Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

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Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- Who
- What
- Why
- When
- Where

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

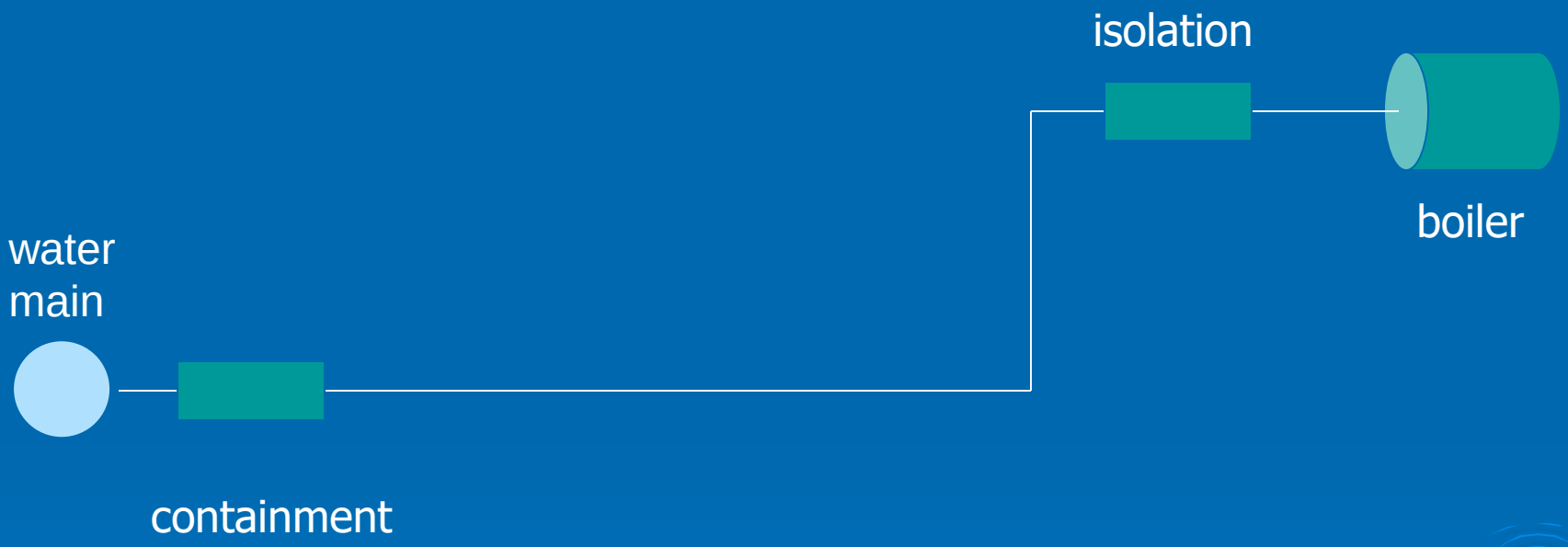
- OAC 3745-95 (C) (2)
  - water supplier to ensure tests are performed
- OAC 3745-95 (C) (3)
  - at intervals & manner specified by water supplier
- OAC 3745-95 (C) (4)
  - performed by a person approved by the water supplier
- OAC 3745-95 (C) (5)
  - at the expense of the consumer

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- Who Can Test:

- the water supplier employees
- OTCO trained testers
- Ohio DOC “Certified Assembly Testers”
- anyone approved by the water supplier

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies



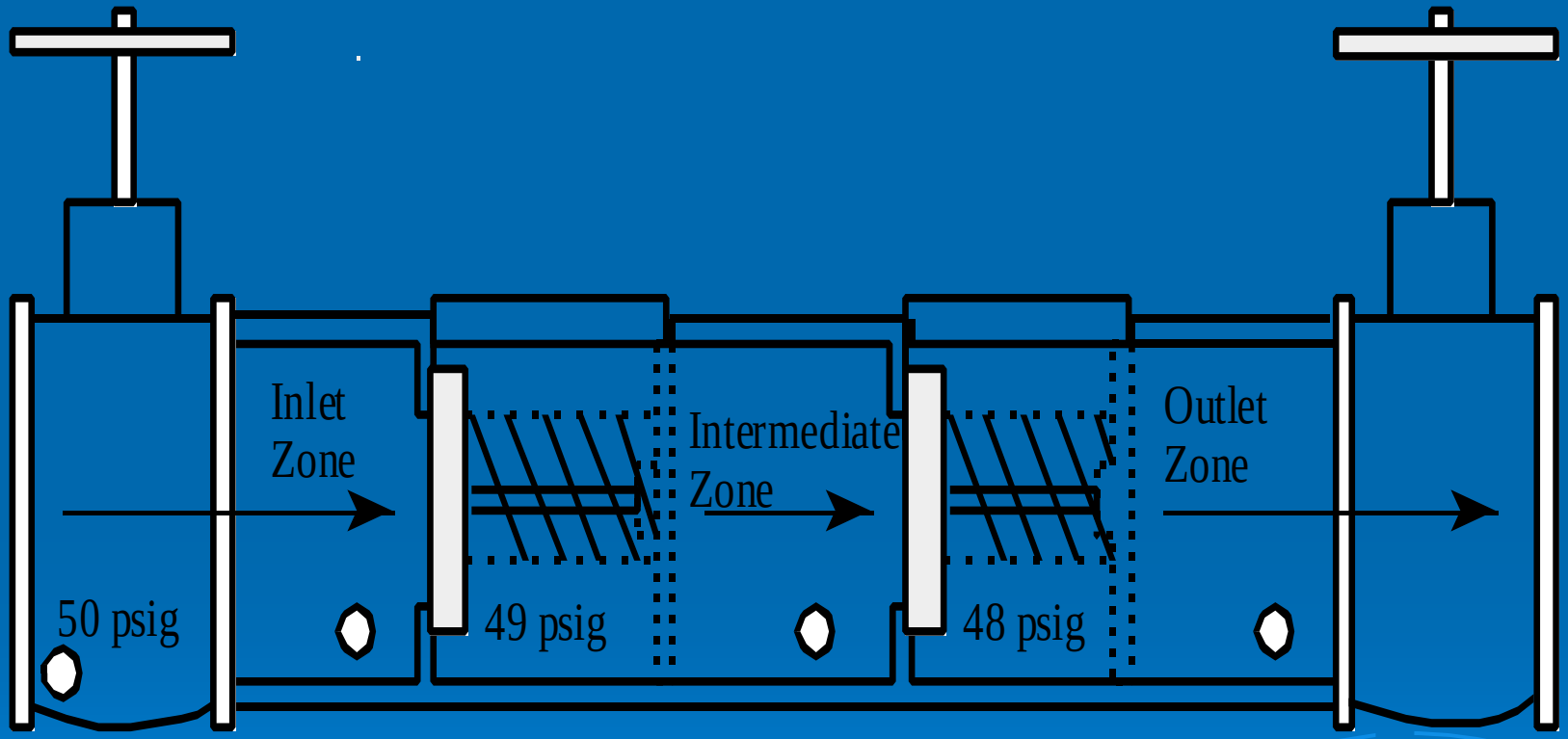
Water supplier (OEPA) has authority over containment assembly

Plumbing Inspection (ODOC) has authority over isolation assembly

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- Approved air-gap separation
- Reduced pressure assembly
- Double check valve assembly
- Pressure vacuum breaker
- Reduced pressure detector assembly
- Double check detector assembly

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies



Outlet Valve drip tight

1st Check = 1 psid minimum

2nd Check = 1 psid minimum

= test cocks

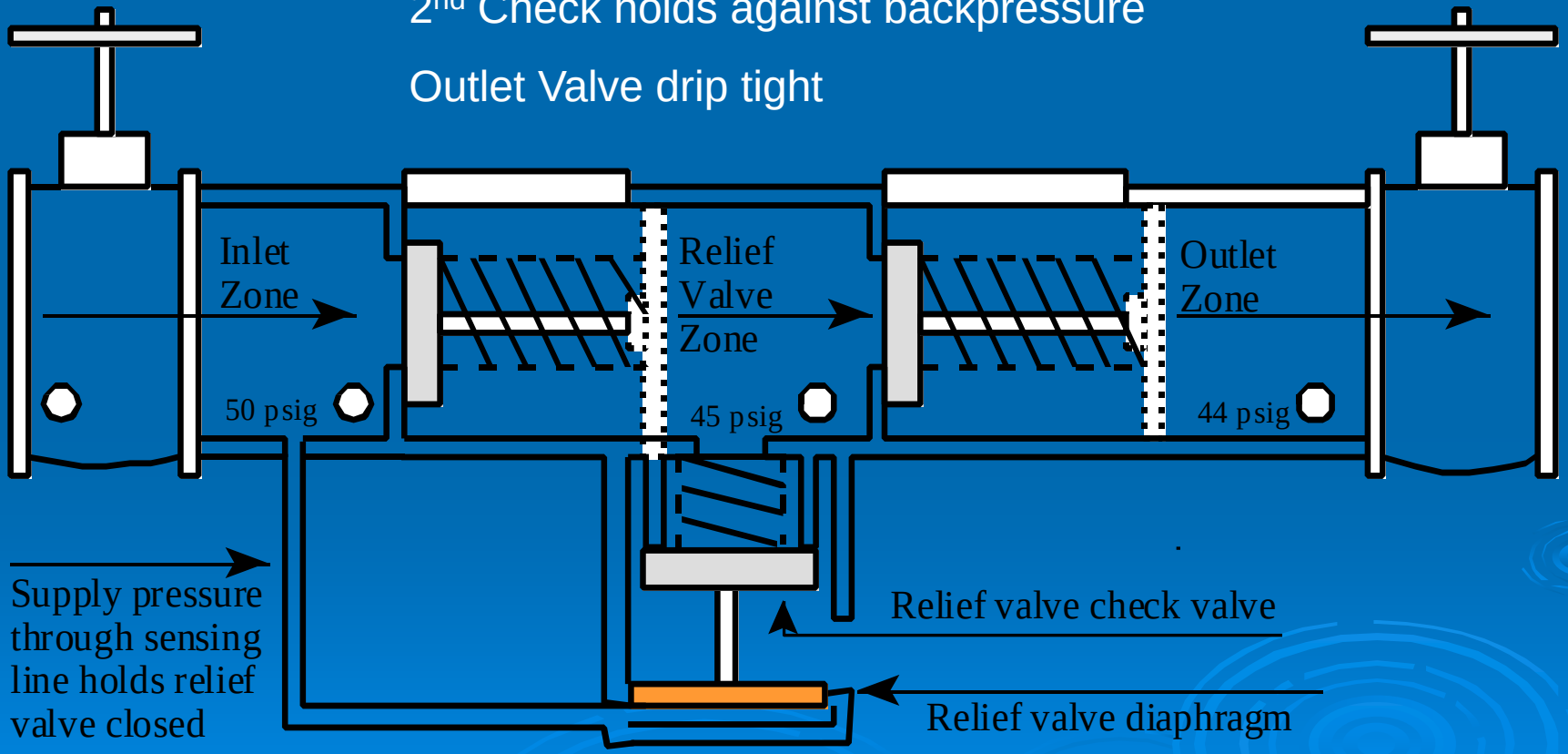
Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

1st Check = 5 psid minimum

Relief Valve opens at 2 psid minimum

2nd Check holds against backpressure

Outlet Valve drip tight



= test cocks

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- Water supplier has liability for the water quality in the public water system (there is no governmental immunity)

- Harvard Furniture v Cambridge
- Keever v Mankato
- Passaic Valley Water Commission
- Gall v Allegheny Health Department
- Aronson v Everett

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- Ohio EPA specifies that:

- an approved air-gap separation shall be inspected at least every 12 months
- a backflow prevention assembly shall be tested at least every 12 months
- a pressure vacuum breaker shall be tested at least every 12 months
- a low-suction pressure cut-off controller shall be tested at least every 12 months

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- OAC 3745-95 (B) Assembly installed at a location & in a manner approved by the water supplier

- minimum 12” & maximum 48” off floor
- adequate space for testing, repair, maintenance
- accessible & free of hazards in area
- horizontal orientation
- no reduced pressure assembly installed in a pit
- no direct piped connection to the relief valve port
- need thermal expansion protection if containment

Testing Backflow Prevention Assemblies

- Who – anyone approved by the water supplier
- What – RPA, DCA, PVB, DCDA & RPDC, Air-Gap
- Why – protect the integrity of the public water system
- When – at least every 12 months
- Where – according to water supplier standards