

Rubber Capping Test Equipment

NZRMCA Technical Note 4



Introduction

Many users are reporting serious pitting of the metal sub platen assembly of these rigs.

A piece of equipment was tested at Canterbury University and the results showed that the sub platen had a **Rockwell B** surface hardness of between **70-80**. This is significantly lower than specification recommendations normally needed for a sub platen assembly.

Such testing equipment needs to have a Rockwell C surface hardness of 55.

The deterioration of the sub platen surface can start to influence the strength results being obtained. The speed with which the surface deteriorates is directly related to the surface hardness of the equipment.

Recommendations

1. When ordering any new equipment, make sure the equipment specification includes the requirement for the bearing surface to have a C55 Rockwell Hardness.
2. When pitting becomes extensive (see photograph) consideration should be given to having the existing sub platens machined and surface hardened.



**Prepared by the NZRMCA Technical Committee
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