

FRONZ / ONTRACK
APPROVED CODE OF PRACTISE
FOR
HERITAGE NETWORK OPERATORS

Mechanical Supplementary Code B3.3.2.02 Fusible Plugs & Bushes

Issue	Prepared (P), Reviewed (R), Amended (A)	Approved by	Effective Date
1	P McCallum (P)	Heritage Technical Committee	27 June 2006

Reference Material

Source	Description	Date
NZ Railways	Mechanical Branch Code No 18, Issue	31/3/1967

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Amendment History

Version	Section	Amendment

Fusible Plugs and Bushes

1 Introduction

This Supplementary Code relates to:-

B3.1.1.01 - Mechanical Code Of Practice, Section 3.7.6 - Fusible Plugs

It contains:-

- NZ Railways Mechanical Branch Code No 18 - Fusible Plugs and Bushes; Issue 4 of 31/3/1967

which contains information relevant to fusible plugs and bushes. Operators are to use those sections that are relevant to their operation.

NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS MECHANICAL BRANCH	FUSIBLE PLUGS AND BUSHES	CODE No. 18
		Issue No 4 Date Issued 31/3/67

(1) RENEWING FUSIBLE PLUGS:

The fusible plugs (and bushes where necessary) in locomotive, stationary, and crane boilers shall be renewed every three months coincident with the quarterly examination of boilers. (Mechanical Branch Code 42).

Fusible plugs need not be renewed if a boiler has been out of service since the previous quarterly examination, but in no case is a fusible plug to remain in service more than three months.

(2) RECORDING THE RENEWAL OF FUSIBLE PLUGS:

The renewal of fusible plugs (and bushes) at the quarterly examination of boilers is to be recorded on the Loco. 193 form.

(3) ACTION TO BE TAKEN IN THE EVENT OF A FUSED PLUG:

On the fusing of a plug the Officer-in-Charge of the boiler concerned must immediately advise the Chief Mechanical Engineer and District Mechanical Engineer by telegram, and arrange for the firebox of the boiler concerned to be sealed. In the case of Works Managers, it will be necessary only to advise the Chief Mechanical Engineer who will immediately arrange for the Boiler Inspector to inspect.

The boiler is not to be interfered with until it has been examined by the Boiler Inspector who will render a report to the Chief Mechanical Engineer. A copy will be forwarded by the Chief Mechanical Engineer to the District Mechanical Engineer or Works Manager concerned.

The crews of locomotives or attendants in charge of boilers (on which fusible plugs have fused) shall be allowed, if they so desire, to inspect damaged plugs at the same time that the Boiler Inspector carries out his inspection.

Although telegraphic advice has been sent previously, a full report covering the circumstances under which a fusible plug has been fused is to be forwarded to the Chief Mechanical Engineer, as soon after the occurrence as possible, by the District Mechanical Engineer or Works Manager, as the case may be.

Boiler Inspectors shall forward fused plugs which they have removed to the District Mechanical Engineer or Works Manager concerned. The fused plugs are then to be forwarded to the Chief Mechanical Engineer, together with the report covering the incident.

(4) MANUFACTURE OF FUSIBLE PLUGS AND BUSHES:

All fusible plugs shall be in accordance with the following drawings, and will be manufactured at Hillside Workshops. Vertical boilers, Drawing Y20074; other boilers, Drawing Z6607 or Y21538.

(5) GAUGES FOR FUSIBLE PLUGS AND BUSHES:

Standard gauges for the fusible plug and plug bush respectively, will be held at Hutt and Hillside Workshops, but duplicates of these gauges are to be held by each Officer-in-Charge responsible for the renewal of fusible plugs.

Each Officer-in-Charge will be held responsible for the upkeep of such gauges, and whenever considered necessary they shall be returned to the workshop concerned for checking.

Boiler inspectors will check these gauges at each annual inspection.

(6) DISPOSAL OF FUSIBLE PLUGS AND BUSHES

Fusible plugs and bushes removed from boilers shall be returned to the Hutt or Hillside Workshops, for scrapping. No reconditioning of such plugs or bushes shall be undertaken at any shop or depot.