Adjusting Well Pump Pressure Switches

**CAUTION Hazardous voltage**
Disconnect power before working on the motor or the pressure switch. (figure 1)
The starting and stopping of the pump is controlled by the pressure switch.
The pressure switch is typically pre-set correctly for the application. If the cut-off
or cut-on pressure needs to be changed, follow the procedure below.

**Two-Post Pressure Switches**
Pressure switches with two posts allow adjustment of the cut-on and cut-off
pressure at the same time. The second post allows adjustment of the cut-off
pressure independently (figure 2).

To increase the cut-off and cut-on pressure, turn nut #1 clockwise. The rate of
increase is 2 1/2 PSI for every complete turn of the nut. Do not adjust nut #2. The
above adjustments maintain a 20 PSI differential between cut-on and cut-off
pressures, which is best for pressure tank performance. Very few applications
will need to adjust nut #2.
To raise only the cut-off pressure, turn nut #2 clockwise.
To lower any pressure, turn the nut counter-clockwise.

**NOTICE:** The switch should never be adjusted to cut-on below 20 PSI, or cut-off
above 60 PSI.

**System pressure**
The pressures in a well pump system must keep a set relationship.

- Dead-head pressure: This is the pressure the pump produces when not moving water, as with a closed outlet valve.
  **CAUTION Risk of explosion.**
  *Do not run the pump with a closed discharge longer than needed to read the pressure.*
- Cut-Off Pressure: This is the high pressure that turns off the pump. This should always be at least 5 PSI less than the
dead-head pressure.
- Cut-On Pressure: This is the low pressure that starts the pump. This is typically 20 PSI less than the cut-off pressure.
- Tank Precharge Pressure: This is set 2 PSI less than the cut-on pressure (see chart).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Switch Cut-On Pressure (PSI)</th>
<th>Tank Air Precharge*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
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<td>28</td>
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* With NO water pressure