CALIBRATION OF A 12-INCH RUBBER INLINE CHECK VALVE

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UTAH WATER RESEARCH LABORATORY

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CALIBRATION OF A 12-INCH RUBBER INLINE CHECK VALVE

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INTRODUCTION

Utah State University was contracted by WAPRO to perform a flow test at the Utah Water Research Laboratory (UWRL) in Logan, Utah on a 12-inch rubber inline check valve manufactured by A cold-water test was performed to determine the discharge coefficient (Cv) for the valve at ten different flow rates. Three individuals from WAPRO were at the laboratory during the valve tests.

EXPERIMENT SETUP

The valve was installed in a 12-inch supply line, which included more than 30 diameters of upstream standard schedule 12-inch carbon steel laboratory pipe (12.000-inch ID). A pressure tap was installed on the invert of the pipe at approximately 2 diameters upstream of the valve (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Test Setup for the 12-Inch Rubber Inline Valve

Laboratory instrumentation was connected to the pressure tap so that differential pressure measurements during the test could be documented. Discharge from the valve was dumped to a laboratory waste channel.

FLOW COEFFICIENT

The coefficient Cv for the valve was calculated using the following equation:

$$Cv = \frac{Q}{\sqrt{\Delta P / sg}}$$

in which Q is the actual flow rate in gallons per minute, ΔP is the gross valve differential pressure reading in pounds per square inch (psi) and sg is the specific gravity of water during this test (sg = 1.0006).

PROCEDURE

Water was supplied to the test line from a reservoir near the hydraulics laboratory. The flow rate and differential pressure were measured for each run. The water temperature was also measured. The differential pressure measurement across the valve was determined by measuring the upstream pressure at the pipe pressure tap located at two diameters upstream of the valve (where the downstream pressure for the free-discharging valve is 0 psi at atmospheric pressure).

All flow measurements were made using a calibrated 12-inch master laboratory magnetic flow meter installed upstream of the test valve and at a lower elevation so it was always running full. The calibration for the magnetic flow meter was previously performed using the laboratory weight tanks. The weight tank is regularly calibrated and is traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Discharge from the test line was controlled using a control valve upstream of the test section.

Valve differentials were measured using a Rosemount differential transmitter. The Rosemount transmitter was carefully zeroed to the invert of the pipe. The transmitter output was averaged during each individual run using an averaging Fluke volt/amp meter. Appropriate ranges were set on the transmitter to minimize uncertainties as the valve differentials changed.

The valve was tested over a wide range of flow rates. The differential pressure and the flow rate were accurately measured and the Cv was calculated for each run. The average Cv is provided in the data table. All instrumentation used is regularly calibrated and traceable to the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

RESULTS

Table 1 summarizes the test results for the valve test. Figure 2 illustrates the relationship between flow rate and the Cv for the valve.

Table 1. Utah Water Research Laboratory Flow Meter Calibration Data

Manufacturer:	10/10/15		
Calibration Leasting	10/13/13	Value Incide Discretes (in) -	0.075
Calibration Location:	12-Inch test line	valve inside Diameter (in.) =	8.875
		Nominal Pipe Dia. =	12-inch
Manufacturer:		Pipe Diameter (in.) =	12.000
Valve Description:	Inline rubber check valve	Pipe Area (ft ²) =	0.79
		Water Temp. (F) =	52.3
Pipe Setup		Unit Weight (lb/ft ³) =	62.40
Upstream:	12" std steel	Kin. Visc. (ft ² /s) =	1.36E-05
Downstream:	none		

Calibration Performed by: Zac Sharp WAPRO representatives Calibration Witnessed by: Inlet Flow Pipe Pipe Flow Condition Reynolds Area ft^2 Velocity Flow Cv Run ΔH No. Number gpm ft fps 5 1 2 3 4 5 6 119.60 0.682 33,801 0.570 0.467 Open Channel 220.12 1 0.829 0.556 55,574 18,458 Open Channel Open Channel 2 3 196.64 0.696 328.17 133.08 0.629 65.31 0.449 0.324 4 272.32 0.968 76,962 0.778 0.780 Open Channel 420.63 5 812.08 1.930 229,507 0.785 2.304 Full Pipe 888.22 Full Pipe 6 1342.88 3.813 379,519 0.785 3.809 1044.93 0.785 Full Pipe 1860.80 525,892 1136.98 6.184 5.279 7 8 2325.60 9.020 657,252 0.785 6.597 Full Pipe 1176.63 9 2720.80 11.750 768,942 0.785 7.718 Full Pipe 1206.11 13.370 0.785 8.288 Full Pipe 1214.12 10 2921.60 825,691

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Rubber Inline Check Valve Tests

Figure 2. Flow Rate vs Cv for the 12-inch inline check valve