

Code of Practice 33 - 2023

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Section 8

SECTION 8: MAINTENANCE

8

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Section 8

8.1

Regulators

- 8.1.1 Regulators, automatic changeover devices and changeover valves shall be checked at regular intervals for general condition and correct operation.
- 8.1.2 The service life of a regulator is normally specified by the manufacturer, if this is not known then the recommended service life is 10 years so long as it has been used correctly according to the manufacturer's instructions. Regulators marked BS 3016 are now over 10 years old and it is recommended that they are replaced.
- 8.1.3 It is recommended that for installations comprising of fixed pipework the final stage regulator shall incorporate an over pressure protection device (OPSO) meeting the requirements of BS EN 16129.

8.2

Hoses and Tubing

- 8.2.1 Whilst there is no specific service life or exchange interval for LPG rubber hose BS EN 16436-1 Class 2 and 3 or Stainless Steel hose assemblies to BS EN 10380. It is recommended that Class 2 and Class 3 rubber hoses are replaced after 10 years' service life.
- 8.2.2 Rubber hoses fitted to cabinet heaters should be replaced after 5-year service see 8.2.4.
- 8.2.3 It is essential that LPG hose to BS EN 16436-1 Class 2 and 3 or Stainless Steel hose assemblies to BS EN 10380/tubing to BS EN 16436-1 Class 1 and their end connections are regularly inspected and replaced if showing signs of:
- Physical damage such as - cuts or abrasion, rodent attack (see 5.8.4.1), cracking, stretching, flattening, kinking and, where fitted, missing/worn sealing washers, damaged cylinder connections;
 - Environmental deterioration such as - stiffening, cracking, delamination of outer covering, chemical degradation i.e. softening of outer coating by contact with oil; or
 - Hose service failure such as - blistering, soft spots, rupture and, for pre-assembled end fittings, corrosion or loosening of swaged fittings attaching hose.

If any of these defects are observed the hose or tube shall be IMMEDIATELY replaced.