

Service Bulletin

A Field Service Publication of Consolidated Metco, Inc.

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Service Alert: Potential for Water Contamination in Hub Lubricant Due to Flooding

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Service Alert is to advise wheel end lubricant inspection and replacement for equipment located in areas of moderate to severe flooding.

SCOPE:

This procedure covers all ConMet hub assemblies.

PROCEDURES:

A visual inspection of the hub lubricant is advised. Oil, such as a 50 weight synthetic, with a small amount of water added will turn to become a milky white color (figure 1). Semi-fluid grease will also turn a milky color. However the color change will depend on the grease's base color. Figure 2 shows semi fluid grease after water contamination. Its base color was a red/pink color and after contamination the lubricant has turned a milky shade of pink.

Contaminated lubricant should be removed from hub assembly and replaced with new lubricant. Hub cavity should be thoroughly cleaned to ensure removal of all contaminated lubricant.

WARNING:

Contaminated lubricant must be removed from the wheel end to prevent wheel bearing damage. Failure to remove contaminated lubricant will void ConMet PreSet warranty.

Inspect bearing cups and cones for water corrosion, rusting and any unusual signs of wear. Replace bearings if necessary with appropriate bearing set.



Figure 1: 50 weight synthetic oil contaminated with a small amount of water turns milky white.



Figure 2: Red/pink semi-fluid grease contaminated with a small amount of water turns milky pink.

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