



CONTAMINATION



RESERVOIR
MAINTENANCE
SPECIALISTS

issue **14**

AQUALIFT BUCKET OF WATER TEST

Several methods of verifying how well tanks are sealed against contamination entry are now available to clients, contractors and asset inspectors.

Contamination entry into drinking water is not always obvious to the untrained eye and it is important to identify issues taking place before a 'boiled water alert' is issued.

While older tank hatches, platforms and roof structures will always have to be suspected, most new constructions are assumed to be OK...because they are new! Many clients have been surprised... and disappointed to see water draining past supposedly 'newly sealed areas'.



The first method is using a clean bucket and rope to obtain water from the tank and then pour it around any areas that should be sealed, such as platform edges, hatch frames and any fixtures set onto the roof area. And then look (and listen) inside the tank to see or hear any water ingress.



The second method will appeal to the technology minded person, as it involves 'The Cloud'.

This test requires protective equipment to be worn, as it involves... standing out in the rain (the original cloud technology) and watching all that natural water, mixed with contaminants draining back into all sorts of 'un-guessed at' places!

CONTAMINATION POINTS



Storage tanks are a significant contributor to contamination entry within a reticulation system. Having an enclosed storage does not guarantee good water quality, as many factors are involved in a typical roofing system. Entry hatches, work platforms, box gutters, ventilation fixtures, cable and pipework penetrations can all cause failures in effective tank sealing.

Sealing materials such as 'no more gaps', silicones and metal flashings are also limited by applicator skills and environmental breakdown factors.

Good drainage needs to be designed into any roofing system, as contaminated water and ponded debris will find their way past the 'seemingly' well sealed areas during wind and rainfall events.

And finally, regular operator inspections are required to make sure hatches are closed by the last person onsite, vents and flashings are intact after storm events and structural failures have not occurred.



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