



**Transport**  
Roads & Maritime  
Services

# Test method T917

Vertical proof load testing of confined elastomeric (pot type) bearings

NOVEMBER 2012



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## Revision Summary

Ed/Rev Number	Clause Number	Description of Revision	Authorisation	Date
		Reformatted and Revision Summary Added	D. Dash	Jun 2001
Ed 2/ Rev 0	All	Reformatted RMS template	J Friedrich	November 2012

Note that Roads and Maritime Services is hereafter referred to as 'RMS'.

The most recent revision to Test method T917 (other than minor editorial changes) are indicated by a vertical line in the margin as shown here.

# Test method T917

## Vertical proof load testing of confined elastomeric (pot type) bearings

### 1. Scope

This method sets out the procedures for the vertical proof load testing of pot type bearings.

### 2. Apparatus

- (a) A compression testing machine with upper and lower platens whose dimensions are greater than the bearings to be tested.
- (b) The force ranges of the machine i.e. both vertical and horizontal calibrated to AS2193 - Grade A.
- (c) Chart recorder.

### 3. Procedure

- (a) Place the bearing in the centre of the loading table with the guide restraints (if guided bearing) at 90° to the side ram axis.
- (b) Place the shear plate, centrally, on the top of the bearing.
- (c) On top of this plate and in the centre, is placed either;
  - (i) a free floating bearing, or,
  - (ii) a guided bearing with guides parallel to side ram axis or,
  - (iii) a calibrated sliding surface.

Note: If bearings are used they must be back to back with the lower bearing.

- (d) The facility is now switched on and the test assembly is pulled back into the test frame (if this is an option in the design of the machine).
- (e) The proof load (1.5 x maximum vertical design load) is applied to the bearing(s) and held for 3 minutes.
- (f) Release the load and lower the bottom platen to its zero position.
- (g) Conduct a visual examination of the rubber section within the bearing and observe any distortions of the rubber face or confining circlip.

### 4. Reporting

Report whether the bearing conforms to the proof load test requirements of the relevant specification.