

# Hydro Tasmania

## SAFETY BRIEF

### Incorrect fittings on a hydraulic tensioning tool

Brief Number (YYMMDD)	250319	Date Issued	19 March 2025
SAP Number (if applicable)	64101	Approved By	Head of WHS
Action Required?	No		

#### Summary

A hydraulic hand pump unit, rated for 2500 bar pressure, was found to have incompatible low-pressure fittings attached to it.

The issue came about when a defective pressure gauge was replaced. Due to a different thread size, the replacement gauge required additional fittings to make it compatible.

The replacement gauge was rated for 700 bar while the additional fittings, a 20 bar hex nipple and a 25 bar threaded elbow had significantly lower pressure ratings.

Although a caution tag limiting the pump to 680 bar was placed on the pressure gauge, the inadequate pressure ratings of the added fittings were not considered when establishing the reduced pressure controls.

#### Photos



Hand pump unit



Additional fittings

#### Message

- All components in a pressurised system must meet or exceed the system's maximum pressure rating, unless manufacturer specifications dictate otherwise.
- Ensure all equipment is provided with readily accessible operating manuals, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and maintenance instructions.
- All personnel must demonstrate competency in the safe operation and or maintenance of equipment.
- Regularly inspect hoses, fittings, and all components for signs of wear, damage, or leaks.
- *Fully understanding the failure point of each component of the system is critical to prevent explosive failures.*