

On 100 hp engine installations operating in sandy or dusty conditions plus water spray it has been found that the water pump drive belt loses tension and fails to drive the pump adequately.

If the belt becomes wet due to water spray and there is sand or dust grit present any, even minor slippage between belt and pulley can quickly grind the metal surfaces resulting in complete loss of drive tension. To minimize slippage the drive belt must be tight at all times and regular checks are essential. As a field guide to correct tension; if the water-pump pulley can be rotated by hand and the engine and Hovercraft fan turns then the tension is satisfactory, if the pulley slips then it must be tightened. The belt tension range adjustment has been exceeded if the belt and both sprockets must be replaced.