

MULTI STAGE SPLIT CASE PUMPS MODEL 420 SERIES

ENGINEERING DATA GUIDE

pentair.com

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MECHANICAL SEALS AND PACKING

Standard packing on horizontal pumps and the standard mechanical seals on vertical pumps are suitable for most applications. Special sealing arrangements may however, be required due to higher pressure or temperature requirements and the nature of the liquid to be pumped. Factory option seals are of high quality and supplied by leading mechanical seal manufacturers. Various seal arrangements and types that better suit your specific needs are available. Seal faces are carbon vs. Ni-Resist on standard seals and carbon vs. Tungsten carbide on high temperature seals. Corrosion resistant alloy metal parts and BunaN secondary sealing elements are provided. Various other metals are also available. Gland plates are cast iron and can be supplied in alternate materials. Recommendations and limitations are general. Specific selections can be offered only after rotating speeds, pressures, temperatures, type of equipment and liquid nature are known. The following illustrations describe the basic seal and packing options available. For options not shown refer to the factory. For quick reference for the type of seal best suited to your application, refer to the condensed information that heads each option. The following comments govern these recommendations:

- PACKING Standard on Model 421. Not available on 423. PRESSURES (suction): Below atmospheric up to 250* P.S.I.G. (Maximum pump limitation) A lantern ring is required on the first stage for suction lift applications. TEMPERATURES: From minus 100° F. up to 275° F.* with high temperature packing, or 225° F. with standard packing.
 - LIQUIDS: All liquids that are compatible with graphited fiber packing. Other packings are available for special applications.
- SINGLE UNBALANCED Standard on Model 423. Optional on Model 421.
 - PRESSSURES (suction): Below atmospheric up to 100 P.S.I.G. TEMPERATURES: From minus 100° F. up to 275° F. with high temperature seals, or 225° F. with standard seals. LIQUIDS: All liquids that are compatible with the seal materials of construction and with a specific gravity higher than .6.
- 3. SINGLE BALANCED Optional on all Models. PRESSURES (suction): Up to 250 P.S.I.G. (Max. pump limit TEMPERATURES: Minus 100° F. up to 275° F. with high temperature seals, or 225° F. with standard seals. LIQUIDS: All that are compatible with the seal materials of construction and with a specific gravity of .6 or lower.

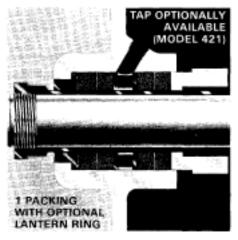
PRESSURES - The pressures referred to are those found at the pump suction. Most seal manufacturers recommend a flushing arrangement from the discharge to the stuffing box where "below atmospheric pressure" is encountered. The 420 Series first stage stuffing box incorporates an internal bypass arrangement which permits flushing to the mechanical seal. External bypasses are available to both seal faces. An external bypass is standard on vertical pumps to the upper seal face.

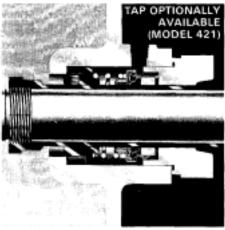
TEMPERATURES - The temperature limitation of a mechanical seal is frequently determined by the shaft sealing material. The various elastomer "0" ring materials have varying temperature limits, depending upon the chemical and/or physical properties of the process fluid. Filled. *TEFLON, shaft seal rings are available.

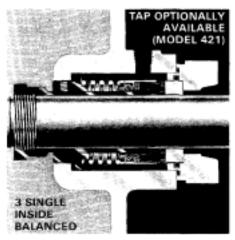
LIQUIDS - Due to varying degrees of resistance of various sealing compounds in different pumped liquids, the following mechanical seal sealing rings are available: BUNA-N, NEOPRENE, VITON, TEFLONt and other synthetic elastomers.

*Teflon registered trademarks.

*NOTE: Hardened stainless steel (450 minimum brinnel) shaft sleeves are available with this option and are required when the suction pressure is over 100 P.S.I.G. or when the temperature exceeds 225° F.

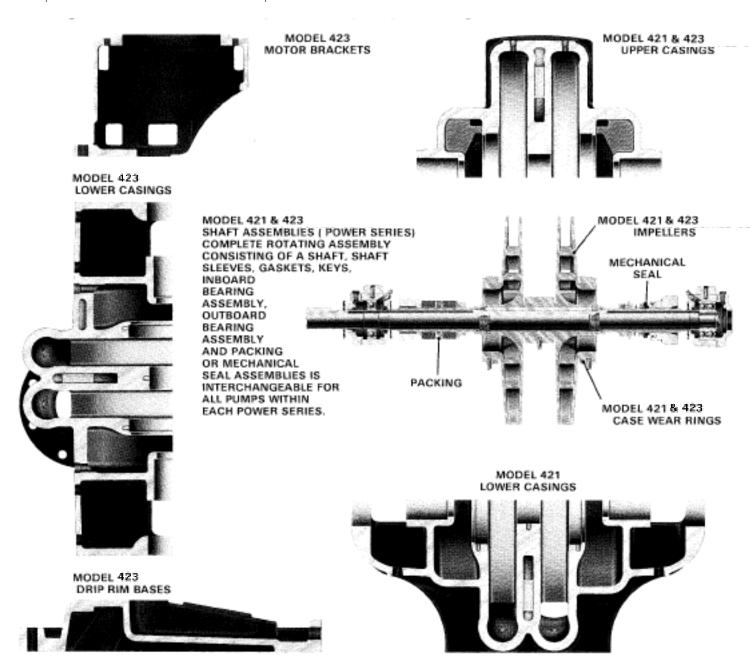




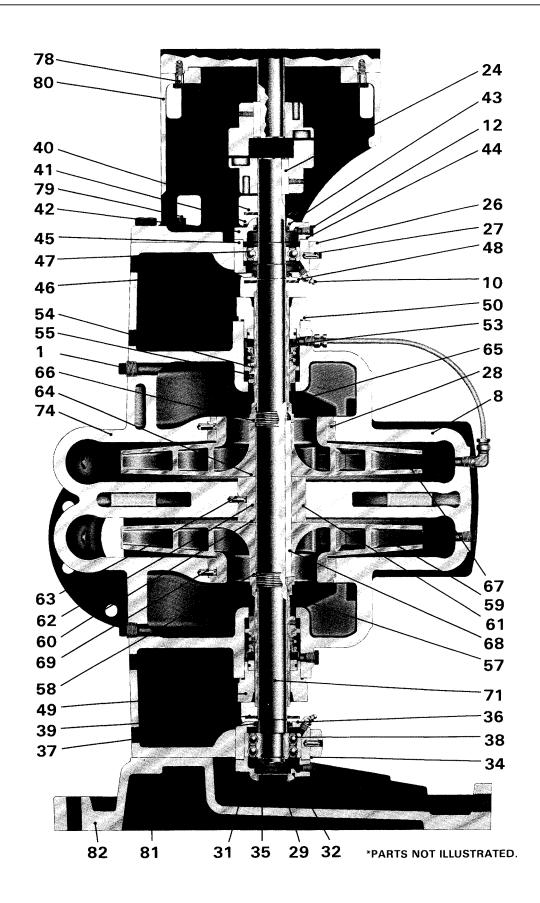


Aurora models 421 and 423 were designed for maximum interchangeability. Each model is available in 9 different sizes, offering a model and size precisely fitted to the installation requirements. The 9 sizes are divided into 4 "power series".

Within each "power series" within each power series, all parts are completely interchangeable except for the impeller, casting and case wearig rings for either right hand or left hand rotation. See the illustration below for all details.



POWER SERIES	PUMP SIZE	EXAMPLE: 3 X 4 X 14 (3-DIS	CHARGE DIA.) (4-SUCTION D	IA.) (14-APPROX. MAX. IMPE	ELLER DIA.)
2	3	44	4	5A	5
2 x 2-1/2 x 12 A	3 x 4 x 14A	5 x 5 x 12*	5 x 6 x 15*	6 x 6 x 12*	6 x 8 17A*
2 x 2-1/2 x 12B	3 x 4 x 14B				6 x 8 x 17B*
2-1/2 x 3 x 12A	4 x 5 x 15*		*Model 4211	Pumps Only	



PC NO.	DECCDID	DUMPICO	NETRUCTION
PC NO.	DESCRIP. (*NOTSHOWN)	BRONZE FITTED	NSTRUCTION ALL IRON
1	Plug		
2	*Plug	Mall. Iron A197	Mall. Iron A197
6	*Capscrew	Steel SAE 2	Steel SAE 2
7	*Capscrew	Coot Iron A/O	Cast Iron A48
9	Casing Half *Gasket	Cast Iron A48 Buna-N Tr	eated Cellulose
10	Gr. Ftg.		eel Zerk
12	Plug		Iron ASTM A197
18	*Nut	Bronze Wrought	Steel SAE 2
	*Washer *Gland Clamp	Cad. Plated Steel	Cad. Plated Steel
21	*Gland	Cast Iron A48	Cast Iron A48
22	*Swing Bolt	Cad. Plated Steel	Cad. Plated Steel
23	*Packing		ited Acrylic
24	Key		l Wrought
25 26	*Capscrew Bearing Cap	Steel SAE 2 Cast Iron A48	Steel SAE 2 Cast Iron A48
27	Pin	Cad. Plated Steel	Cad. Plated Steel
28	Case Ring	Bronze ASTM B62	Cast Iron A48
29	Protector		l Wrought
31	Capscrew		el SAE 2
32	Cart. Cap Gasket		on ASTM A48 eated Cellulose
35	Ret. Ring		ing Steel
36	Cartridge		on ASTM A48
37	Gr. Seal		-N and Seal
38	Bearing		Commercial
<u>39</u>	Slinger Slinger		eoprene eoprene
41	Capscrew		el SAE 2
42	Car. Cap	Cast Iro	on ASTM A48
43	Gr. Seal		N and Steel
44	Gasket		eated Cellulose on ASTM A48
46	Cartridge Gr. Seal		N and Steel
47	Bearing		Commercial
48	Slinger	Ne	oprene
49	Gland	Cast iron A48	Cast Iron A48
50 52	0-Ring *Lantern Ring	Bronze ASTM B62	una-N Cast Iron A48
53	Seal	Stain. Stl.(1)	Stain. Stl.(1)
54	Collar	BronzeASTM B62	Cast Iron A48
55	Setscrew	Stainless Steel AISI 316	
56	*Bushing	Bronze ASTM B62	Cast Iron A48
57 58	Sleeve Gasket	Bronze High Lead Tin	Stain. Stl. AISI 316 E Coated Steel
59	Impeller	Bronze ASTM B584	Cast Iron A48
60	Gasket		on DuPont
61	Bushing	Bronze ASTM B62-A4	Cast Iron A48
62	Sleeve	Cad. Plt. Steel	
63	Pin Gasket		Cad. Plt. Steel
65	Sleeve	Bronze High Lead Tin	Stain. Stl. AISI 316
66	Gasket		on DuPont
	Impeller	Bronze B584	Cast Iron A48
67		Stain. Stl. AISI 416	
68	Key	0 - 1 DI: 0: 1	Stain. Stl. AISI 416
68 69	Pin	Cad. Plt. Steel	Cad. Plt. Steel
68 69 70	Pin *Imp. Ring	Bronze B584	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48
68 69	Pin	Bronze B584 Stl. AISI C1045	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Stl. AISI C1045
68 69 70 71	Pin *Imp. Ring Shaft	Bronze B584	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48
68 69 70 71 72 73 74	Pin *Imp. Ring Shaft *Pin *Pin Casing Half	Bronze B584 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad/ Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48
68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75	Pin *Imp. Ring Shaft *Pin *Pin Casing Half *Drive Scr	Bronze B584 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Steel B	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad/ Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 ronze Plated
68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75	Pin *Imp. Ring Shaft *Pin *Pin Casing Half *Drive Scr *Name Plt.	Bronze B584 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Steel B Stainless	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad/ Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 ronze Plated Steel AISI 303
68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75	Pin *Imp. Ring Shaft *Pin *Pin Casing Half *Drive Scr	Bronze B584 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Steel B Stainless Ste	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad/ Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 ronze Plated
68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 78-79	Pin *Imp. Ring Shaft *Pin *Pin Casing Half *Drive Scr *Name Plt. Capscrew	Bronze B584 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Steel B Stainless Ste	Cad. Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 Stl. AISI C1045 Cad/ Plt. Steel Cast Iron A48 ronze Plated Steel AISI 303

^{*}All material specifications are in accordance with ASTM unless otherwise noted. (1) B30P66171(UC)(2) XP661C1(UC)(3) AISI 416 chrome steel heat treated power series 6B-7.

DESIGN DETAILS

10 EXTERNAL PIPING can be provided when it is necessary to filter and regulate the flow of liquid to the stuffing box. With this option, piping is provided from the pump discharge to both stuffing boxes. If the pumped liquid is not suitable for sealing purposes, the standard internal passages can be plugged and external piping from a water seal unit can be provided directly to the stuffing box or seal chamber. Lantern rings are required with this option on packed pumps.

11 MECHANICAL SEALS are available for special applications or hazardous service in single, balanced, and unbalanced designs. Packing with a lantern ring is available.

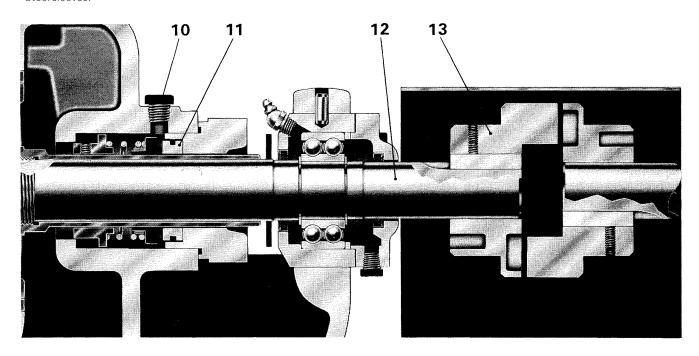
12 DOUBLE EXTENDED SHAFT option provides for dual drive applications such as an electric motor prime driver and stand-by diesel or internal combustion engine.

13 FLEXIBLE COUPLING is required between the pump and driver. It compensates for minor misalignment and reduces the transmission of vibration from the driver to the pump system. Clutch type couplings are available for the dual drive systems.

*STANDARD PUMP: Available in Bronze Fitted. Optional in All Bronze, All Iron, or Stainless Steel. Special materials are glso available.

- 1. Mechanical Seals.
- Lantern Rings: Available for packed pumps only, provides lubrication under pressure to each stuffing box to extend packing life. An internal water seal passage provides the necessary lubricant from the pumped liquid.
- 3. Flushing Lines
- Impeller Wearing Rings: Prevent rotational wear from occurring on the impeller and are easily replaced. The rings are press locked on the impeller.
- 5. Case Wearing Rings: Available in 316 Stainless Steel for longer life.
- 6. Shaft Sleeves: Minimum 450 Brinnel Hardened 440C Stainless Steel is recommended for abrasive applications on packed pumps only. Pumps with mechanical seals are available with 316 Stainless Steel sleeves.

- 7. Shaft Material: Standard pumps do not require alloy shafts as Teflon sealed shaft sleeves protect the shaft from corrosion. On severe applications 316 Stainless Steel shafting is available. Alloy shaft is recommended when inside balanced seals are specified.
- 8. Double Extended Shaft.
- 9. Vertical Pumps. Oil Lubrication: Recommended for special applications such as remote installations, etc. Available only in Model 421.
- 250 PSI flangs: Suction and Discharge flanges machined to ASA flat face specifications. Special surface finishes such as raised face are available.
- Petcock: Vents air manually from the upper casing during initial start up.
- 12. Vent Taps: Oversize taps are available in either /or the upper casing or suction chambers.
- Bases: Available in cast iron with drip rim, formed steel or structural steel.
- 14. Abrasive Separators: Available with option 3 to prevent entrained abrasives from entering the stuffing boxes via the recirculation or water seal liquid.
- 15. Orifice By-Pass: Regulates a predetermined flow of liquid to the stuffing boxes where this is desired.
- Gland Eyebolts And Nuts: For corrosive applications. Made of 316 Stainless Steel.
- 17. Bronze Packing Glands: For corrosive duty.
- Engineering Tests: Several tests can be provided. (A) Certified Performance Test; (B) Certified Witness Performance Test; (C) Hydrostatic Test Submittal; (D) Vibration Test Submittal; (E) NPSH Test; (F) Witness NPSH Test.
- 19. Coupling Guard.
- Double Row Inboard Bearing: Recommended for severe service such as direct drive with internal combustion engines. ADDITIONAL MODIFICATIONS are also available.



MAXIMUM CASE WORKING PRESSURE is the sum of the differential pressure and the suction pressure. Table 2 indicates the maximum case working pressure for the 420 Series Split Case Pumps in various materials and at various operating temperatures. These maximum allowable pressures are based on wall thickness for the particular series of pumps, ratings for American Standard Flange Specifications, see Table 1, and take into account the material at various allowable application temperatures. EXTERNAL INERTIA OR FLY-WHEEL EFFECT is the Kinetic energy stored in the rotating assembly that must be overcome when the pump impeller is caused to rotate within the casing. This energy frequently must be calculated to determine the torque required to start, accelerate or decelerate the pump. If the acceleration is rapid, the torque may be several times greater than the torque required to run the pump at normal or constant speed. WR2 values in LBS-FT² are provided for these calculations. See tables 3 thru 6.

WR2 values given in tables are for bronze impeller
EXAMPLE 1: Find WR ² value for a 15" diameter $5 \times 6 \times 15$ bronze fitted pump handling cold water.
From chart the "WET" value for a 15" diameter impeller
Add power series 4 rotating element less impeller
Total 16.69 LB-FT ²
EXAMPLE 2: Find WR2 value for a 15" diameter

EXAMPLE 2: Find WR² value for a 15" diameter $5 \times 6 \times 15$ all iron pump handling 0.67 specific gravity gasoline.

From chart select "DRY" value and correct for difference in materials.

Sp. Gr. cast iron
Sp. Gr. bronze

x 14.9 LB-FT² 12.09 LB-FT²

[ake difference ("WET"-"DRY") values and cor-

Add power series 4 rotating element

MODEL 420

Total 13,32 LB-FT²

BEARING LIFE is based on the radial and thrust loads imposed on the bearings at the specific operating head and suction pressure. The Split case pump is designed for two year minimum B₁₀ life at the maximum recommended loads. Bearing life at any other point of greater capacity on the curves will greatly exceed the minimum life shown. Average bearing life is equal to five (5) times the minimum bearing life (note*). SHAFT DEFLECTION is the consequence of the unbalanced hydraulic force acting inside the pump on the impeller and shaft in a radial direction. This unbalance occurs when the pump is operating away from its best efficiency point. At shut-off condition (zero flow) the unbalance is greatest and therefore the resultant radial load is maximum. Radial load and shaft deflection approach zero at the best efficiency point of the pump. 420 Series pumps are designed for a maximum deflection of .002" at the mechanical seal faces when operating at the maximum recommended differential pressure.

PROCEDURE	FOR	DETERMININ	٧G	MAXIMUM	SHAFT	
DEFLECTION	AND	MINIMUM BE	EAR	ING LIFE.		

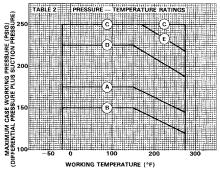
- 1 Determine the proper Pump Size, approximate Shut-Off Head in feet. Power Series number, and Speed from the range charts illustrated on page 3 of 420 Bulletin
- 2 From table 11 determine the Pump Size Factor based on Pump Size and R P M $\,$
- 3 On table 13, page 76, locate the correct Shut-Off Head in feet and read across to the proper Pump Size Factor and down to the applicable Power Series Note the Load Factor in the process Read to the scale on the left for the maximum Shaft Deflection value
- 4 From table 14, page 76, using the Load Factor from step 3 above read across to the correct Power Series number and down for the min Bearing Life in hours

NOTE: 1. One (1) year life is based on 8740 HOURS (continuous operation) 2. Additional bearing information can be found on page 76 3. Specific information on Bearing Life and shaft Deflection can be obtained from the factory

IABLE		IVIUDI	EL 430				MIUDI	L 420			IARLE		MUDEL 420														
5	1-1/2 x	3 x 9	2 x	4 x 9	2 x 2-1/	2 x 12A	2 x 2/1/	2 x 12B	2-/1/2 x	3 x 12A	6	3 x 4	x 14A	3 x 4	x 14B	4 x 5	x 15	5 x 5	x 12	5 x 6	x 15	6 x 6	x 12	6 x 8 >	17A	6 x 8	x 17B
DIA	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DIA	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET	DRY	WET
12.0	-	-	-	-	4.96	5.19	4.69	4.99	4.53	4.88	17.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	RTF	RTF	-	-	RTF	RTF	26.6	30.3	25.0	28.5
11.5	-	-	1	1	4.29	4.45	3.95	4.18	3.65	3.92	16.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	RTF	RTF	-	-	RTF	RTF	22.6	25.5	21.6	24.5
11.0	-	-	-	-	3.67	3.75	3.43	3.65	2.98	3.20	16.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	RTF	RTF	-	-	RTF	RTF	20.0	22.6	19.9	22.6
10.5	-	-	-	-	2.97	3.04	2.91	3.10	2.42	2.61	15.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	RTF	RTF	-	-	RTF	RTF	17.8	20.1	18.4	20.9
10.0	-	-	-	-	2.52	2.61	2.44	2.58	2.02	2.19	15.0	-	-	-	-	14.7	16.4	RTF	RTF	14.9	16.6	RTF	RTF	15.8	17.9	17.0	19.3
9.5	-	-	-	-	2.08	2.16	1.94	2.06	1.66	1.78	14.5	-	-	11.3	12.3	12.5	13.8	RTF	RTF	13.5	15.1	-	-	14.5	16.2	15.7	17.8
9.0	-	-	-	-	1.75	1.80	-	-	1.41	1.52	14.0	10.2	11.1	10.2	11.2	10.8	11.9	RTF	RTF	12.2	13.6	-	-	13.1	14.7	14.5	16.4
8.0	0.86	0.89	1.02	1.08	1.18	1.22	-	-	0.99	1.06	12.0	5.65	6.10	5.80	6.30	5.80	6.25	-	-	7.24	8.05	-	-	-		9.85	11.0
7.0	0.58	0.60	0.59	0.64	0.79	0.81	-	-	0.71	0.76	11.0	4.00	4.34	4.05	4.40	-	-	-	-	5.55	6.15	-	-	-	-	7.30	8.20
6.0	0.41	0.43	0.28	0.31	0.52	0.54	-	-	0.48	0.51	10.0	2.72	2.94	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
6.0	0.31	0.32	0.11	0.13	-	-	-	-	-	-	9.0	1.67	1.85	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WGT.	20)#	18	#	35	#	34	#	33	#	WGT	56	6#	56	#	67	7#	40)#	72	2#	4	2#	10	10#	98	B#

TABLE 1 PUMP CASING	FOR STA	M REQUIREMENT NDARD SUCTION CHARGE FLANGES	PIPE SIZE	CODE	
MATERIAL	ANSI SPEC.	CLASSIFICATION	SILL		
Cast Iron ASTM A48		125 PSI Flat Face	1-12	Α	
	B16.1	120 PSI FIAL Face	14-24	В	
		250 PSI Flat Face	1-12 14-24	С	
Bronze	B16.24	150 PSI Flat Face		D	
ASTM B62	B10.24	300 PSI Flat Face	All	С	
Stainless Steel	B16.5	150 PSI Flat Face	All	E	
ASTM A743 Grade CF8M	D10.5	300 PSI Flat Face	All	С	

Maximum Hydrostatic Pressure $1\frac{1}{2}$ times maximum case working pressure at 100°F.



EXAMPLE: A model 420 Pump with a bronze casing has been selected for operating at a case working pressure of 240 P.S.I.G. at 150°F. Enter Table 2 at 150°F. and read upward to 240 P.S.I.G. It is determined that the selection is within the recommended maximum case working pressure area for 300 PSI flanges and is therefore acceptable. Note that the example exceeds the maximum case working pressure unit if the material selected would have been 125 PSI flanged cast iron or 150 PSI flanged bronze.

TABLE 3 SPECIFIC	GRAVITY OF	COMMON	METALS	
TYPE METAL	CAST BRONZE	CAST IRON	CARBON STEEL	STAIN. STEEL
SP. GR.	8.86	7.20	7.84	7.90

TABLE 4 († less im	PELLER)			ABLE 9 UIET PU	MP DAT	TABLE 11 - PUMP SIZE FACTOR			
PUMP	POWER Series	WR ² ROT ELEMENT†	MAX. IMP. DIA.	CUT WATER DIA.	QUIET IMP. DIA.	SPHERE Dia.	3500 RPM	1750 RPM	1150 RPM
2 x 2-1/2 x 12A			12.00	13.25	11.25	.25	.50	.65	-
2 x 2-1/2 x 12B	2	.025	12.00	13.25	11.25	.31	-	.70	-
2-1/2 x 3 x 12B			12.00	13.25	11.25	.25	.60	.65	.70
3 x 4 x 14A			14.00	15.50	13.25	.50	-	1.15	1.25
3 x 4 x 14B	3	.060	14.50	15.50	13.25	.43	-	1.10	-
4 x 5 x 15			15.00	16.53	14.00	.68	-	1.40	1.50
5 x 5 x 12	4A	RTF	12.00	13.13	12.00	.70	RTF	-	-
5 x 6 x 16	4	.099	15.00	16.56	14.00	.68	-	1.40	-
6 x 6 x 12	5A	RTF	12.00	13.13	12.00	.70	RTF	_	-
6 x 6 x 17A	5	.210	17.00	18.75	16.00	.68	-	1.80	-
6 x 8 x 17B			17.00	18.75	16.00	.81	-	1.65	1.75
1-1/2 x 3 x 9	2	.025	8.75	9.50	8.00	.25	.40	.45	-
2x4x9		I	8.62	8.53	8.00	.31	.45	.50	

TABLE 12	CHART R.P.M.	DESIRED R.P.M.	MULTIPLY LIFE BY
SPEED	3500	1750	2
(R.P.M.)	3500	1150	3
FACTORS	1750	1150	1.5

TABLE 15		POWER	SERIES	
DIMENSION & DESCRIPTION	2	3	4	5
A STUFFING BOX I.D.	2.43	2.81	3.06	3.43
B STUFFING BOX DEPTH	3-1/8	3	3-1/2	3-3/4
C O.D. OF SLEEVE	1-1/2	1-3/4	2	2-3/8
PKG. RINGS W/O LANT. RING	12	10	12	12
PKG, RINGS W/LANT, RING	10	8	10	10
RING IN FRONT OF LANT.	2	2	2	2
PACKING SIZE (SQ.)	7/16	1/2	1/2	1/2
D WIDTH OF LANT, RING	5/8	5/8	3/4	3/4
E NEAREST OBSTRUCTION	1-5/8	1-3/4	1-3/4	2
F DIA. OF MECH. SFAL SEAT	2-1/8	2-1/2	2-3/4	3-1/4
G LENGTH OF MECH. SEAL	1.9/16	1-7/8	2	2-3/8
J SHAFT DIA. AT IMPELLER	1-3/8	1-5/8	1-7/8	2-1/8
K SHAFT DIA. AT SLEEVE	1.1/4	1.1/2	1.3/4	2
L SHAFT DIA. AT CLPG. END	1-1/8	1.3/8	1-1/2	1-3/4
MAX. DEFL. @ SEAL FACE	.002	.002	.002	.002
INBOARD BEARING NO.	206	207	208	309
OUTBOARD BEARING NO.	5305	5306	5307	5309
M BEARING CENTERS	20 3/4	24-1/2	27-3/8	30
MIN, BEARING LIFE*	6 YR.	6 YR.	6 YR.	6 YR.

SHAFT DEFLECTION AND BEARING LIFE

QUIET PUMP operation is always desirable and sometimes essential. One of the most important factors for noise control in a pumping installation is the correct selection of a pumping unit for the system. To insure that the pump will run quietly, it should be selected so that it will operate as close as possible to the best efficiency point. At this point the hydraulic shock within the pump is at a minimum since the flow angle of the fluid from the tip of the impeller is correct for the casing design. Every pump is designed for the best efficiency point and operation at any other point on the characteristic curves is a compromise. The amount of turbulence on either side of the best efficiency point increases as the point of operation is moved along the curve from the maximum efficiency. Therefore, the greater the turbulence, the greater the noise generated. Hydraulic shock is also a factor if the periphery of the impeller passes too close to the cutwater. If the ratio of the impeller diameter to the cutwater diameter in centrifugal pumps is greater than 0.92, the pump is likely to be hydraulically noisy. In such instances the hydraulic pulses are actually differential pressures that occur when the impeller vanes pass the cutwater. Cutwater ratios of 0.9 to 9.5 are typical; however, significantly lower noise levels are achieved in pumps designed with a ratio of 0.7 to 0.75. Although there is an optimum gap for pump efficiency, increases of only 3%-5% may be realized by using the optimum. A cutwater ratio of 0.85 is commonly specified by practicing engineers, thereby realizing a minimum reduction in pump efficiency with a mean reduction in noise level. Table 9 offers recommended guiet impeller diameter at 85% cutwater ratio. See Aurora Pump for details.

The charts reflect the worst possible conditions at pump shutoff. The effect from the impeller, shaft sleeves, wearing rings and packing will reduce the amount of deflection.

