

TECHNICAL/MATERIAL REFERENCE



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SEAL CHAMBER PRESSURE ESTIMATION

Seal chamber pressure must be known before the proper seal and flush plan can be selected. Seal chamber pressure can vary from pump design, flow rate, and fluid being pumped. Suction and discharge pressures are required to perform these calculations. Often, pump specification sheets can be old and outdated, i.e., design, operating points may have changed due to a change in process demands. It is, for this reason, that suction and discharge pressures should be physically measured with pressure gages.

Single Stage, Single Suction, Overhung Process Pumps

Overhung centrifugal pumps are the most common process pumps in the industry. The seal chamber is located behind the pump impeller. Seal chamber pressure can vary based on pump design. The following equations are based on closed throat design seal chambers. Pump designs include wear rings and balance holes in the impeller to reduce thrust load on the bearings. The seal chamber pressure is a function of wear ring clearance as well as size and location of the balance holes.

Quick estimate $P_{sb} = P_s + .25(P_d - P_s)$

Enclosed or semi-enclosed impellers with wear ring design and balance holes $P_{sb} = P_s + .05(P_d - P_s)$

Open impeller design with centrifugal pump-out vanes or repeller (no balance holes) $P_{sb} = P_s + *D(P_d - P_s)$

*D = .3 if the impeller is at minimum diameter and .1 if the impeller is at maximum diameter.

Single Stage, Double Suction Pumps

The single stage, double suction impeller is placed between bearings while the seal chambers are located adjacent to the suction eyes of the impeller. The stuffing box pressure is equal to the suction pressure. $P_{sb} = P_s$

Multi-Stage Pumps

Multi-stage pumps inherently have higher discharge pressures, but low-to-medium stuffing box pressures due to impeller arrangement, casing design, balance drums and the use of balance lines. These multi-stage pumps can be mounted horizontally or vertically.

Two Stage Horizontal Pumps

Impeller arrangement can have two configurations:

1.) Back to Back

In this arrangement, the seal chambers are located adjacent to the suction eye of the impeller. One chamber will see suction pressure and the other will see first stage discharge pressure. $P_{sb1} = P_s$

$P_{sb2} = P_s + .5(P_d - P_s)$

2.) Eye to Eye

In this arrangement the seal chambers are located adjacent to the backside of the impeller. One chamber will see the discharge of the first stage and the other will see pump discharge pressure (second stage discharge). $P_{sb1} = P_s + .5(P_d - P_s)$

$P_{sb2} = P_d$

Multi-Stage Horizontal Pumps

Multi-stage boiler feed pumps are used to develop high pressures, but the seal chamber is not necessarily at a high pressure. These pumps have a low pressure chamber (suction pressure) and a higher-pressure chamber (pressure between suction and discharge). $P_{sb1} = P_s$

Typically, a balance line is used to reduce pressure in the higher pressure seal chamber. Provided pump tolerances are in check, the higher-pressure seal chamber is as follows: $P_{sb2} = P_s + 5 \text{ bar } g(75 \text{ psig})$

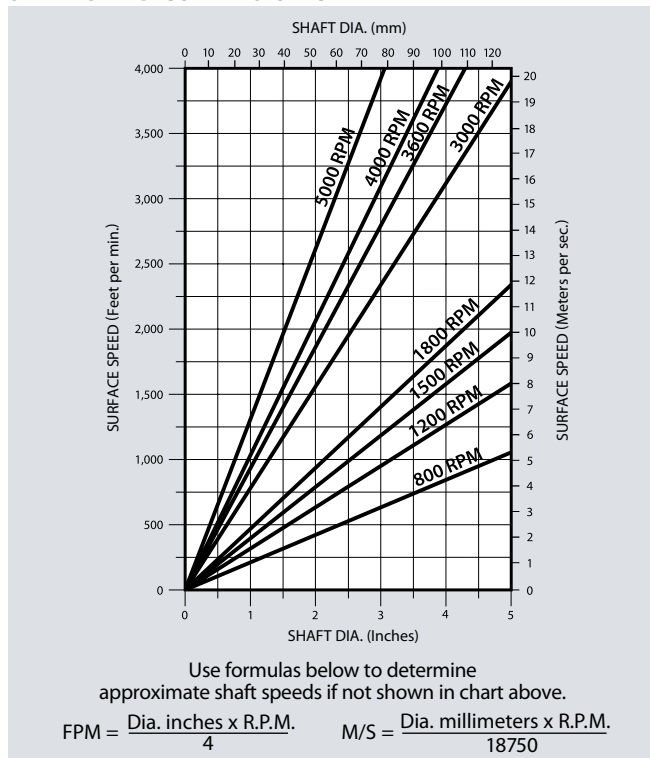
Note: If pump tolerances are not in check and, in the absence of a balance line, the higher-pressure chamber will be a pressure between suction and discharge pressure. $P_{sb2} = P_s + .5(P_d - P_s)$

Multi-Stage Vertical Pumps (Can or Turbine)

In these pumps the seal chamber is located at the discharge elbow. Therefore the seal chamber pressure would see discharge pressure. $P_{sb} = P_d$

Note: The installation of a bleed-off line can reduce seal chamber pressure, provided pump tolerances are in check. $P_{sb2} = P_s + 5 \text{ bar } g(75 \text{ psig})$

SHAFT SPEED CONVERSION CHART



METRIC FORMULAS:

Head (m) = $\frac{\text{Pressure (bar)} \times 9.8}{SG} = \frac{\text{mm Hg.} \times 0.0014}{SG}$

Pressure (bar) = $\frac{\text{Head (m)} \times SG}{9.8}$

Mm of Mercury = $\frac{\text{Head (m)} \times SG}{0.0014}$

Power (kW) = $\frac{Q \text{ (l/min)} \times \text{Head (m)} \times SG}{\text{efficiency} \times 6128}$

IMPERIAL FORMULAS:

Head (ft.) = $\frac{\text{psi} \times 2.31}{\text{sp. gr.}} = \frac{\text{In. Hg.}}{\text{sp. gr.} \times .88}$

BHP (centrifugal) = $\frac{\text{GPM} \times \text{head (ft.)} \times \text{sp. gr.}}{3960 \times \text{pump eff.}}$

PSI = $\frac{\text{head (ft.)} \times \text{sp. gr.}}{2.31} = .49 \times \text{In. Hg.}$

BHP (Positive Disp.) = $\frac{\text{GPM} \times \text{psi}}{1715 \times \text{pump eff.}}$

UNITS OF MEASURE

Mariner's Measure

6 Feet = 1 Fathom
 120 Fathoms = 1 Cable Length (U.S.N.)
 8.439 Cable Lengths = 1 Nautical Mile
 6076.12 Ft. = 1 Nautical Mile
 1 Nautical Mile = 1.15 Statute Mile (International)

Inch System Conversion

Inches	x	0.0254	=	Meters
Feet	x	0.305	=	Meters
Yards	x	0.914	=	Meters
Miles	x	1609.	=	Meters
Miles	x	1.609	=	Kilometers
Millimeters	x	0.03937	=	Inches
Centimeters	x	0.3937	=	Inches
Meters	x	39.37	=	Inches
Meters	x	3.281	=	Feet
Meters	x	1.094	=	Yards
Kilometers	x	0.621	=	Miles
Sq. Centimeters	x	0.155	=	Square Inches
Sq. Meters	x	10.764	=	Square Feet
Sq. Meters	x	1.186	=	Square Yards
Cubic Centimeters	x	0.061	=	Cubic Inches
Cubic Inches	x	16.2	=	Cubic Centimeters
Liters	x	0.2642	=	Gallons
Gallons	x	3.78	=	Liters
Cubic Meters	x	1.308	=	Cubic Yards
Cubic Yards	x	0.765	=	Cubic Meters

Metric System Prefixes

Mega = 1,000,000	Deci = 0.1	Tera (T) = 10 ¹²
Kilo = 1,000	Centi = 0.01	Giga (G) = 10 ⁹
Hecto = 100	Milli = 0.001	Nano (N) = 10 ⁻⁹
Deka = 10	Micro = 0.000001	Pico (P) = 10 ⁻¹²

Length

1 centimeter	=	0.3937 inch	=	0.0328 foot
1 meter	=	39.37 inches	=	1.0936 yards
1 kilometer	=	0.62137 mile	=	3280 feet
1 inch	=	2.54 centimeters		
1 foot	=	0.3048 meter		
1 mil	=	0.001 inch		

Square Measure

1 sq. cm.	=	0.1550 sq. in.		
1 sq. meter	=	1.196 sq. yd.	=	10.764 sq. ft.
1 sq. kilometer	=	0.386 sq. mile		
1 sq. inch	=	6.452 sq. cm.		
1 sq. foot	=	929.03 sq. cm.	=	0.092903 sq. meter
1 sq. yard	=	0.8361 sq. meter		
1 sq. mile	=	2.59 sq. kilometers		
1 circular mil	=	0.7854 sq. mil		
1 sq. inch	=	1,000,000 sq. mils		

Cubic Measure

1 cu. centimeter = 0.061 cu. inch 1 cu. in. = 16.39 cu. cm.
 1 cu. meter = 1.308 cu. yards = 35.316 cu. feet
 1 gallon (U.S.) = 231 cubic inches
 1 cu. ft. = 7.48 gallons 1 liter = 1,000 cu. centimeters

Time

1 day = 86,400 seconds 1 year = 8,760 hours (approx.)

Velocity

1 ft./sec.	=	0.3048 meter/sec.	1 meter/sec.	=	3.281 ft./sec.
1 ft./min.	=	0.00508 meter/sec.	1 meter/sec.	=	196.9 ft./min.
1 mile/hr.	=	0.4470 meter/sec.	1 meter/sec.	=	2.237 mi./hr.
1 kilometer/hr.	=	0.2778 meter/sec.	1 meter/sec.	=	3.60 km/hr.

Acceleration

1 ft./sec./sec.	=	0.3048 meter/sec./sec.
1 mile/hr./sec.	=	0.4470 meter/sec./sec.
1 kilometer/hr./sec.	=	0.2778 meter/sec./sec.
Standard gravitation	=	9.806 meters/sec./sec.
Standard gravitation	=	980.6 cm./sec./sec.
Standard gravitation	=	32.2 ft./sec./sec.

Mass

1 slug = 32.2 pounds mass = 14.606 kilograms
 1 pound mass = 453.6 grams

Force

1 pound force	=	1 slug	x	1 foot sec./sec.
1 dyne	=	1 gram	x	1 centimeter/sec./sec.
1 newton	=	1 kilogram	x	meter/sec./sec.
1 pound force	=	4.452 newtons		
1 newton	=	100,000 dynes	=	0.224 pound force
1 gram force	=	980.6 dynes		

Pressure

1 atmosphere = 14.69 pounds/sq. inch = 29.92 in. of Hg.
 = 76 cm of Hg. = 33.9 ft. of water
 1 in Hg. = 0.491 pounds/sq. inch
 Water pressure pounds/sq. inch = head in ft. x 0.434

Torque

Torque is the product of force and perpendicular distance.
 1 lb.-ft. = 1.356 newton-meter = 1.356 joule/radian
 1 lb.-ft. = 1.356 x 10⁷ dynes-centimeter
 1 lb.-ft. = 1.383 x 10⁴ grams-centimeter
 1 lb.-ft. = 192 ounce-inches

Work and Energy - Mechanical

1 erg = 1 dyne x 1 centimeter
 1 joule = 1 newton x 1 meter = 10⁵ dynes x 10² cm = 10⁷ ergs
 1 ft.-lb. = 1 pound force x 1 foot = 1.356 joules

Work and Energy - Heat Equivalent

1 Btu raises 1 pound of water 1°F
 1 gram calorie raises 1 gram of water 1°C
 1 Btu = 252 gram calories = 778.3 ft.-lb. = 1054.8 joules
 1 gram calorie = 0.003964 Btu = 4.184 joules
 1 horsepower hour = 2545 Btu

Work and Energy - Electrical Equivalent

1 joule = 1 watt x 1 second = 1 amp (dc) x 1 volt (dc) x 1 sec.
 W (joules) = 1/2 L (henries) x 1 (amperes)²
 W (joules) = 1/2 C (farads) x E (volts)²
 1 kilowatt hour = 3,600,000 joules

Power

1 watt = 1 joule/sec.
 1 horsepower = 550 ft. lb./sec. = 746 watts
 1 watt = 3.413 Btu/hr = 0.239 gram calorie/sec.
 P watts = R (ohms) x 1 (amperes)²
 P watts = $\frac{E \text{ (volts)}^2}{R \text{ (ohms)}}$

Angles

1 circle = 2π radians = 360 degrees 1 radian = 57.3 degrees
 1 degree = 0.01745 radians

Geometric Figures

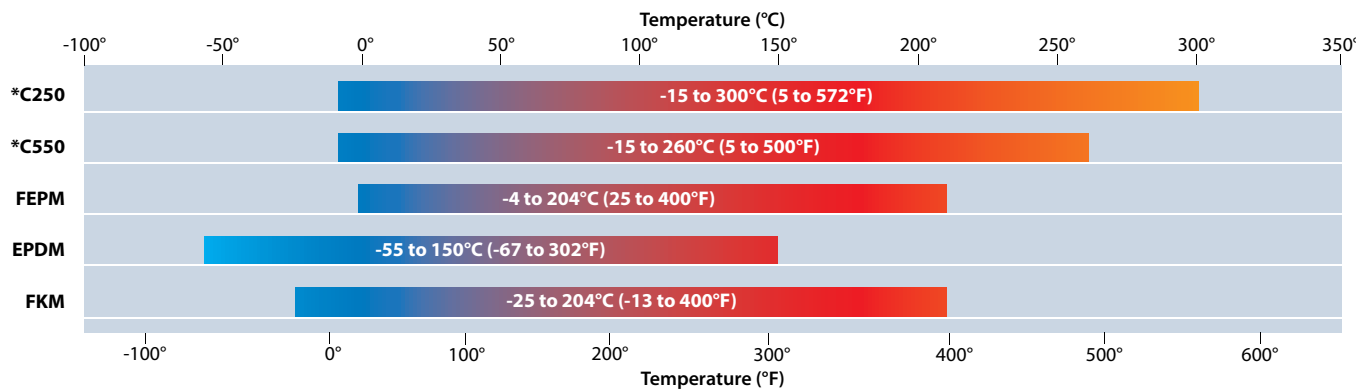
Circle, area of = D² x 0.7854 = π² r = radius
 Circle, circumference of = πD or 2πr
 Sphere, area of = πD² = 4πr² D = diameter
 Sphere, volume of = D³ x 0.5236 = 4/3 πr³
 Triangle, area of = 1/2 altitude x base
 Cone, volume of = area of base x 1/3 altitude
 Trapezoid, area of = 1/2 (sum of parallel sides) x altitude
 Pyramid, volume of = area of base x 1/3 altitude

Miscellaneous Constants

π = 3.14159 e = 2.71828
 Log_e X = 2.30259 log₁₀ X
 Electronic charge = 4.5 x 10⁻¹⁰ e.s.u. = 1.60 x 10⁻²⁰ e.m.u.
 Mass units = 1.07 x 10⁻³ x Mev = 6.71 x 10² ergs
 Speed of light = 3 x 10⁸ meters/second
 Speed of sound = (in air at sea level) = 1100 ft/second

MATERIAL REFERENCE

Operating Limits of Elastomers



Key to Seal Materials

Component	Chesterton	EN12756	Description
Faces	CB	B	Carbon Graphite, Resin Impregnated
	SSC	Q ₁	Silicon Carbide, Sintered Pressureless
	RSC	Q ₂	Silicon Carbide, Reaction Bonded
	TC	U ₂	Tungsten Carbide, Ni-Binder
	CR	V	Aluminum Oxide, 99.5%
Metals	316	G	CrNiMo steel (1.4401)
	Alloy-20	M ₃	20 Cb3 (2.4660)
	Ti	T ₂	Titanium (3.7035)
	HC	M ₅	Hastelloy® C-276 (2.4819)
	HB	M ₁	Hastelloy® B2 (2.4617)
	Monel®	M ₄	Monel® Alloy K500 (2.4375)
Elastomers	FKM	V	Fluorocarbon
	EPDM	E	Ethylene Propylene
	FEPM	X	Tetrafluoroethylene-Propylene
	FFKM	K	Perfluoroelastomer
	C550	K ₁	ChemLast 550™
	C250	K ₂	ChemLast 250™

* Consult Chesterton Engineering on lowerwrrature limits

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