



GREEN PAPER KETO CASTING QUALITY

KETO casting quality and Chinese production

To remain competitive internationally, most global manufacturers now produce selected components in China.

With focus on the pump industry, Weir Warman manufacture many parts for the global market at Suzhou (near Shanghai). ITT Goulds in Nanjing and Shanghai, ITT Flygt in Shenyang, and KSB in Shanghai.

Like most countries, some Chinese production facilities make world class products; others make components KETO believe are NOT fit for sale.

To be competitive, KETO cast SOME NON WEAR parts in China (such as selected Ductile Iron components). Although companies like Weir Warman have been successful casting white irons in China, to date KETO have not been satisfied with the results so instead cast our wear parts in South Africa, Australia and Malaysia (all foundries are ISO9001 accredited). We will continue to do so until we are satisfied that our quality requirements can be consistently met in China. We will not risk mine production by supplying low cost but inferior parts.

The photo on the left below is of a KETO part produced in Malaysia (normal for KETO acceptable casting quality), and on the right a photo of a rejected part that is typical of the acceptance levels many Chinese facilities find acceptable for export quality.



KETO part produced in Malaysia meets casting quality mandated by KETO.



KETO rejected part typical of white iron castings from China.

Although the photos on the previous page provide a clear visual indication of the difference in the parts quality, KETO QA Control have also been disappointed with things that can't be seen by eye including:

1. Castings found to contain lower chrome levels (cheaper to produce) than acceptable by KETO.
2. Lower hardness levels than acceptable by KETO (cheaper heat treatment processes).
3. Fit problems as not machined to correct tolerances.
4. Inferior mechanical properties than acceptable by KETO (poor overall metallurgy).

Although it costs much more to produce many parts outside China, we at KETO will not risk our reputation by accepting poor quality castings. We will continue to select only parts that meet the industry accepted bench mark and only then start considering lower production costs.

Due to the extended wear life now associated with KETO equipment, some Chinese producers claim to make KETO pumps and parts. **NO original KETO pump has ever been manufactured in China.** Companies claiming to do so are the same that falsely claim to make pumps for Weir Warman.

When you buy KETO products from KETO or a KETO authorised distributor, you can be confident in your purchasing decision.
