

Post an installation or upgrade an irrigation system should always be commissioned to ensure it is operating as per the design. The commissioning process should include both operational safety and pressure and flow checks.

A basic as-built plan and operations manual should be provided as part of any installation handover process. These documents are essential as they make the commissioning process easy, alongside help you more easily resolve future issues.

It is therefore critical you ensure they are a requirement of the installation contract alongside a commissioning test.

### Minimum commissioning expectations

#### Pre-start up

- Electrical compliance certification as required for the pump shed, headworks and irrigator
- Visual inspection of pumps, valves, other fittings and each irrigator checking for correct installation
- Verification the irrigation systems sprinklers/ emitters are the correct size and in the correct location

#### Post start-up

- Confirmation the distribution system has been systematically flushed to remove any debris from the installation process
- Visual inspection of pumps, valves, other fittings, pipes, hoses and each irrigator for leaks
- Pressure and where possible flow testing -
  - Before and after the headworks
  - At the inlet to each irrigator or block
  - At the end point of each irrigator or block
- Verification the flow meter and telemetry equipment is accurate

#### Commissioning report

- Summary of the commissioning results as compared with the design performance indicators
- Overview of any corrective action that is required including timeframes for completion.