

## **Hose Care and Maintenance**

Hose has a limited life and the user must be alert to signs of impending failure, particularly when the conditions of service include high working pressures and/or the conveyance or containment of hazardous materials. The periodic inspection and testing procedures described here provide a schedule of specific measures which constitute a minimum level of user action to detect signs indicating hose deterioration or loss of performance before conditions leading to malfunction or failure are reached.

### **SAFETY WARNING**

Failure to properly follow the manufacturer's recommended procedures for the care, maintenance and storage of a particular hose might result in its failure to perform in the manner intended and might result in possible damage to property and serious bodily injury. General instructions are also described for the proper storage of hose to minimize deterioration from exposure to elements or environments which are known to be deleterious to rubber products. Proper storage conditions can enhance and extend substantially the ultimate life of hose products.

## **General Care and Maintenance**

Hose should not be subjected to any form of abuse in service. It should be handled with reasonable care. Hose should not be dragged over sharp or abrasive surfaces unless specifically designed for such service. Care should be taken to protect hose from severe end loads for which the hose or hose assembly were not designed. Hose should be used at or below its rated working pressure; any changes in pressure should be made gradually so as not to subject the hose to excessive surge pressures. Hose should not be kinked or be run over by equipment. In handling large size hose, dollies should be used whenever possible; slings or handling rigs, properly placed, should be used to support heavy hose used in oil suction and discharge service.