

SECTION ONE – AKRON TURBOJET 1720P HAND CONTROLLED BRANCH

INTRODUCTION

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service use the Akron Turbojet branch on all pumping appliances.

DESCRIPTION

The Turbojet is constructed of Pyrolite (anodised aluminium) with reinforced rubber-like handle and nozzle protection. The Pyrolite body is both lightweight and durable.

ISSUE AND LOCATION

Each Pumping Appliance carries one Akron Turbojet branch.

USE

The branch is turned on and off by a simple lever mounted above the handle. The lever is marked **OPEN** and **CLOSED**.

The stream may be altered from jet to spray by rotating the nozzle. The pattern of stream is indicated by reflective symbols on the periphery.

A second control ring behind the nozzle dictates the flow of water through the branch irrespective of pump pressure or type of stream.

The ring has four flow settings: 115, 230, 360 and 475 litres per minute plus a **FLUSH** setting which allows solid objects up to 6mm in diameter to pass through the nozzle, hence the centre plate in the nozzle appears to be loose.

SAFETY

Akron branches should not be used on **BRANCH OUT OF CONTROL** drills.

On no account should a charged jet be pointed at any personnel.

MAINTENANCE AND TESTING

The branch should be tested in accordance with the manufacturers instructions and recorded on forms **FB77(W) – Rescue Pump – Weekly Standard Test Record** and **FB89(W) – Water Tender Ladder – Weekly Standard Test Record**.

The branch should be routinely inspected and tested prior to use and after use to ensure the following:-

- Branch will operate at maximum rated pressure and flow
- The controls are operating freely
- There is no excessive wear or water leakage
- The turbine ring should be inspected to ensure that no teeth are missing
- The branch should be regularly flushed with clean water to remove any grit or debris

If a branch is changed at an incident it is to be tested on return to station and the new branch number entered on the test record.

Technical Services should be notified of defective branches who will arrange for replacements to be issued and collect defective branches for repair in Workshops.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The technical details of the Branch are:

- Nozzle size - 37 mm
- Overall length - 300 mm
- Weight - 3 Kg
- Flow rate - variable