Which one of the following contains indications of cavitation for an operating centrifugal pump?

A. Low flow rate with low discharge pressure
B. Low flow rate with high discharge pressure
C. High motor amps with low discharge pressure
D. High motor amps with high discharge pressure

ANSWER: A.

A centrifugal pump is initially operating at rated flow rate in an open system. Which one of the following moderate changes will cause the pump to operate in closer proximity to cavitation?

A. Increase pump inlet temperature.
B. Decrease pump speed.
C. Increase pump suction pressure.
D. Decrease pump recirculation flow rate.

ANSWER: A.
Pump cavitation occurs when vapor bubbles are formed at the eye of a pump impeller...

A. when the localized flow velocity exceeds sonic velocity for the existing fluid temperature.

B. when the localized pressure exceeds the vapor pressure for the existing fluid temperature.

C. and enter a high pressure region of the pump where they collapse, causing damaging pressure pulsations.

D. and are discharged from the pump where they collapse in downstream piping, causing damaging pressure pulsations.

ANSWER: C.

Which one of the following is a symptom associated with cavitation of a centrifugal pump?

A. Decreased motor current and pump speed

B. Decreased pump and motor temperature

C. Steadily increasing discharge pressure

D. Increased noise and vibration

ANSWER: D.
Which one of the following will result in immediate cavitation of a centrifugal pump that is initially operating at normal rated flow?

A. Recirculation flow path is aligned.
B. Recirculation flow path is isolated.
C. Pump suction valve is fully closed.
D. Pump discharge valve is fully closed.

ANSWER: C.

Which one of the following describes pump cavitation?

A. Vapor bubbles are formed when the enthalpy difference between pump discharge and pump suction exceeds the latent heat of vaporization.
B. Vapor bubbles are formed in the eye of the pump impeller and collapse as they enter higher pressure regions of the pump.
C. Vapor bubbles are produced when the localized pressure exceeds the vapor pressure at the existing temperature.
D. Vapor bubbles are discharged from the pump where they collapse on downstream piping and cause localized water hammers.

ANSWER: B.
Which one of the following is an indication of pump cavitation?

A. Pump motor amps are pegged high.
B. Pump discharge pressure indicates zero.
C. Pump motor amps are fluctuating.
D. Pump discharge pressure indicates shut-off head.

ANSWER: C.

If a centrifugal pump is started with the discharge valve fully open, versus throttled, the possibility of pump runout will _________ and the possibility of pump cavitation will _________.

A. increase; decrease
B. increase; increase
C. decrease; decrease
D. decrease; increase

ANSWER: B.
By starting a centrifugal pump with the discharge valve throttled versus fully open, the possibility of pump runout is ______________ , and the possibility of pump cavitation is ______________.

A. increased; decreased
B. increased; increased
C. decreased; decreased
D. decreased; increased

ANSWER: C.

A centrifugal pump is started and the following indications are observed:

Oscillating flow
Oscillating discharge pressure
Oscillating amps

These indications are symptoms that the pump is experiencing...

A. excessive thrust.
B. cavitation.
C. runout.
D. wear ring failure.

ANSWER: B.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.1/3.4]
QID: P222

The presence of air in a pump casing may result in ________ when the pump is started.

A. vortexing
B. pump runout
C. pump overspeed
D. gas binding

ANSWER: D.

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TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.02 [3.1/3.4]
QID: P920

Which one of the following contains indications of a gas/vapor bound motor-operated centrifugal pump that is operating in a cooling water system?

A. Fluctuating pump discharge pressure, reduced system flow rate, and increased pump motor current
B. Reduced system flow rate, increased pump motor current, and increased pump noise level
C. Increased pump motor current, increased pump noise level, and fluctuating pump discharge pressure
D. Increased pump noise level, fluctuating pump discharge pressure, and reduced system flow rate

ANSWER: D.
Which one of the following is an effective method for ensuring that a centrifugal pump remains primed and does not become gas bound during operation and after shutdown?

A. Install the pump below the level of the suction supply.
B. Install a check valve in the discharge piping of the pump.
C. Install an orifice plate in the discharge piping of the pump.
D. Install a pump recirculation line from the pump discharge piping to the pump suction piping.

ANSWER: A.

A motor-driven centrifugal pump is operating under no flow conditions. Which one of the following damaging conditions will first occur during pump operation with no flow?

A. Pump failure from overspeed
B. Pump failure from overheating
C. Motor failure from overspeed
D. Motor failure from overheating

ANSWER: B.
When a centrifugal pump is operating at shutoff head, it is pumping at ________ capacity and _________ discharge head.

A. maximum; maximum

B. maximum; minimum

C. minimum; maximum

D. minimum; minimum

ANSWER: C.
Refer to the drawing of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below).

Which point represents pump operation at shutoff head?

A. Point A
B. Point B
C. Point C
D. Point D

ANSWER: A.
Operating a centrifugal pump at shutoff head without recirculation flow can directly result in...

A. discharge piping overpressure.
B. suction piping overpressure.
C. excessive pump leakoff.
D. pump overheating.

ANSWER: D.

A motor-driven centrifugal pump with no recirculation flow path must be stopped when discharge pressure reaches the pump shutoff head to prevent...

A. overheating of the pump.
B. overheating of the motor.
C. bursting of the pump casing.
D. water hammer in downstream lines.

ANSWER: A.
A nuclear power plant is operating at full power when a 200 gpm reactor coolant leak occurs, which results in a reactor scram and initiation of emergency coolant injection. Reactor vessel pressure stabilizes at 900 psia and all centrifugal injection pumps are operating with all pump miniflow paths isolated. The shutoff heads for the pumps are as follows:

- High pressure coolant injection (HPCI) pumps: 1,200 psia
- Low pressure coolant injection (LPCI) pumps: 200 psia

Which pumps are currently threatened for operability and why?

A. LPCI pumps, due to pump overheating.
B. LPCI pumps, due to motor overheating.
C. HPCI pumps, due to pump overheating.
D. HPCI pumps, due to motor overheating.

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of a pump with recirculation line (see figure below).

The flowpath through valve A is designed to...

A. prevent pump runout by creating a recirculation flowpath.

B. provide a small flow rate through the pump during shutoff head conditions.

C. direct a small amount of water to the pump suction to raise available net positive suction head.

D. prevent the discharge piping from exceeding design pressure during no-flow conditions.

ANSWER: B.
Which one of the following is at a relatively high value when a centrifugal pump is operating at shutoff head?

A. Pump motor current
B. Pump volumetric flow rate
C. Available net positive suction head
D. Required net positive suction head

ANSWER: C.

Which one of the following describes radial-flow centrifugal pump operating parameters at shutoff head?

A. High discharge pressure, low flow, low power demand
B. High discharge pressure, high flow, low power demand
C. Low discharge pressure, low flow, high power demand
D. Low discharge pressure, high flow, high power demand

ANSWER: A.
Which one of the following conditions applies to a centrifugal pump running at shutoff head?

A. The volumetric flow rate for the pump has been maximized.

B. Cavitation will occur immediately upon reaching shutoff head.

C. Available net positive suction head is at a maximum value for the existing fluid conditions.

D. Pump differential pressure is at a minimum value.

ANSWER: C.

Which one of the following would result from operating a motor-driven centrifugal pump for extended periods of time with the discharge valve shut and no recirculation flow?

A. No motor damage, but the pump will overheat and may be damaged.

B. No motor damage, but the pump will overspeed and may be damaged.

C. No pump damage, but the motor will overspeed and the motor bearings may fail.

D. No pump damage, but the motor windings will draw excessive current and may fail.

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of a pump with recirculation line (see figure below).

Which one of the following describes the response of the pump if a complete flow blockage occurs in the discharge line just downstream of the flow transmitter?

A. The pump will overheat after a relatively short period of time due to a loss of both main flow and recirculation flow.

B. The pump will overheat after a relatively long period of time due to a loss of main flow only.

C. The pump will overheat after a relatively long period of time due to a loss of recirculation flow only.

D. The pump will be able to operate under these conditions indefinitely due to sustained main flow.

ANSWER: B.
A variable-speed centrifugal fire water pump is taking a suction on an open storage tank and discharging through a 4-inch diameter fire hose and through a nozzle located 50 feet above the pump.

Which one of the following will cause the pump to operate at shutoff head?

A. The fire hose is replaced with a 6-inch diameter fire hose.
B. The fire hose is replaced with a 2-inch diameter fire hose.
C. Pump speed is increased until steam formation at the eye of the impeller prevents pump flow.
D. Pump speed is decreased until pump discharge pressure is insufficient to cause flow.

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing of a pump with a recirculation line (see figure below).

Valve "A" will open when pump...

A. discharge pressure increases above a setpoint.
B. discharge pressure decreases below a setpoint.
C. flow rate increases above a setpoint.
D. flow rate decreases below a setpoint.

ANSWER: D.
A centrifugal fire water pump takes a suction on an open storage tank and discharges through a fire hose. Which one of the following will cause the pump to operate at shutoff head?

A. Suction temperature is increased to the point that gas binding occurs.
B. Suction pressure is adjusted until available net positive suction head is reduced to zero feet.
C. Pump speed is adjusted to the value at which cavitation occurs.
D. The fire hose nozzle is raised to an elevation that prevents any flow.

ANSWER: D.

A centrifugal fire water pump takes a suction on an open storage tank and discharges through a fire hose. Which one of the following will cause the pump to operate at shutoff head?

A. A firefighter inadvertently severs the fire hose.
B. The fire hose becomes completely crimped in a fire door.
C. Fire water storage tank level drops below the pump suction tap.
D. A firefighter adjusts the fire hose nozzle spray pattern from “deluge” to “fog.”

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal fire water pump takes a suction on an open storage tank and discharges through a fire hose. Which one of the following will cause the pump to operate at shutoff head?

A. A firefighter inadvertently severs the fire hose.
B. The fire hose becomes partially crimped in a fire door.
C. Fire water storage tank level drops below the pump suction tap.
D. A firefighter adjusts the fire hose nozzle spray pattern from “deluge” to “off”.

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing of a pump with a recirculation line (see figure below).

Valve "A" will close when pump...

A. discharge pressure increases above a setpoint.
B. discharge pressure decreases below a setpoint.
C. flow rate increases above a setpoint.
D. flow rate decreases below a setpoint.

ANSWER: C.
The discharge valve for a radial flow centrifugal cooling water pump is closed in preparation for starting the pump.

After the pump is started, the following stable pump pressures are observed:

- Pump discharge pressure: 30 psig
- Pump suction pressure: 10 psig

With the discharge valve still closed, if the pump speed is doubled, what will be the new pump discharge pressure?

A. 80 psig
B. 90 psig
C. 120 psig
D. 130 psig

ANSWER: B.

The available net positive suction head for a pump may be expressed as...

A. suction pressure minus saturation pressure of the fluid being pumped.
B. suction pressure plus discharge pressure.
C. discharge pressure minus saturation pressure of the fluid being pumped.
D. discharge pressure minus suction pressure.

ANSWER: A.
Which one of the following operations will cause a decrease in available net positive suction head for an operating centrifugal pump?

A. Decreasing the inlet fluid temperature
B. Increasing the pump discharge pressure
C. Increasing the pump suction pressure
D. Throttling open the pump discharge valve

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system (see figure below).

The available net positive suction head for the centrifugal pump will be increased by...

A. opening surge tank makeup valve "A" to raise tank level.

B. throttling heat exchanger service water valve "B" more closed.

C. throttling pump discharge valve "C" more open.

D. throttling pump suction valve "D" more closed.

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system (see figure below).

The available net positive suction head for the centrifugal pump will be decreased by...

A. opening surge tank makeup valve "A" to raise tank level.

B. throttling heat exchanger service water valve "B" more open.

C. throttling pump discharge valve "C" more open.

D. reducing the heat load on the cooling water system.

ANSWER: C.
Refer to the drawing of an operating cooling water system (see figure below).

Which one of the following will increase available net positive suction head for the centrifugal pump?

A. Draining the surge tank to decrease level by 10 percent.

B. Positioning heat exchanger service water valve “B” more closed.

C. Positioning pump discharge valve “C” more closed.

D. Positioning pump suction valve “D” more closed.

ANSWER: C.
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system (see figure below).

The available net positive suction head for the centrifugal pump will be decreased by...

A. increasing surge tank level by 5 percent.
B. throttling heat exchanger service water valve "B" more open.
C. throttling pump discharge valve "C" more closed.
D. increasing the heat loads on the cooling water system.

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing of an operating cooling water system (see figure below).

Which one of the following will decrease available net positive suction head for the centrifugal pump?

A. Adding water to the surge tank to raise level by 10 percent.

B. Positioning heat exchanger service water valve “B” more open.

C. Positioning pump discharge valve “C” more open.

D. Reducing heat loads on the cooling water system by 10 percent.

ANSWER: C.
A cooling water pump is operating with the following pump suction parameters:

- Suction Temperature: 124°F
- Suction Pressure: 11.7 psia

What is the approximate available net positive suction head (NPSH) for the pump? (Neglect the contribution of the suction fluid velocity to NPSH.)

A. 23 feet  
B. 27 feet  
C. 31 feet  
D. 35 feet  

ANSWER: A.

A centrifugal pump is operating at maximum design flow rate, taking suction on a vented water storage tank and discharging through two parallel valves. Valve "A" is fully open and valve "B" is half open.

Which one of the following will occur if valve “B” is fully closed?

A. The pump will operate at shutoff head.  
B. The pump will operate at runout conditions.  
C. The pump available net positive suction head will increase.  
D. The pump required net positive suction head will increase.  

ANSWER: C.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.06 [3.2/3.3]
QID: P2921 (B2920)

Refer to the drawing of an operating cooling water system (see figure below).

Which one of the following will increase the available net positive suction head for the centrifugal pump?

A. Draining the surge tank to decrease level by 10 percent.
B. Positioning the service water valve “B” more closed.
C. Positioning the pump discharge valve “C” more open.
D. Reducing the heat loads on the cooling water system.

ANSWER: D.
A centrifugal pump is needed to take suction on a water storage tank and deliver high pressure water to a water spray system. To minimize axial thrust on the pump shaft, the pump should have _________ stage(s); and to maximize the available NPSH at the impeller inlet, the pump should have a _________ suction impeller.

A. a single; single
B. a single; double
C. multiple opposed; single
D. multiple opposed; double

ANSWER: D.

A centrifugal pump is taking suction on an open storage tank that has been filled to a level of 40 feet with 10,000 gallons of 60°F water. The pump is located at the base of the tank, takes a suction from the bottom of the tank, and discharges to a lake.

Given:
- The pump is currently operating at its design flow rate of 200 gpm and a total developed head of 150 feet.
- The pump requires 4 feet of net positive suction head.

How will the centrifugal pump flow rate be affected as the water storage tank level decreases?

A. Flow rate will remain constant until the pump begins to cavitate at a tank level of about 4 feet.
B. Flow rate will remain constant until the pump becomes air bound when the tank empties.
C. Flow rate will gradually decrease until the pump begins to cavitate at a tank level of about 4 feet.
D. Flow rate will gradually decrease until the pump becomes air bound when the tank empties.

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing below of a centrifugal pump taking suction from the bottom of an open storage tank containing water at 66°F. Pump and water level elevations are indicated in the figure. Assume standard atmospheric pressure.

Assuming that pump suction head loss is negligible, what is the approximate value of net positive suction head available to the pump.

A. 6 feet  
B. 13 feet  
C. 20 feet  
D. 25 feet

ANSWER: C.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.06 [3.2/3.3]
QID: P4110 (B4113)

Refer to the drawing of an elevated centrifugal pump taking suction from the bottom of an open storage tank containing water at 66°F (see figure below). Assume standard atmospheric pressure.

The pump requires 4.0 ft-lbf/lbm of net positive suction head (NPSH). Assume that pump suction head loss is negligible.

If tank water level is allowed to decrease continuously, at what approximate water level will the pump begin to cavitate?

A. 34 feet
B. 29 feet
C. 21 feet
D. 16 feet

ANSWER: C.
Refer to the drawing below of a centrifugal pump taking suction from the bottom of an open storage tank containing water at 66°F. Pump and water level elevations are indicated in the figure. Assume standard atmospheric pressure.

Assuming that pump suction head loss is negligible, what is the approximate value of net positive suction head available to the pump.

A. 6 feet
B. 12 feet
C. 39 feet
D. 45 feet

ANSWER: D.
Consider a centrifugal pump that is taking suction from the bottom of an open water storage tank. (See figure below.)

Given:

- The tank contains 60°F water.
- The eye of the pump impeller is located 50 feet above the bottom of the tank.
- The pump requires a minimum net positive suction head of 4 feet.

Which one of the following describes the effect on pump operation if tank water level is allowed to continuously decrease?

A. The pump will operate normally until tank water level decreases below approximately 20 feet, at which time the pump will cavitate.

B. The pump will operate normally until tank water level decreases below approximately 16 feet, at which time the pump will cavitate.

C. The pump will operate normally until the pump suction becomes uncovered, at which time the pump will cavitate.

D. The pump will operate normally until the pump suction becomes uncovered, at which time the pump will become air bound.

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of a steam condenser, hotwell, and condensate pump (see figure below).

Given the following:

- The eye of the pump impeller is located 6.0 feet below the bottom of the hotwell.
- The pump requires 10.0 ft-lbf/lbm of net positive suction head (NPSH).
- Condenser pressure is 1.2 psia.
- Hotwell water temperature is 90°F.
- Pump suction head losses are zero.

What is the minimum hotwell water level necessary to provide the required NPSH?

A. 1.2 feet  
B. 2.8 feet  
C. 4.0 feet  
D. 5.2 feet

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal pump is taking suction on a water storage tank and delivering the makeup water to a cooling water system. The pump will have the lowest net positive suction head requirement if the pump is operated at a relatively _________ speed with a _________ discharge flow control valve.

A. high; fully open
B. high; throttled
C. low; fully open
D. low; throttled

ANSWER: D.
Assuming that pump suction head loss is negligible, what is the approximate value of net positive suction head available to the pump.

A. 5 feet
B. 10 feet
C. 17 feet
D. 23 feet

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing of a steam condenser, hotwell, and condensate pump (see figure below).

Given the following initial conditions:

- Condenser pressure is 1.2 psia.
- Condensate temperature is 96°F.
- Hotwell level is 10 feet above the condensate pump suction.

Which one of the following will provide the greatest increase in NPSH available to the condensate pump? (Assume that condenser pressure does not change.)

A. Hotwell level decreases by 6 inches.
B. Hotwell level increases by 6 inches.
C. Condensate temperature decreases by 6°F.
D. Condensate temperature increases by 6°F.

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal pump is taking suction on a water storage tank and discharging through a flow control valve. The pump will have the highest net positive suction head requirement if the pump is operated at a __________ speed with a __________ discharge flow control valve.

A. high; fully open
B. high; throttled
C. low; fully open
D. low; throttled

ANSWER: A.

An operating centrifugal pump has a net positive suction head (NPSH) requirement of 150 ft-lbf/lbm. Water at 300°F is entering the pump. Which one of the following is the lowest listed pump inlet pressure that will ensure adequate NPSH for the pump?

A. 60 psia
B. 83 psia
C. 108 psia
D. 127 psia

ANSWER: D.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.06 [3.2/3.3]
QID: P6510 (B6510)

Refer to the drawing of a steam condenser, hotwell, and condensate pump (see figure below).

Given the following:

- The eye of the pump impeller is located 6.0 feet below the bottom of the hotwell.
- Hotwell water level is 6.0 feet.
- Hotwell water temperature is 90°F.
- Condenser pressure is 1.3 psia.
- Fluid velocity and friction head losses are zero.

What is the net positive suction head available to the condensate pump?

A. 6.0 feet
B. 7.4 feet
C. 12.0 feet
D. 13.4 feet

ANSWER: D.
The current conditions for a centrifugal water pump are as follows:

- Pump suction pressure: 140 psia
- Pump suction temperature: 300°F

The pump requires a net positive suction head (NPSH) of 150 ft-lbf/lbm for pumping water at 300°F. Which one of the following is the lowest pump suction pressure that will provide the required NPSH for the current conditions?

A. 132 psia
B. 127 psia
C. 73 psia
D. 67 psia

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal pump is taking suction on an open water storage tank. The pump is located at the base of the tank, takes a suction from the bottom of the tank, and discharges to a pressurized system.

Given:

- The tank is filled to a level of 26 feet with 60°F water.
- The pump is currently operating at 50 gpm.
- The pump requires 30 feet of net positive suction head.

Which one of the following describes the current pump status, and how the pump flow rate will be affected as the level in the storage tank decreases?

A. The pump is currently cavitating; pump flow rate will decrease continuously as tank level decreases.

B. The pump is currently cavitating; pump flow rate will remain about the same until the tank empties.

C. The pump is currently not cavitating; pump flow rate will gradually decrease with tank level and then rapidly decrease when cavitation begins at a lower tank level.

D. The pump is currently not cavitating; pump flow rate will gradually decrease with tank level and then rapidly decrease as the pump becomes air bound when the tank empties.

ANSWER: D.
Shutting the discharge valve on an operating centrifugal pump will cause the motor amps to ____________ and the pump discharge pressure to ______________.

A. increase, increase
B. decrease, increase
C. increase, decrease
D. decrease, decrease

ANSWER: B.

When starting an AC motor-driven centrifugal pump, the response of motor current will be...

A. low starting amps, increasing to a higher equilibrium running amperage.
B. low starting amps, remaining at a low equilibrium running amperage.
C. high starting amps, decreasing to a lower equilibrium running amperage.
D. high starting amps, remaining at a high equilibrium running amperage.

ANSWER: C.
A constant-speed radial-flow centrifugal pump motor draws the least current when the pump is...

A. at runout conditions.
B. at operating conditions.
C. accelerating to normal speed during start.
D. at shutoff head.

ANSWER: D.

A centrifugal pump is circulating water at 100°F in a cooling water system. After several hours the water temperature has increased to 150°F. Assuming system flow rate (gpm) is constant, pump motor amps will have ____________ because ______________.

A. decreased; water density has decreased
B. decreased; water volume has increased
C. increased; water density has decreased
D. increased; water volume has increased

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of an operating cooling water system (see figure below).

The pump is circulating 200°F water. Several hours later, after system cooldown and no lineup changes, the pump is circulating 120°F water.

During the system cooldown, pump motor current has...

A. decreased because water density has increased.
B. increased because water density has increased.
C. decreased because pump motor efficiency has decreased.
D. increased because pump motor efficiency has decreased.

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal pump is operating in a closed system with all valves fully open. If the pump discharge valve is throttled 75 percent closed, pump motor current will...

A. increase and stabilize at a higher value.

B. decrease and stabilize at a lower value.

C. increase briefly, then return to original value.

D. decrease briefly, then return to original value.

ANSWER: B.

Which one of the following centrifugal pump operating conditions will result in the most current being drawn by the pump AC motor?

A. Pump discharge head is at shutoff head.

B. The pump is operating at minimum flow.

C. Pump discharge head is at design head.

D. The pump is operating at runout.

ANSWER: D.
A centrifugal pump is circulating water at 150°F in a cooling water system. After several hours the water temperature has decreased to 100°F. Assuming system flow rate (gpm) is constant, pump motor amps will have ______________ because ______________ has increased.

A. increased; water density
B. decreased; water density
C. increased; motor efficiency
D. decreased; motor efficiency

ANSWER: A.

An AC induction motor-driven centrifugal pump is circulating water at 180°F with a motor current of 100 amps. After several hours, system temperature has changed such that the water density has increased by 4 percent.

Assuming pump head and volumetric flow rate do not change, which one of the following is the new pump motor current?

A. 84 amps
B. 96 amps
C. 104 amps
D. 116 amps

ANSWER: C.
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system (see figure below).

The centrifugal pump is circulating water at 100°F. After several hours the water temperature has increased to 200°F. Assuming system flow rate (gpm) is constant, pump motor amps will have ______________ because ______________.

A. decreased; water density has decreased
B. increased; water density has decreased
C. decreased; pump efficiency has increased
D. increased; pump efficiency has increased

ANSWER: A.
A constant-speed radial-flow centrifugal pump motor draws the least current when the pump is...

A. at maximum rated flow conditions.
B. operating on recirculation flow only.
C. accelerating to normal speed during start.
D. at shutoff head with no recirculation flow.

ANSWER: D.

A reactor coolant pump (RCP) is circulating reactor coolant at 100°F. After several hours the reactor coolant temperature has increased to 150°F. Assuming coolant flow rate (gpm) is constant, RCP motor amps have ______________ because ______________.

A. decreased; coolant density has decreased
B. decreased; system head losses have increased
C. increased; coolant density has increased
D. increased; system head losses have decreased

ANSWER: A.
A typical radial-flow centrifugal pump is operating at rated conditions in an open system with all valves fully open. If the pump discharge valve is throttled to 50 percent closed, pump discharge pressure will __________ and pump motor current will __________.

A. decrease; decrease
B. decrease; increase
C. increase; increase
D. increase; decrease

ANSWER: D.

A centrifugal pump in a cooling water system is circulating water at 180°F with a motor current of 200 amps. After several hours, system temperature has changed such that the water density has increased by 3 percent.

Assuming pump head remains the same, which one of the following is the new pump motor current?

A. 203 amps
B. 206 amps
C. 218 amps
D. 236 amps

ANSWER: B.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.07 [2.9/2.9]
QID: P2520 (B2520)

A constant-speed centrifugal pump motor draws the most current when the pump is...

A. at maximum rated flow conditions.
B. operating at runout flow.
C. accelerating to normal speed during start.
D. at shutoff head with no recirculation flow.

ANSWER: C.

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TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.07 [2.9/2.9]
QID: P2821 (B2822)

An AC motor-driven centrifugal pump was just started. During the start, motor current remained peaked for 6 seconds before decreasing to standard running current. Normally, the starting current peak lasts about 4 seconds.

Which one of the following could have caused the extended starting current peak?

A. The pump shaft was seized and did not turn.
B. The pump was initially rotating slowly in the reverse direction.
C. The pump discharge check valve was stuck closed and did not open.
D. The pump was initially air bound, and then primed itself after 6 seconds of operation.

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal pump is circulating water at 180°F with a pump motor current of 200 amps. After several hours, system temperature has changed such that the water density has increased by 6 percent.

Assuming pump head and volumetric flow rate do not change, which one of the following is the new pump motor current?

A. 203 amps  
B. 206 amps  
C. 212 amps  
D. 224 amps  

ANSWER: C.

An AC motor-driven centrifugal water pump was just started. During the start, motor current remained peaked for 2 seconds, and then decreased and stabilized at about one-fifth the standard running current. Normally, the starting current peak lasts about 4 seconds.

Which one of the following could have caused the abnormal start indications above?

A. The pump shaft was initially seized and the motor breaker opened.  
B. The pump was initially rotating slowly in the reverse direction.  
C. The pump was initially air bound, and then primed itself after 2 seconds of operation.  
D. The coupling between the motor and pump shafts was left unfastened after maintenance.  

ANSWER: D.
A radial flow centrifugal cooling water pump is driven by an AC induction motor. The pump can supply cooling water to several heat loads, all of which are in parallel alignment. The following pump conditions initially exist:

- Pump motor current: 100 amps
- Pump flow rate: 400 gpm
- Pump suction temperature: 70°F

Four hours later, the motor is drawing 95 amps. Which one of the following could be responsible for the observed decrease in motor amps?

A. The temperature of the cooling water being pumped decreased to 60°F with no change in pump flow rate.

B. The temperature of the cooling water being pumped increased to 80°F with no change in pump flow rate.

C. Cooling water flow was established to an additional heat load with no change in the temperature of the cooling water being pumped.

D. Cooling water flow was isolated from an out-of-service heat load with no change in the temperature of the cooling water being pumped.

ANSWER: D.
A radial flow centrifugal cooling water pump is driven by an AC induction motor. The pump can supply cooling water to several heat loads, all of which are in parallel alignment. The following pump conditions initially exist:

- Pump motor current: 100 amps
- Pump flow rate: 400 gpm
- Pump suction temperature: 70°F

Four hours later, the motor is drawing 105 amps. Which one of the following could be responsible for the observed increase in motor current?

A. The temperature of the cooling water being pumped decreased to 60°F with no change in pump flow rate.
B. The temperature of the cooling water being pumped increased to 80°F with no change in pump flow rate.
C. Cooling water flow was established to an additional heat load with no change in the temperature of the cooling water being pumped.
D. Cooling water flow was isolated from an out-of-service heat load with no change in the temperature of the cooling water being pumped.

ANSWER: C.

Some large centrifugal pumps are started with their discharge valves closed to prevent...

A. cavitation in the pump.
B. lifting the discharge relief valve.
C. loss of recirculation (miniflow).
D. excessive current in the pump motor.

ANSWER: D.
Topic: 191004  
Knowledge: K1.08  [2.4/2.6]  
QID: P1325  (B1822)

Some large centrifugal pumps are interlocked so that the pump will not start unless its discharge valve is at least 90 percent closed. This interlock is provided to minimize the...

A. pump discharge pressure.  
B. heating of the pumped fluid.  
C. cavitation at the pump suction.  
D. duration of the pump motor starting current.  

Answer: D.

Topic: 191004  
Knowledge: K1.08  [2.4/2.6]  
QID: P2622  (B821)

Which one of the following contains two reasons for starting a typical radial-flow centrifugal pump with the discharge piping full of water and the discharge valve closed?

A. Prevent pump runout and prevent motor overspeed.  
B. Prevent pump runout and ensure lubrication of pump seals.  
C. Prevent water hammer and ensure adequate pump recirculation flow.  
D. Prevent water hammer and prevent excessive duration of starting current.  

Answer: D.

-55-  
Pumps
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system and the associated pump/system operating curves (see figure below) in which pumps A and B are identical single-speed centrifugal pumps and only pump A is operating.

If pump B is started, system flow rate will be _________ and common pump discharge pressure will be _________.

A. the same; higher

B. higher; the same

C. the same; the same

D. higher; higher

ANSWER: D.
TOPIC: 191004  
KNOWLEDGE: K1.09  [2.4/2.5]  
QID: P1823

Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system and the associated pump/system operating curves (see figure below).

Pumps A and B are identical single-speed centrifugal pumps, and only pump A is operating. If pump B is started, after the system stabilizes system flow rate will be...

A. twice the original flow.

B. the same as the original flow.

C. less than twice the original flow.

D. more than twice the original flow.

ANSWER: C.
A centrifugal pump is operating in parallel with a positive displacement pump in an open water system. Each pump has the same maximum design pressure.

If pump discharge pressure increases to the maximum design pressure of each pump, the centrifugal pump will be operating at ______________ flow and the positive displacement pump will be operating near ______________ flow.

A. minimum; minimum
B. minimum; maximum rated
C. maximum rated; minimum
D. maximum rated; maximum rated

ANSWER: B.
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system (see figure below).

Pumps A and B are identical single-speed centrifugal pumps and both pumps are operating. If pump B trips, after the system stabilizes, system flow rate will be...

A. more than one-half the original flow.

B. one-half the original flow.

C. less than one-half the original flow.

D. the same; only the pump head will change.

ANSWER: A.
Which one of the following is an indication of pump runout?

A. Low pump flow rate
B. High pump vibration
C. Low pump motor current
D. High pump discharge pressure

ANSWER: B.

Which one of the following is an indication of pump runout?

A. High discharge pressure
B. Low pump motor current
C. High pump flow rate
D. Pump flow reversal

ANSWER: C.
Which one of the following describes typical radial-flow centrifugal pump runout conditions?

A. High discharge pressure, low flow, high power demand
B. High discharge pressure, high flow, low power demand
C. Low discharge pressure, low flow, low power demand
D. Low discharge pressure, high flow, high power demand

ANSWER: D.

A centrifugal pump is operating at its maximum design flow rate, delivering water through two parallel valves. Valve "A" is half open, and valve "B" is one quarter open.

Which one of the following will occur if both valves are fully opened?

A. The pump will operate at shutoff head.
B. The pump available net positive suction head will increase.
C. The pump required net positive suction head will decrease.
D. The pump will operate at runout conditions.

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below).

Which point represents pump operation at runout conditions?

A. Point A
B. Point B
C. Point C
D. Point D

ANSWER: C.
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system in which only centrifugal pump A is operating and the common pump discharge valve is currently 90 percent open (see figure below).

An abnormal total heat load on the cooling water system is causing pump A to approach operation at runout conditions. Which one of the following will cause pump A to operate farther away from runout conditions? (Assume that satisfactory available net positive suction head is maintained at all times.)

A. Starting pump B.

B. Positioning the discharge valve to 100 percent open.

C. Raising the water level in the surge tank by 2 feet.

D. Decreasing heat exchanger service water flow rate by 10 percent.

ANSWER: A.
A flow-limiting venturi in the discharge piping of a centrifugal pump decreases the potential for the pump to experience...

A. runout  
B. reverse flow  
C. shutoff head  
D. water hammer  

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of a lube oil temperature control system and the associated pump/system operating curves (see figure below).

The pump is initially operating at point B. If the temperature control valve modulates farther open, operating point B will be located on curve __________, closer to point ___________. (The options below refer to curves 1 and 2 exactly as shown in the figure.)

A. 1; D
B. 2; A
C. 1; E
D. 2; C

ANSWER: D.
The pump is initially operating at point B. If the temperature control valve modulates farther closed, operating point B will be located on curve ________, closer to point __________. (The options below assume that curves 1 and 2 are exactly as shown in the figure.)

A. 1; D
B. 2; A
C. 1; E
D. 2; C

ANSWER: B.
Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Initially, a centrifugal pump is operating with a partially open discharge valve in a closed system. The discharge valve is then opened fully.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.
B. 2.
C. 3.
D. 4.

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Two identical constant-speed centrifugal pumps are operating in series in an open system when one pump trips.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.
B. 2.
C. 3.
D. 4.

ANSWER: C.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.14 [2.4/2.5]
QID: P1324 (B1878)

Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Initially, a single centrifugal pump is operating in a cooling water system. Another identical centrifugal pump is started in series with the first.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.
B. 2.
C. 3.
D. 4.

ANSWER: C.
Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Two identical constant-speed centrifugal pumps are operating in parallel in an open system when one pump trips.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.
B. 2.
C. 3.
D. 4.

ANSWER: A.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.14 [2.4/2.5]
QID: P1624

Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Initially, one constant-speed centrifugal pump is operating in an open system. Another identical centrifugal pump is started in parallel with the first.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.
B. 2.
C. 3.
D. 4.

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Initially, a centrifugal pump is initially operating in a closed water system and discharging through a single heat exchanger. A second heat exchanger is then placed in service in parallel with the first.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.
B. 2.
C. 3.
D. 4.

ANSWER: D.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.14 [2.4/2.5]
QID: P1921 (B925)

Refer to the drawing of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below).

Which one of the following determines the general shape of the curve from point C to point D?

A. The frictional and throttling losses in the piping system as the system flow rate increases.

B. The frictional losses between the pump impeller and its casing as the differential pressure (D/P) across the pump increases.

C. The pump flow losses due to the decrease in available net positive suction head as the system flow rate increases.

D. The pump flow losses due to back leakage through the clearances between the pump impeller and casing as the D/P across the pump increases.

ANSWER: A.
A centrifugal pump is initially operating at point B. If the pump speed is reduced by one-half, the new operating point will be located on curve __________, closer to point __________. (Assume that no other changes occur in the system.)

A. 1; D
B. 2; A
C. 1; E
D. 2; C

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the drawing of a lube oil temperature control system (see figure below).

The pump is operating with the temperature control valve one-half open. If the temperature control valve modulates farther closed, system head loss will _________ and pump head will _________.

A. increase, decrease
B. increase, increase
C. decrease, decrease
D. decrease, increase

ANSWER: B.
Refer to the drawing of a lube oil temperature control system and the associated pump/system operating curves (see figure below).

If the pump is initially operating at point B, how will the operating point change if the temperature controller setpoint is decreased by 10°F?

A. Operating point B will be located on curve 1 closer to point E.
B. Operating point B will be located on curve 1 closer to point D.
C. Operating point B will be located on curve 2 closer to point A.
D. Operating point B will be located on curve 2 closer to point C.

ANSWER: D.
Refer to the drawing showing two operating points for the same centrifugal pump (see figure below).

Operating point A was generated from pump performance data taken six months ago. Current pump performance data was used to generate operating point B. Which one of the following would cause the observed difference between operating points A and B?

A. The pump discharge valve was more open when data was collected for operating point A.
B. The pump discharge valve was more closed when data was collected for operating point A.
C. The pump internal components have worn since data was collected for operating point A.
D. The system piping head loss has increased since data was collected for operating point A.

ANSWER: C.
TOPIC: 191004  
KNOWLEDGE: K1.14 [2.4/2.5]  
QID: P2823 (B2879)

Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Initially, a two-speed centrifugal pump is operating at low speed in a cooling water system and discharging through a heat exchanger. The pump is then switched to high speed.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.  
B. 2.  
C. 3.  
D. 4.  

ANSWER: B.
Refer to the drawing of four sets of centrifugal pump and system operating curves (see figure below). Each set of curves shows a combination of two pump/system operating conditions.

Initially, a two-speed centrifugal pump is operating at fast speed in a cooling water system and discharging through a heat exchanger. The pump is then switched to slow speed.

Which set of operating curves depicts the "before" and "after" conditions described above?

A. 1.

B. 2.

C. 3.

D. 4.

ANSWER: B.
Refer to the drawing of a cooling water system and the associated pump/system operating curves (see figure below). Pumps A and B are identical single-speed centrifugal pumps and initially only pump A is operating.

Pump B is then started. After the system stabilizes, system flow rate will be...

A. the same as the initial flow rate.
B. less than twice the initial flow rate.
C. twice the initial flow rate.
D. more than twice the initial flow rate.

ANSWER: B.
Refer to the drawing of an operating cooling water system (see figure below). As depicted in the drawing, only two of the three system heat loads are currently in service.

Which one of the following changes to the cooling water system will result in a higher cooling water pump flow rate and a reduced pump discharge head?

A. Increase pump speed by 20 percent.
B. Decrease pump speed by 20 percent.
C. Isolate one of the two in-service heat loads.
D. Place the third system heat load in service.

ANSWER: D.
A centrifugal pump is located adjacent to the bottom of an open water storage tank. The pump is taking suction from a river and discharging to the bottom of the tank. Initially the tank was empty and the pump was operating at point B on the drawing below.

When tank water level reaches 30 feet, the new pump operating point will be located on curve _________, closer to point ___________. (Assume that no other changes occur in the system.)

A. 1; D  
B. 2; A  
C. 1; E  
D. 2; C  

ANSWER: B.
A motor-driven centrifugal pump is operating in an open system with its discharge valve throttled to 50 percent open. If the discharge valve is fully opened, available net positive suction head (NPSH) will __________ and required NPSH will __________.

A. remain the same; increase
B. remain the same; remain the same
C. decrease; increase
D. decrease; remain the same

ANSWER: C.

Increasing the flow rate through a centrifugal pump by throttling open the discharge valve will cause pump head to...

A. increase and stabilize at a higher value.
B. decrease and stabilize at a lower value.
C. remain constant.
D. increase, then decrease following the pump's efficiency curve.

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal pump is operating at rated conditions in an open system. If the pump recirculation valve is opened farther, pump discharge pressure will ___________ and pump flow rate will ___________.

A. increase; decrease
B. decrease; increase
C. increase; increase
D. decrease; decrease

ANSWER: B.

A centrifugal pump is operating normally in an open system with all valves fully open. If the pump discharge valve is throttled to 50 percent, pump suction pressure will ___________ and pump discharge pressure will ___________.

A. increase; decrease
B. decrease; increase
C. increase; increase
D. decrease; decrease

ANSWER: C.
A variable-speed centrifugal pump is operating at rated speed in an open system. If the pump speed is decreased by 50 percent, available net positive suction head (NPSH) will ________ and required NPSH will ________.

A. increase; decrease
B. increase; remain the same
C. decrease; decrease
D. decrease; remain the same

ANSWER: A.

A motor-driven centrifugal pump is operating in an open system with its discharge valve throttled to 50 percent. How will the pump be affected if the discharge valve is fully opened?

A. Total developed head decreases, and motor current decreases.
B. Total developed head increases, and available net positive suction head decreases.
C. The potential for pump cavitation decreases, and pump differential pressure decreases.
D. Available net positive suction head decreases, and pump differential pressure decreases.

ANSWER: D.
A variable speed motor-driven centrifugal pump is operating at 50 percent speed in an open system. If the pump speed is increased to 100 percent, available net positive suction head (NPSH) will ________ and required NPSH will ________.

A. increase; remain the same
B. increase; increase
C. decrease; remain the same
D. decrease; increase

ANSWER: D.

Which one of the following describes a reason for designing centrifugal pumps with suction nozzles that are larger than their discharge nozzles?

A. Increases total pump head by increasing the velocity head at the suction of the pump.
B. Increases the differential pressure across the pump by decreasing pump head loss.
C. Increases pump available net positive suction head by decreasing head loss at the pump suction.
D. Increases pump capacity by decreasing turbulence at the suction of the pump.

ANSWER: C.
A centrifugal firewater pump is operating to pressurize a fire main. The pump takes suction on a water reservoir. The reservoir water level and the eye of the pump impeller are both at sea level.

Given:

- The pump has a design shutoff head of 100 feet.
- The required net positive suction head (NPSH) for the pump is 15 feet.
- The reservoir water temperature is 60°F.
- A fire hose connected to the fire main is being used to suppress an elevated fire.

At which one of the following elevations (referenced to sea level) will the fire hose spray nozzle first be unable to provide flow? (Disregard head loss in the fire main and fire hose.)

A. 86 feet
B. 101 feet
C. 116 feet
D. 135 feet

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal firewater pump is operating to pressurize a fire main. The pump takes suction from a water reservoir. A fire hose connected to the fire main is being used to suppress an elevated fire.

Given:

- The eye of the pump impeller is located 5 feet above the reservoir water level.
- The pump has a design shutoff head of 120 feet.
- The required net positive suction head (NPSH) for the pump is 15 feet.
- The reservoir water temperature is 60°F.

At which one of the following elevations above the eye of the pump impeller will the fire hose spray nozzle first be unable to provide flow? (Disregard all sources of head loss.)

A. 111 feet  
B. 116 feet  
C. 121 feet  
D. 126 feet  

ANSWER: B.
A centrifugal firewater pump is operating to pressurize a fire main. The pump takes suction from a vented water storage tank. A fire hose connected to the fire main is being used to suppress an elevated fire.

Given:

- The eye of the pump impeller is located 30 feet below the tank water level.
- The pump has a design shutoff head of 120 feet.
- The required net positive suction head (NPSH) for the pump is 15 feet.
- The tank water temperature is 60°F.

At which one of the following elevations above the eye of the pump impeller will the fire hose spray nozzle first be unable to provide flow? (Disregard all sources of head loss.)

A. 106 feet
B. 121 feet
C. 136 feet
D. 151 feet

ANSWER: D.
A motor-driven centrifugal cooling water pump is operating in an open system with its discharge valve fully open. If the discharge valve is repositioned to 50 percent open, the pump’s available net positive suction head (NPSH) will ___________ and the pump’s required NPSH will ___________.

A. remain the same; decrease
B. remain the same; remain the same
C. increase; decrease
D. increase; remain the same

ANSWER: C.

A centrifugal firewater pump is operating to pressurize a fire main. The pump takes suction from a water reservoir. A fire hose connected to the fire main is being used to suppress an elevated fire.

Given:

- The eye of the pump impeller is located 15 feet below the reservoir water level.
- The pump has a design shutoff head of 120 feet.
- The required net positive suction head (NPSH) for the pump is 15 feet.
- The reservoir water temperature is 60°F.

At which one of the following elevations above the reservoir water level will the fire hose spray nozzle first be unable to provide flow? (Disregard all sources of head loss.)

A. 91 feet
B. 106 feet
C. 121 feet
D. 136 feet

ANSWER: C.
A motor-driven centrifugal pump is operating in a closed-loop cooling water system and is unable to achieve its rated volumetric flow rate due to cavitation. Which one of the following will enable the pump to achieve a higher volumetric flow rate before cavitation occurs?

A. Operate the system at a higher pressure.
B. Operate the system at a higher temperature.
C. Remove the existing pump motor and install a motor with a higher horsepower rating.
D. Remove the existing pump and install a same-capacity pump with a higher minimum required net positive suction head rating.

ANSWER: A.
Refer to the graph that represents the head-capacity characteristics for a single-speed centrifugal cooling water pump (see figure below).

Which one of the following lists a pair of parameters that could be represented by curves A and B? (Note: NPSH = net positive suction head.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curve A</th>
<th>Curve B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Pump Head</td>
<td>Available NPSH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Available NPSH</td>
<td>Required NPSH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Required NPSH</td>
<td>System Head Loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. System Head Loss</td>
<td>Pump Head</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ANSWER: B.
Centrifugal pumps A and B are identical except that pump A uses a single-suction impeller while pump B uses a double-suction impeller. If both pumps are pumping water at the same inlet temperature, inlet pressure, and flow rate, single-suction pump A typically will have the __________ impeller axial thrust and the ____________ required net positive suction head.

A. greater; greater
B. greater; smaller
C. smaller; greater
D. smaller; smaller

ANSWER: A.

A motor-driven centrifugal pump is operating normally in a closed loop cooling water system. When the pump discharge flow control valve is opened further, the pump is unable to provide the desired volumetric flow rate due to cavitation. Which one of the following will enable a higher pump volumetric flow rate before cavitation occurs?

A. Remove the existing motor and install a motor with a lower horsepower rating.
B. Remove the existing motor and install a motor with a higher horsepower rating.
C. Remove the existing pump and install a same-capacity pump with a lower minimum net positive suction head requirement.
D. Remove the existing pump and install a same-capacity pump with a higher minimum net positive suction head requirement.

ANSWER: C.
A nuclear power plant is shut down with core decay heat being removed by the residual heat removal (RHR) system. The reactor coolant system (RCS) has been drained to a mid-loop water level of 20 inches in both the hot and cold legs. The operating RHR pump is taking suction from a hot leg and discharging 3,000 gpm to a cold leg.

A loss of RHR flow rate due to vortexing will become more likely if the water level in the hot leg is _________ by six inches or if the RHR system flow rate is _________ by 500 gpm.

A. raised; decreased
B. raised; increased
C. lowered; decreased
D. lowered; increased

ANSWER: D.
The pump is unable to achieve its rated volumetric flow rate due to cavitation. Which one of the following will enable the pump to achieve a higher volumetric flow rate before cavitation occurs?

A. Decrease the service water flow rate.

B. Operate the system at a lower pressure.

C. Move the surge tank connection closer to the suction of the pump.

D. Remove the existing pump motor and install a motor with a higher horsepower rating.

ANSWER: C.
Which one of the following specifies the proper pump discharge valve position and the basis for that position when starting a large radial-flow centrifugal pump?

A. Discharge valve fully open to reduce motor power requirements.

B. Discharge valve throttled to reduce motor power requirements.

C. Discharge valve fully open to ensure adequate pump net positive suction head.

D. Discharge valve throttled to ensure adequate pump net positive suction head.

ANSWER:  B.

A typical single-stage radial-flow centrifugal pump is being returned to service following maintenance on its three-phase AC induction motor. Which one of the following will occur when the pump is started if two of the three motor power leads were inadvertently swapped during restoration?

A. The motor breaker will trip on instantaneous overcurrent.

B. The motor will not turn and will emit a humming sound.

C. The pump will rotate in the reverse direction with reduced or no flow rate.

D. The pump will rotate in the normal direction with reduced flow rate.

ANSWER:  C.
If the speed of a positive displacement pump is increased, the available net positive suction head will ________ and the probability of cavitation will ________.

A. increase; increase
B. decrease; decrease
C. increase; decrease
D. decrease; increase

ANSWER: D.

An increase in positive displacement pump speed will cause the available net positive suction head for the pump to...

A. decrease due to the increase in fluid flow.
B. decrease due to the increase in fluid discharge pressure.
C. increase due to the increase in fluid discharge pressure.
D. increase due to the increase in fluid flow.

ANSWER: A.
TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.20 [2.8/2.8]
QID: P1025

The minimum required net positive suction head for a typical positive displacement pump will increase the most if the pump...

A. motor speed increases from 1,200 rpm to 1,600 rpm.
B. discharge pressure decreases from 100 psig to 50 psig.
C. suction temperature increases from 75°F to 85°F.
D. discharge valve is positioned from 90 percent open to fully open.

ANSWER: A.

TOPIC: 191004
KNOWLEDGE: K1.21 [3.0/3.1]
QID: P1425 (B1125)

Which one of the following describes the proper location for a relief valve that will be used to prevent exceeding the design pressure of a positive displacement pump and associated piping?

A. On the pump suction piping upstream of the suction isolation valve.
B. On the pump suction piping downstream of the suction isolation valve.
C. On the pump discharge piping upstream of the discharge isolation valve.
D. On the pump discharge piping downstream of the discharge isolation valve.

ANSWER: C.
A positive displacement pump (PDP) is operating in an open system. PDP parameters are as follows:

- PDP speed = 1,000 rpm
- PDP discharge pressure = 2,000 psig
- PDP suction pressure = 50 psig
- PDP flow rate = 150 gpm

Which one of the following changes will cause PDP flow rate to exceed 200 gpm?

A. A second identical discharge path is opened.
B. PDP speed is increased to 1,500 rpm.
C. PDP suction pressure is increased to 120 psig.
D. Downstream system pressure is decreased to 1,000 psig.

ANSWER: B.

If the fully-open discharge valve of a reciprocating positive displacement pump is throttled closed approximately 10 percent, pump flow rate will _________ and pump head will _________. (Assume "ideal" pump response.)

A. decrease; increase
B. remain constant; increase
C. decrease; remain constant
D. remain constant; remain constant

ANSWER: B.
A variable-speed positive displacement pump is operating at 100 rpm with a flow rate of 60 gpm in an open system. To decrease pump flow rate to 30 gpm, pump speed must be decreased to approximately...

A. 25 rpm.
B. 35 rpm.
C. 50 rpm.
D. 71 rpm.

ANSWER: C.

Which one of the following conditions will result in the greatest increase in volumetric flow rate through a positive displacement pump?

A. Doubling the pump speed
B. Doubling pump net positive suction head
C. Reducing downstream system pressure by one-half
D. Positioning the discharge valve from half open to full open

ANSWER: A.
Which one of the following describes single-speed pump operating characteristics?

A. Centrifugal pumps deliver a variety of flow rates at a constant head.
B. Centrifugal pumps deliver a constant head over a variety of flow rates.
C. Positive displacement pumps deliver a variety of flow rates at a constant head.
D. Positive displacement pumps deliver a constant flow rate over a variety of heads.

ANSWER: D.

A positive displacement pump (PDP) is operating in an open system. PDP parameters are as follows:

- PDP speed = 480 rpm
- PDP discharge pressure = 1,000 psig
- PDP suction pressure = 10 psig
- PDP flow rate = 60 gpm

Which one of the following changes will cause PDP flow rate to exceed 100 gpm?

A. PDP speed is increased to 900 rpm.
B. A second identical discharge path is opened.
C. PDP suction pressure is increased to 40 psig.
D. Downstream system pressure is decreased to 500 psig.

ANSWER: A.
An ideal (no slip) reciprocating positive displacement pump is operating to provide makeup water to a reactor coolant system that is being maintained at 2,200 psig. The discharge valve of the pump was found to be throttled to 80 percent open.

If the valve is subsequently fully opened, pump flow rate will ________ and pump head will ________.

A. increase; decrease
B. remain constant; decrease
C. increase; remain constant
D. remain constant; remain constant

ANSWER: B.

A variable-speed positive displacement pump is operating at 100 rpm with a flow rate of 60 gpm in an open system. To decrease pump flow rate to 25 gpm, pump speed must be decreased to approximately...

A. 17 rpm.
B. 33 rpm.
C. 42 rpm.
D. 64 rpm.

ANSWER: C.
Which one of the following will result in the greatest increase in volumetric flow rate to a system that is currently receiving flow from a positive displacement pump operating at 400 rpm with a discharge pressure of 100 psig?

A. Increase pump speed to 700 rpm.

B. Reduce system pressure to decrease pump discharge pressure to 40 psig.

C. Start a second identical positive displacement pump in series with the first.

D. Start a second identical positive displacement pump in parallel with the first.

ANSWER: D.
A section of reactor coolant piping is being hydrostatically tested to 2,900 psig using a positive displacement pump. The operating characteristics of the positive displacement pump are shown below, identifying ideal, expected, and actual pump performance.

Which one of the following could cause the observed difference between the expected and the actual pump performance?

A. Pump internal leakage is greater than expected.

B. Reactor coolant piping boundary valve leakage is greater than expected.

C. Available NPSH has decreased more than expected, but remains slightly above required NPSH.

D. A relief valve on the pump discharge piping has opened prior to its setpoint of 2,900 psig.

ANSWER: A.
Which one of the following conditions will result in the greatest increase in volumetric flow rate from a positive displacement pump operating at 300 rpm and a discharge pressure of 100 psig?

A. Increasing pump speed to 700 rpm
B. Decreasing pump discharge pressure to 40 psig
C. Starting a second identical positive displacement pump in series with the first
D. Starting a second identical positive displacement pump in parallel with the first

ANSWER: A.

An ideal (no slip) reciprocating positive displacement pump is operating in an open system to provide makeup water to a coolant system that is being maintained at 800 psig. The discharge valve of the pump is full open.

If the pump discharge valve is subsequently throttled to 80 percent open, pump flow rate will _________ and pump head will _________.

A. decrease; increase
B. decrease; remain constant
C. remain constant; increase
D. remain constant; remain constant

ANSWER: C.
A pump is needed to supply fuel oil from a day tank to a diesel engine fuel injection system. The pump must maintain a nearly constant flow rate with a minimum of discharge pressure fluctuations as system pressure varies between 200 psig and 1,900 psig.

Which one of the following types of pumps would typically be used in this application?

A. Axial flow centrifugal
B. Radial flow centrifugal
C. Rotary positive displacement
D. Reciprocating positive displacement

ANSWER: C.

An ideal positive displacement pump is pumping to a system operating at 100 psig. Assume pump speed is constant, zero pump slip, and pump backpressure remains within normal pump operating limits.

If system pressure increases to 200 psig, the pump head will ________; and pump flow rate will ________. 

A. increase; remain the same
B. increase; decrease
C. remain the same; remain the same
D. remain the same; decrease

ANSWER: A.
A positive displacement pump is initially supplying water at 40 gpm with a pump discharge pressure of 400 psia. Then, pump speed is increased until pump flow rate is 80 gpm. What is the pump discharge pressure at the new pump flow rate of 80 gpm?

A. 800 psia
B. 1,000 psia
C. 1,200 psia
D. 1,600 psia

ANSWER: B.
A positive displacement pump is initially supplying water at 40 gpm with a pump discharge pressure of 200 psia. Then, pump speed is increased until pump flow rate is 80 gpm. What is the pump discharge pressure at the new pump flow rate of 80 gpm?

A. 400 psia
B. 800 psia
C. 1,000 psia
D. 1,600 psia

ANSWER: B.
When starting a positive displacement pump, why must the pump discharge valve be fully open?

A. Prevents pump cavitation.
B. Reduces motor starting current.
C. Minimizes the potential for water hammer.
D. Ensures integrity of the pump and system piping.

ANSWER: D.

What is the purpose of the safety/relief valve located between the pump outlet and the discharge isolation valve of most positive displacement pumps?

A. Protect the pump and suction piping from overpressure if the discharge valve is open during system startup.
B. Protect the pump and suction piping from overpressure if the suction valve is closed during pump operation.
C. Protect the pump and discharge piping from overpressure if the discharge valve is closed during pump operation.
D. Protect the pump and discharge piping from overpressure due to thermal expansion of pump contents when the pump is stopped with its suction valve closed.

ANSWER: C.
A positive displacement pump should be started with its suction valve _______ and its discharge valve _______.

A. fully open; throttled
B. fully open; fully open
C. throttled; throttled
D. throttled; fully open

ANSWER: B.

A positive displacement pump should be started with its suction valve _______ and its discharge valve _______.

A. open; open
B. open; closed
C. closed; open
D. closed; closed

ANSWER: A.