



INFORMATION NOTE

Operational checks to Bernard type F030 valve actuators

Number: IN 07/10

Strategy & Policy Directorate Sponsor: Robin Cawthorne

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Who Should Read this: CEStOs, Top Level Budget Holders, MOD Project Managers, SETLs & SEATs, Organisations appointing Authorising Engineers (AE) including: Commanding Officers/Heads of Establishment, Defence Estates (DE) Deputy Heads (Estates), DHE, DTE, DE Intl, DE Advisors and Maintenance Management Organisations.

When it takes effect: Immediately

When it is due to expire: 30 Nov 11

Estate Management

1. Document aim: The aim of this Information Note (IN) is to alert all stakeholders to potential failures occurring in the operating mechanism for high limit shut-off valves fitted with Bernard actuators, type F030.

2. Background: A site has experienced a failure of the operating mechanism in closing a high limit shut-off valve on the high temperature hot water heating system. The manner of the failure was as follows:

- the control signal from the BMS was calling for the valve to close;
- the BMS was indicating that the valve was open;
- the mechanical indicator on the valve was indicating that it had closed; and
- the valve actuator was making an operational sound.

The incident was investigated. The BMS was checked and found to be functioning correctly. It was determined by bench tests on site that the drive gears within the actuator had failed. The manufacturer's agents (Zoedale plc) have conducted their own inspection and test of the actuator and did not declare a fault.

3. Further Action: Sites with these actuators should carry out an inspection and test of each valve and actuator assembly and ensure that a monitoring regime is in place for the future. The opening and closing operation must be carefully observed to ensure that the valve closes fully. The fitting of a coloured plastic clip on the valve stem has been found to aid observation of the valve closing. Where defective units are found the matter is to be reported to the Authorising Engineer (Mechanical).

Reference: Bernard actuator type F030, Ref: 90899 01 008, operating at 300NM.