

# Safety Alert 005

Developed with Enertech Limited



## Title: Safety Alert - NU-WAY Series GB 3160 and GB 3500 Gas Boosters

Date issued: 13 November 2009

***This Safety Alert provides guidance to Gas Safe registered businesses/engineers about a product safety concern relating to NU-WAY Series GB 3160 and GB 3500 Gas Boosters***

### Introduction

This Safety Alert has been published to highlight a safety concern with some NU-WAY Series GB 3160 and GB 3500 Gas Boosters. There is a risk of failure of some Gas Boosters manufactured before 1998.

### Background

Enertech Ltd (the manufacturers of NU-WAY Gas Boosters) issued a Product Information Note (PIN No. 108) in 2002, with advice related to the safe operation of type GB3160 and GB3500 Gas Boosters. Enertech Ltd believe that there may still be Boosters in service of these types manufactured before 1998 that have the potential to fail catastrophically and are therefore issuing further safety advice contained PIN No. 108 (D), a copy of which is attached.

Enertech Ltd has recently found a number of gas booster installations that have not been installed or maintained in accordance with current legislation, Industry Standard IGEM/UP/2 Edition 2, or their handbook. These failings could give rise to very dangerous conditions and it is strongly recommend that all gas boosters be checked for safety. Lack of or inadequate maintenance of booster units can lead to the catastrophic failure of the bearing and fan units. The fan bearings and gas seals are of particular importance and depending upon duty have an estimated life span of three to five years.

Experience has shown that maintenance of booster units can be overlooked or undertaken in an inadequate manner. Such practice can lead to the failure of the bearing and fan units.

It is essential that a regular inspection is completed, that the booster is kept in a safe working order and maintained in accordance with good engineering practice, with particular attention being paid to the bearings, fan seals and drive elements.

The Product Information Note (PIN No. 108 (D)) makes reference to a 'strengthening rib' in the gas booster casing. To help identify the 'strengthening rib' also attached is a further document entitled '*How to check for NU-Way GB3160 and GB 3500 gas boosters manufactured without a casing strengthening rib*'.

### Actions to take

If a Gas Safe registered engineer encounters any of the affected Gas Booster models, it is essential that they are checked to ensure that they are operating safely.

For further information, a copy of PIN No. 108 (D) is reproduced overleaf.

For further guidance contact should be made with Enertech Ltd:

- NU-Way Technical helpline: 01905 794331
- Email: [info@nu-way.co.uk](mailto:info@nu-way.co.uk)
- Website: [www.nu-way.co.uk](http://www.nu-way.co.uk)