

RICE HYDRO, INC.  
MANUFACTURER'S OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS  
FIRE HOSE TESTER SERIES

**FOR WARRANTY REGISTRATION CALL: 1-800-245-4777**

**CAUTIONS:**

1. Power source must meet voltage, phase, hertz and amperage requirements of electric motor, as stated on label. If an extension cord is used, requires at least 12 gauge 3 wire with maximum of 25 foot length.
2. Check ALL fluid levels prior to operating the unit.
3. Protect the pump from freezing, FLUSH with anti-freeze.
4. DO NOT run dry or pump chlorine thru the unit.

**CONNECTING THE PUMP:**

1. Check oil level of pump and engine (if gas unit), use 10W30 ND oil.
2. Connect inlet to fire hydrant.
3. Connect fire hose to be tested to suitable adapters on manifold outlets. Hose should have nozzles on the end to bleed the air from the lines at full flow. Hoses should be lying up hill from pump if possible.
4. Connect garden hose to back bleed & direct to a drain away for dry test area.
5. ASSURE MOTOR IS "OFF". Connect the power cord to a standard wall outlet.  
**Extension cord: when needed, a 12 gauge 3 wire, maximum 25 ft. length, plugged into a 20 amp breaker is required.**

**OPERATING THE PUMP:**


1. Close all ballvalves, slightly crack open the 1/2" bleeder ballvalve.
2. Open inlet ballvalve. Open outlet ballvalves one at a time and allow each hose to be filled through manifold. Do not turn pump on at this time.
3. To ensure air is safely bled from hoses, bleed each hose, one line at a time with hydrant volume and pressure, utilizing a nozzle at the end of each hose.
4. When each line is filled, free of air, with nozzle closed, close the ballvalve at the manifold outlet to seal the line. Bleed **ALL** outlets whether or not in use for testing. All air must be removed.
5. With back bleed open, turn on the pump. This will bleed air out of the pressure side of the pump - out to the drain area.
6. **Close the 1&1/2" ballvalve at the inlet of manifold/unit, directing water flow from the hydrant to pressure side of pump. No pressure will build until this ballvalve is closed.**
7. Slowly close the 1/2" back bleed ballvalve, check the gauge to verify pressure setting of relief valve.
8. The pressure regulator has been preset at the factory. ***To change this setting you must make this adjustment while the water is flowing freely, and under NO pressure.*** To adjust the pressure, first loosen the locknut. Turn the T-handle/Knob clockwise to increase and counterclockwise to decrease the pressure. Place a ballvalve or similar open and close valve at the end of the outlet hose, open and close this valve multiple times as needed, to check pressure setting and re-adjust as necessary. Upon reaching desired pressure setting, tighten locknut and prepare to begin test.

9. Open the 1&1/2" ballvalves at the outlets and begin building pressure in all the lines. In the event there is an acceptable leak in the system that must be overcome by leaving the pump running.. Crack the 1/2" back bleed valve allowing a small amount of clean fresh water to flow while in bypass. **Once pressure has been reached, close all ballvalves and shut off pump.**
10. If the air has been bled as outlined, the pump will build pressure quickly and safely with only hose stretch to overcome. If a hose ruptures, the only volume of water available is through GPM of the pump. NO SURGE OF VOLUME, NO WILD LINE.
11. It is impossible to ensure that air is not caught behind couplings. If air is caught behind a coupling that fails - it could cause an explosion and fragmentary effect. DO NOT BEND OVER THE TOP OF THE PUMP. Treat hoses and couplings under pressure as dangerous.

NOTE: When dealing with existing pressured hoses or to re-pressurize hose, unit's existing manifold/piping pressure must be bled back down to 70 psi. **DO NOT LOWER PRESSURE ON HOSES OR TEST ENVIROMENT**, just in manifold/piping section of pump. High existing "head pressure" will cause motor to stall, not start at all, or pump to fail. Examples: hoses are pre-filled and have existing pressure of 120 PSI, and you need to build to 150 PSI, the positive displacement pump will struggle with overcoming this existing head pressure. **TO OVERCOME:** with 1&1/2" outlet ballvalves closed holding existing pressure, open back bleed 1/2" ballvalve to release pressure in piping/manifold down to 70 PSI or below. Turn motor/unit on and close 1/2" back bleed ballvalve building pressure within piping/manifold to at least 30 psi above existing test pressure (this will allow the pump to overcome the existing head pressure) and begin to open individually the 1 1/2" ballvalves.

**TROUBLE SHOOTING:**

<b>NOT building pressure</b>	<b>Inlet ballvalve has not been closed.</b>
<b>AIR, AIR AND MORE AIR</b>	<b>Ensure air is bled from hoses, manifold, piping. The length of time to build pressure and test hoses is directly related to overcoming air buildup.</b>
Motor will not Run	Verify plugged directly into wall outlet, or using minimum 12 gauge 3 wire, maximum 25' extension cord. Push thermal overload button to reset.
GAUGE	Pegged or faulty, order new gauge.

 **WARNING:** Operating, servicing and maintaining this equipment can expose you to chemicals including engine exhaust, carbon monoxide and lead, which are known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. To minimize exposure, avoid breathing exhaust, do not idle the engine except as necessary, operate and service your equipment in a well-ventilated area and wear gloves or wash your hands frequently when servicing your equipment. For more information go to: [www.p65warnings.ca.gov](http://www.p65warnings.ca.gov)