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Technical Bulletin

Risk of electrical fire from circulation pump overheating

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BACKGROUND :

Circulation pump overheating causing fire as a result of impeller failure due to build up of sludge in the pump

SAFETY ACTIONS :

Sludge build up can be quite severe, especially after a number of years.

If, when the system was drained, the colour of the water indicated signs of sludge or corrosion in the system, the system should be flushed until the water runs clear.

The indication for sludge and corrosion are if the water was coloured:

- Dirty grey, this is normal.
- Dirty black, it's a sign of some sludge in the system.
- Rusty, it's a sign of some corrosion in the system.

If a new system or a new radiator has been installed, it is also worthwhile flushing through once to clear any solder flux residue or swarf from the pipework.

Add a corrosion inhibitor to the system in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Check the pump and above the boiler for additional bleed valves, and if they are there, bleed these as well as the radiators.