

## Incorrect Vibration dampers

### ISSUE IDENTIFIED:

A crew sent to repair a vibration damaged conductor with broken conductor strands near clamp on GOR-HWB A pole 173, identified significant corrosion of the conductor under the vibration damper clamp.

Dampers were removed from all 3 phases to prevent further deterioration, and were found to be **incorrect** damper stock code L044606.

The **correct** damper stock code for 19/2.34 Copper diameter 11.68mm is L044620



*Figure 1: shows incorrect alluminium alloy clamp L044606 removed from conductors, corrosion resulting from dissimilar metals can be seen on the clamp.*

### CONTIBUTING FACTORS:

- The correct dampers for copper conductors have conductor clamps made of a steel alloy (L044620) as opposed to the aluminium alloy (L044606) for the other conductors types
- A review of historical scanned QA records indicates that most of the incorrect vibration dampers were installed by projects in the mid to late 1990's
- Incorrect Damper stock code L044606 does not exist in Maximo or in any stock lists
- Some installations around this time did not comply with now superceded TP.ML 03.26 Installation of Vibration Dampers

### ACTIONS TAKEN TO PREVENT REOCCURENCE:

Transpower requires the correct vibration damper clamps to be used

- Desktop analysis of CA photos showed mostly steel alloy damper clamps on GOR-HWB
- However Poles 176 and 197 appear to be alloy and will be checked on next patrol
- Teams are reminded to ensure dampers are installed in compliance with TP.SS 02.16 which specifies :
  - Damper Stock Code L044620 – for Copper conductors
  - Damper Stock Code L044606 – for ACSR conductors (coyote 15.89mm to skunk 12.95mm)
- This alert is to remind maintenance and project teams to ensure correct damper stock code is used

### LEARNINGS FROM THIS

- All Service Delivery Managers, Project Managers, and Service Providers must report any instances they come across, where dampers with aluminium clamps have been incorrectly fitted to copper conductors. It is essential that all dampers are selected, installed and maintained in accordance with TP.SS 02.16 Installation and maintenance of conductor, conductor accessories and aerial communications cables.



Quality Alert REF No : 2018-001

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