

PLEASE ADDRESS ANY CORRESPONDENCE TO WATER SUPPLY (NETWORK) DEPARTMENT

Your Ref :
Our Ref : WSN 92413/90/082019/GASKET Tel : 63304108 Fax : 67313023
Date : 1 Oct 2019 E-mail : roland_chan@pub.gov.sg

To all relevant water fittings suppliers, test laboratories, certification bodies for WELS, Singapore Sanitary Ware Importers & Exporters' Association (SSWIEA), Singapore Plumbing Society (SPS), Licensed Plumbers and relevant Government Agencies, Statutory Board, Professional Engineers, M&E Consultants, Associations and Organisations.

Dear Sir/Madam

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF FLANGED TYPE RUBBER GASKETS FOR USE IN CONTACT WITH POTABLE WATER

This circular informs all water fittings' suppliers, retailers, distributors, manufacturers, Professional Engineers (PEs) and Licensed Plumbers (LP) on the requirements for rubber gaskets for use in potable water service installations.

2 PUB takes a serious view on the safety and reliability of our potable water supply to customers. Arising from some feedback on water quality, our investigations revealed that the flange rubber gaskets supplied and installed in some premises were found to be non-compliant in accordance with SS 375:2015, despite being supported with test reports at the point of supply. Refer to **Annex A** on typical samples of flange rubber gaskets.

3 We would like to remind suppliers, distributors, retailers, manufacturers, Professional Engineers and Licensed Plumbers that all rubber gaskets intended for potable water use shall comply with the following PUB's stipulated standards and requirements:

- a) SS 375:2015 or BS 6920:2014 plus Clause 8 of SS 375:Part 1:2015 - Effects of non-metallic materials in contact with potable water; and
- b) SS 270:2015 - Elastomeric seals for joints in pipework.

The rubber gaskets shall be fully tested and supported with the complete set of accredited test reports before they are allowed for supply and installation in Singapore. Suppliers shall ensure that the accredited test reports are properly kept and must be produced for verification upon request by PUB.

Markings on Rubber Gaskets

4 With immediate effect, new rubber gaskets intended for supply for potable water use shall be permanently and conspicuously embossed with at least the following markings:

- a. Brand name (logo is not allowed);
- b. Type of rubber e.g. "EPDM"
- c. Size e.g. "100mm";
- d. Full standards marking as shown below
 - i. SS375(2015)
SS270(2015); or
 - ii. SS375:2015
SS270:2015

For existing stocks of rubber gaskets, which are supported with the complete set of accredited test reports, they can continue to be supplied. The above requirement on marking shall apply to new batches of rubber gaskets onwards.

Traceability of Products

5 Suppliers are also required to **ensure the traceability of the rubber gaskets** they supply for potable water use, and are required to maintain and keep proper records of the distributors, retailers, sellers, plumbing companies and any other persons/companies and the batch identification of the gaskets. As part of ensuring the traceability, with immediate effect, suppliers who are submitting their rubber gaskets to accredited test laboratory for testing shall submit a written declaration to the accredited test laboratory on the following information/items:

- i. Brand, size and model number (if any) of the rubber gasket;
- ii. Type of material e.g. EPDM, etc.;
- iii. Manufacturer's name and country of origin;
- iv. Year of manufacture; and
- v. Clear and colour photographs of front and back view of the rubber gasket showing the identification mark.

All of the above information and photos shall be included in the test reports.

Proper Checking before Installation

6 Before installation, LPs should request for the relevant test reports and check if the gaskets supplied are those intended for potable water use. PEs and LPs must ensure that all water fittings including rubber gaskets supplied and installed in the projects undertaken by you, have been fully tested to comply with PUB's stipulated requirements and standards before they are installed.

7 PUB conducts surveillance check and will not hesitate to take enforcement actions on the responsible parties for non-compliance with PUB's requirements.

8 Please disseminate the information in this circular with your relevant staff, members, distributors, retailers and other industry partners for their information and compliance. A copy of this circular is downloadable from PUB's website at www.pub.gov.sg. If you have any queries concerning this circular or need further clarification or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact any of the officers listed below.

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Yours faithfully



ROLAND CHAN
PRINCIPAL ENGINEER (INSPECTORATE)
for DIRECTOR
WATER SUPPLY (NETWORK) DEPARTMENT

ANNEX A

TYPICAL SAMPLE OF FLANGED TYPE RUBBER GASKET

