



TOOL BOX 009- Fire Hydrant Booster Connections

In terms of the SANS 10400 building codes there are legal requirements for fire hydrants and booster connectors for most buildings. Hydrants are required for any building exceeding 12m in height; and most buildings of any height and with a total floor area exceeding 1 000m².

The definition of a fire hydrant is a pressurised water source for a fire engine when coupled to a booster connection. A booster connection is an installation designed to enable the connection of a fire brigade pump to a fire sprinkler or fire hydrant system to increase the system's pressure

The fire hydrant boosting system has to be tested using a fire appliance ensuring the hydrant system is hydraulically effective. (Will the pipe condition take the pressure).

If you are requested to service. Ensure the client knows that you cannot service, and can only carry out a visual inspection noting all the faults found. You will be able to replace the Dust caps, Gauge maybe if it has a tap. For all other tasks you will have to drain the system

You cannot test the system any further, and there for you cannot guarantee whether the pipework is in a serviceable condition to take the required pressure applied.

Suggested Procedure

INSPECT / REPAIR BOOSTER CONNECTORS.		
Check any visual pipe work leading off the booster	Any Rusting, Signs of concrete / cement damage, and Condition of paint work	Surface rust remove and repaint. All other conditions report in writing findings
Stop cock (which usually has a pressure release position)	Open and Closes Freely. It may not have a tap, and it is not a requirement.	It tap has to be replaced report in writing
Gauge	Readable, No cracks in Lens, Glycerine filled if under pressure continuously, Minimum reading 1600KPA, and 100mm diameter in size	If problems found and a tap is fitted Replace. If no tap report in writing for replacement.
Booster	Damage to Morris coupling Lip (Test with a female coupling) Visually check the seal.	If damaged report in writing for replacement
Protective parts	Check dust/moisture cap and chain	Replace if damaged or missing

This is as far as you can go, and if you wish to go further you will have to switch the water off and drain the system to carry out further repairs.

If You Do:

- a. The client will have to inform the Fire Department and the Insurance Company that the system will not be active for a certain period of time.
- b. Once repairs are completed the fire department and insurance company must be informed system active again.



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This is where the problem comes in:

We as service companies have a mandate to service under the terms of SANS 1475 which Boosters do not Fall. There for if you wish to attach a service label you will have to remove all reference to SABS.

You can use your service label if you ensure no reference to SABS is visible including logo.

Change the word service to inspection where service / due date is concerned to INSPECTION

Service Booster (after removal when the system is drained)		
Check condition of Seal	Splits, Fraying, Crushing	Yes: Replace
Spring	Check Length, and general condition	Short, Rusted: Replace

Reminder:

You commit to a service with you client, and they will assume (rightly so as you are the Competent person) that you are checking the complete system.

If you do not follow these suggestions you will leave yourself open to a legal action. Ensure the client understands you can only guarantee the booster assembly, and not the pipework.

Presented By:	Date	Signature
Name: _____	_____	_____

NAME

SIGNATURE

NAME

SIGNATURE
