

Chilled Water System Flow Test

High Performance Commercial Building Systems

Functional Testing Guide
For Air Handling Systems



Pacific Energy Center

Chilled Water System

Flow test in different operating modes

Purpose:

The purpose of this test is to document the PEC chilled water system pump performance different operating modes. The system is a constant volume system with ice storage.

There are several three way valves in the system and they do not have balance valves in the bypass. This means that the flow characteristic of the valve could be very non-linear due to low resistance to flow in one position relative to the other. This could lead to temperature control problems as the valve tried to modulate, making loops difficult to tune or requiring larger proportional bands than might otherwise be necessary.

AHU1 temperature control trend data is also being collected to supplement the pump test data and assist with this assessment.

This test will document pump flow with the valves in different positions to assess the actual impact of the missing balance valves on system control performance. Pump differential pressure readings will be taken and used to enter the pump curves to assess flow. This information will be cross checked against the turbine flow meters in the system.

The test will also establish the system curve for the pumping system. This will allow the match between the pump capacity with discharge valve fully open to be assessed against the actual head required to deliver design flow. Previous commissioning efforts established that one pump could provide the systems flow requirements even though the original design intent was for two pumps to run. However, the head capacity of the pumps (110 ft.w.c.) relative to the estimated head requirement for the building (60-75 ft.w.c.) indicates that there may be room for further optimization via an impeller trim.

The results of this test can be used to identify if any additional opportunities exist.

Instructions:

Initial each step if the item is completed satisfactorily or the test item associated with the step met the test requirements and passed. If the item is not satisfactory or the step fails, record an "F" in the appropriate box instead of your initials. Document the reason for failing in the comments section as a numbered note and include the note next to the F on the test form. If the test step has data associated with it, document it on the test form in addition to your initials and the date and time.

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Equipment Required:

1. Digital pressure gauge or a reasonably accurate gauge on the pump.
2. An amprobe or kW meter (desirable but not mandatory)

Acceptance Criteria:

The test is being run for the purpose of gathering data to assess the need for balance valves, thus there is no acceptance criteria. However, if balance valves prove to be desirable, then this test can be run subsequent to their installation to verify that they have been adjusted properly. In that case, the acceptance criteria would be that the system exhibit no significant flow variation as the control valves modulate full stroke.

Precautions:

1. Exercise care when changing operating modes if a chiller is running.
2. Verify that all components between the pump discharge and the discharge service are rated for the peak pressure on the pump curve with the largest impeller size installed prior to performing a shut off test.
3. Avoid sudden flow changes to minimize the potential for water hammer.
4. Exercise proper precaution while working around live wiring and terminals to take amp readings.
5. Exercise proper precaution while working around the rotating parts of the pump.

References:

1. Pump curves for the pumps to be tested.
2. The system diagram developed in a previous PEC training class.
3. The Bell and Gossett Hydronic Engineering manual.
4. The *Back to Basics* columns in *Pumps and Processes* magazine; *Pumps and Your Processes: They Must Work Together*, January-February 2002; *Using System Curves to Enhance Pump Performance*; March-April 2002; *Pumps and Your Processes: When They Won't Work Together*; May-June 2002

Requirement	Data Include units	Completed Initials, Date and Time
Prerequisites:		
1. Gauges and valves are in place at the pump gauge taps. It is important that the gauges are arranged to measure pressure at the same location used by the manufacturer to develop the pump performance data.		
2. The test will not interfere with building operations.		
3. The system can be operated.		
4. Someone who is knowledgeable in operating the DDC system is available to command valves to different different positions		
5. The system can be operated.		

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Preparation:

1. Obtain pump curves for the CHW pump.
2. Coordinate as necessary with the trades.
3. Document the as found status of the system

CHW Pump 1

CHW Pump 2

AHU 1 status

AHU 1 CHW valve position

AHU 2 status

AHU2 CHW valve position

Chiller status

Chiller entering water temperature

Chiller leaving water temperature

System mode (normal or ice making)

Ice storage tank 1 status

Ice storage tank 2 status

Ice storage tank valve position

Ice storage entering temperature

Ice storage leaving temperature

5. Document the pump name plate data.

CHW Pump 1

CHW Pump 2

Make

Model

Serial Number

Flow

Head

Impeller Size

Motor Make

Motor Model

Motor HP

Motor Speed

Volts

Amps

Hz

Phase

Efficiency

Serial Number

Service Factor

Other

Other

Procedure:

1. Position the sytem's control valves as follows:

AHU1 full flow to the coil

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	AHU 2 full flow to the coil		
	Ice storage valve bypassing the tanks		
2.	With one pump running (normal operating mode) document the following. Note the engineering units associated with the reading; i.e. psi or ft.w.c.		
	Pump that is under test		
	Pressure ahead of the strainer		
	Pump suction pressure		
	Strainer pressure drop (the difference between the two reading just taken)		
3.	If the pressure drop through the strainer exceeds 3 psi/7 ft.w.c. suspend the test and inspect and clean the strainer. After the strainer is clean, proceed with the following.		
	Pump discharge pressure		
	Pump amps (all phases)		
	Pump volts (all phases)		
	Pump kW		
4.	Close the AHU 2 CHW valve		
5.	Document the following		
	Pump suction pressure		
	Pump discharge pressure		
	Pump amps (all phases)		
	Pump volts (all phases)		
	Pump kW		
6.	Modulate the AHU1 CHW valve to 50% stroke		
7.	Document the following		
	Pump suction pressure		
	Pump discharge pressure		
	Pump amps (all phases)		
	Pump volts (all phases)		
	Pump kW		
8.	Modulate the AHU1 CHW valve to full bypass		
9.	Document the following		
	Pump suction pressure		
	Pump discharge pressure		
	Pump amps (all phases)		
	Pump volts (all phases)		
	Pump kW		
10.	Modulate the ice storage tank valve to 50% stroke		
11.	Document the following		
	Pump suction pressure		
	Pump discharge pressure		

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	Pump amps (all phases)	
	Pump volts (all phases)	
	Pump kW	
12.	Modulate the ice storage tank valve to full flow through the ice tanks	
13.	Document the following	
	Pump suction pressure	
	Pump discharge pressure	
	Pump amps (all phases)	
	Pump volts (all phases)	
	Pump kW	
14.	Modulate the AHU1 CHW valve to 50% stroke	
15.	Document the following	
	Pump suction pressure	
	Pump discharge pressure	
	Pump amps (all phases)	
	Pump volts (all phases)	
	Pump kW	
16.	Fully open the AHU1 CHW valve	
17.	Document the following	
	Pump suction pressure	
	Pump discharge pressure	
	Pump amps (all phases)	
	Pump volts (all phases)	
	Pump kW	
18.	Fully open the AHU2 CHW valve	
19.	Document the following	
	Pump suction pressure	
	Pump discharge pressure	
	Pump amps (all phases)	
	Pump volts (all phases)	
	Pump kW	
20.	Perform a shut off test to verify the pump impeller size by briefly closing the discharge valve and and documenting the pump differential pressures. Proceed as follows:	
	Document discharge valve position	
	Start the second pump to prevent a chiller safety shut down due to loss of flow.	
	Briefly close the discharge valve and document:	
	Pump suction pressure	
	Pump discharge pressure	

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Return discharge valve to original position.

Follow up and Return to Normal:

1. Remove all test equipment.
2. Return the system to the state it was operating in at the start of the test or as requested by the operating staff.
3. Plot test results on the pump curves to determine flow rates in all operating modes. Assess linearity.
4. Verify the impeller size from the pump that was tested based on the shut of test and document.

Impeller size for the pump tested

5. Compare the pump power requirements in the different operating modes.

Test Coordinator(s)

Name

Affiliation

Work phone

Work e-mail

Test Team Members

Name _____

Affiliation

Work phone

Work e-mail

Test Completion Sign Off

This test has been performed to the best of my ability per the requirements of the procedure. Deviations or problems encountered have been noted at the end of the test form.

Test coordinator name (print)

Signature, date and time

Comments and Notes

File name = PEC Chilled Water System Pump Test v2.xls, Page 7 of 8 of Sheet Chilled Water System Flow Test Printed on 4/21/2004 at 2:41 PM

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Comments and Notes

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SERIES 1510 PUMP PERFORMANCE CURVES

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTIC CURVE

