

How Long will a Cat Pump Last?

Preventive Maintenance



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The conditions for each pumping system vary, therefore, the maintenance cycle will also vary. Cat Pumps® offer the longest life for several reasons. We have built into each pump, quality components, closely held manufacturing tolerances and special blend materials that are tested and proven to out perform others. We offer a consistent quality every time a pump is produced.

Typically, the plunger pumps require only a very basic standard maintenance procedure of regular oil changes and seal and valve replacement. Seal and valve life are extremely dependent upon the type of pumped liquid, temperature, inlet conditions, system protective devices, filtration, duty-cycle and maintenance-cycle. Most system failures are not due to the pump, but fail because of other system components.

The Preventative Maintenance Check-List provides a summary of the various system maintenance concerns for all high pressure systems.

The seals on our pumps, operating under normal conditions, will perform for a minimum of 1500 hours, with most lasting much longer. The valves typically perform for 3000 hours, with many lasting much longer.

Ceramic plungers have a high-density, polished surface and are extremely impervious to most liquids. However, plungers can be damaged by liquids beyond the pH range of 5-9, extremely abrasive liquids and rapid temperature change. Operating with worn Lo-Pressure and Hi-Pressure Seals will cause damage to the ceramic plungers. Under normal conditions, the ceramic plungers will last more than 10,000 hours.

Bearing life is greatly affected by the crankcase lubrication, duty-cycle and RPM. Cat Pumps have an oil bath lubrication with oil continually being thrown forward to submerge the crosshead area of the plunger rod. With regular oil changes and using the special Cat Pumps oil, the bearings typically last a minimum of 12,000-18,000 hours in low RPM pumps [below 1200 RPM] and 6,000-10,000 hours in high RPM pumps [above 1200 RPM].

Cat Pumps are ISO9001 certified. All pumps are tested as a final step in the production process and random life endurance tests are conducted at Cat Pumps to assure they consistently meet our performance ratings. With regular maintenance, our pump will outlast the equipment it is installed on.