all hydraulic tools used on or near energized power lines or equipment be supplied with non-conducting hoses with sufficient strength for normal operating pressures. NIOSH recommends that the following precautions be taken to control the hazards associated with hydraulic hoses used on aerial bucket trucks:

- Employers should not install metal-reinforced hydraulic hoses on any part of the boom, aerial bucket or hydraulic attachments of aerial bucket trucks used near energized power lines;
- Employers should remove any metal-reinforced hoses currently installed on any part of the boom, aerial bucket or hydraulic attachments of aerial bucket trucks used to work near energized power lines. Before work begins, employers should require a competent person to conduct an initial and daily job site survey and inspect all equipment to identify hazards and implement appropriate controls;
- Employers should stress the importance of adherence to established safe work procedures. These include covering energized power lines in the immediate work area with insulating hoses or blankets, or de-energizing and grounding the lines before work begins. Workers should test de-energized power lines to verify that they have actually been de-energized;
- Employers should provide all workers with task-specific training that shows how each step controls the identified hazard;
- Employers should install all hydraulic hoses used in aerial buckets so that the flow of hydraulic fluid can be stopped immediately by the worker in the bucket. This objective can be achieved by incorporating a control valve into the hydraulic system in the aerial bucket. Manufacturers should continue research into the development of hydraulic fluids that are non-flammable and non-conducting.
- Employers should encourage equipment and tool manufacturers to design an independent coupling system to prevent the use of unsuitable hydraulic hoses on booms, aerial buckets or aerial bucket attachments. Labelling or colour coding hoses may also help workers who service this equipment.

These Guidelines reflect common practice procedures to be held for a Safe use of Hydraulic Fluid Power.

In no event shall Balflex® have any liability whatsoever to any person for any special, punitive, incidental or consequential damages been caused by mishandling of Hydraulic Fluid Power systems.