Fire Hydrant and Valve Maintenance

December 10th 2014

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- 1600's- 1st Water Dist. System in London & Boston
- 1803- 1st Above Ground Hydrant in USA was in Philadelphia
- 1812- 1st "Dry Barrel" Fire Hydrant
- 1874- Rochester, NY Used Separate Water Mains for Fire Fighting Purposes
- 1930's- "Traffic Hydrants" Introduced

Bored out Wooden Logs for Water Mains



- Use of "Fire Plugs"
- Bucket Brigades
- Hand Pumped Fire Engines

Hand Pumped Fire Engines



19th Century Hydrants



Plueger & Henger (St. Louis)



Boston Machine Mfg. Co.



Gilbert Hunt Co. (Walla Walla, WA)



R.D. Wood Co. (Philadelphia)











Types of Fire Hydrants

- Dry Barrel Hydrants
- Wet Barrel Hydrants
- Flush Hydrants
- Post Hydrants
- Dry Hydrants



- •Introduced in 1875
- •Conforms fully with AWWA C502

- Latest Revision of ANSI/AWWA C502 was in 2005
- 1st Edition of Standard Approved in 1913
- Not a Specification
- Describes Only Minimum Requirements
- Use of AWWA Standards is Voluntary

- "Intended to Represent a Consensus of Water Supply Industry that the Product Described will Provide Satisfactory Service"
- Intended as a Guide to Aid the Manufacturer, Consumer & Public
- Does Not Preclude Anyone from Manufacturing a Product that Does not Conform to Standard

- 2 Consultants/Engineers
- 2 Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Reps
- 1 Insurance Rep
- 1 Factory Mutual (FM) Rep
- 8 Manufacturer Reps (Clow, AFC, Waterous, US Pipe, Mueller, East Jordan & AVK)
- 6 Municipal Reps

- Required to Meet a Test of 200 lbf.ft
 Torque Applied at Op Nut in Both Opening
 & Closing Directions
- Designed to be Operated by 1 Person Using a 15" Wrench
- 2 Hydrostatic Tests Twice the Working Pressure
 - ► Interior of Hydrant with Main Valve Open
 - > Against Main Valve Rubber



Mueller Super Centurion



Kennedy K81-D



AFC Darling B84B



AFC Waterous WB67-250 Pacer



U.S. Pipe Met 250



M&H 929 "Reliant"

CLCW

WET BARREL FIRE HYDRANTS



THE ONLY COMPLETE LINE IN THE INDUSTRY...
CAST IRON AND BRONZE HYDRANTS MEETING
AWWA C503 SPECIFICATIONS

CLOW VALVE CO.

1375 Magnolia Avenue Corona, California 91719 Phone 909-735-555 FAX 909-735-0837 1-888-889-2411



VALVE COMPANY

A Division of McWane, Incorporated

CLOW VALVE CO.

902 South 2nd Street Oskaloosa, lowa 52577 Phone 515-673-8611 FAX 515-673-8269 http://clowvalve.com

Wet Barrel Hydrants

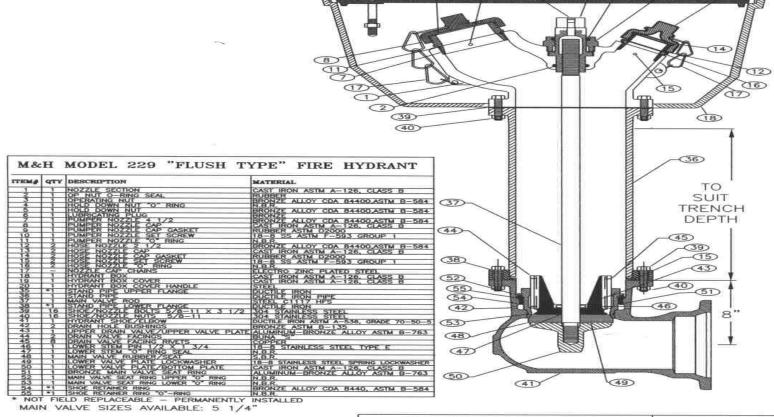


Jones J3700 Model

Flush Hydrants

M&H Flush Type Hydrants are for use where traffic model hydrants protruding above ground might interfere with traffic in such places as airport runways and industrial areas. May be set in vaults or can be supplied with cast iron box and cover. This flush type hydrant sits completely underground and is accessible by simply lifting the box cover. Internal parts of the hydrant are exactly the same as the M&H 129 hydrant.

(19)



150 PSI WORKING PRESSURE 300 PSI HYDROSTATIC TEST PRESSURE

HYDRANT SHOE STYLES AVAILABLE: 6" - MECHANICAL JOINT 6" - FLANGED M&H VALVE COMPANY
ANNISTON, ALABAMA
A DIVISION OF MCWANE INC.

(10) (6)

DWN: TRIJ

DATE: 7/1/05

DWG. NO.

FH-229

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Post Hydrants

- Special Purpose Hydrant for Use Where Firefighting is Not the Primary Function
- Smaller in Size than AWWA Standard
- MVO Size Usually 2 1/2"
- Most Often for Wash Down Service at Treatment Plants
- Other Uses: Flush or Bleed Air Pockets, or Fill Tanks in Non-Emergency Service

Post Hydrants



Dry Hydrants



Fire Hydrant Terminology

- Direction of Opening
- Hose Connection
- Pumper (Steamer) Connection
- MVO 4.5" or 5.25"
- Draining or Non-Draining (Plugged)
- Traffic Model
- Depth of Bury

Fire Hydrant Components

- Operating Nut
- Packing Nut
- Cover (Bonnet)
- Nozzle Section
- Pumper Nozzle & Cap
- Hose Nozzles & Caps
- Break Flanges

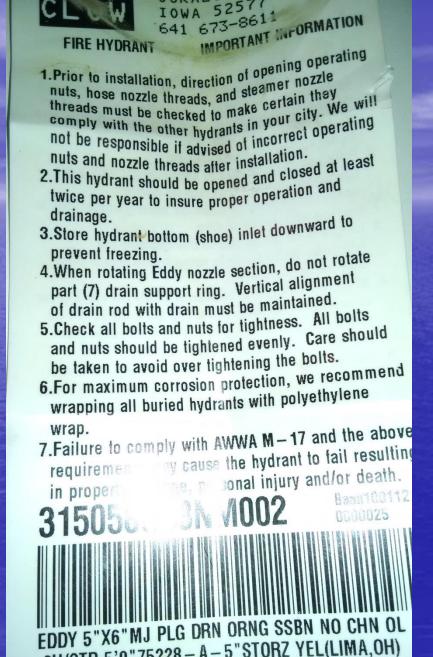
Fire Hydrant Components

- Standpipe
- Bottom (Shoe/Boot)
- Upper Stem
- Middle Stem
- Lower Stem
- Stem Nut
- Break (Traffic) Coupling
- Break-Away Bolts









2H/STR 5'0"75228-A-5"STORZ YEL(LIMA,OH)

515 lbs/pc INC.HYD AREA

MADD WAREATA



- Manufacturer & Model of Hydrant
- Size & Shape of Operating Nut & Nozzle Caps
- Size & Number of Pumper & Hose Connections
- Nozzles Thread Specification
- Direction of Opening
- Depth of Bury

- Size & Type of Inlet Connection (4", 6", 8"; MJ, Flanged, Tyton)
- Size of Main Valve (4.5" or 5.25")
- Retighten Nuts & Bolts
- Check for Damage That Might Have Occurred During Shipment

- Install Hydrants At Least 2' Away from Curb
- Face Pumper (Steamer) Nozzle Toward Street
- Nozzles Should be At Least 18" Above Ground Line
- Eliminate any Obstructions That Prevent Easy Removal of Nozzle Caps

- Auxiliary Gate Valve Should be Installed At Least 4' Away from Hydrant
- Restrain Hydrant by Using an Approved Joint Restraint or Thrust Block
- If Pouring a Thrust Block, Be Careful Not to Plug Drain Holes (Draining Hydrants Only)

Adopt a Flow Color Scheme

> >1500 GPM

Light Blue

> 1000-1500 GPM

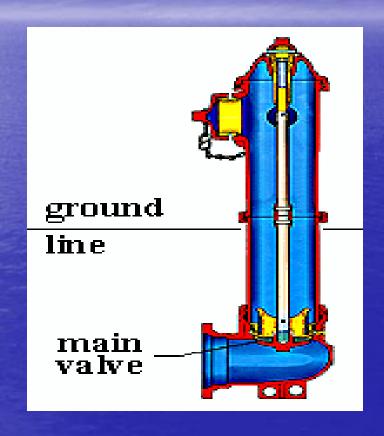
Green

> 500-999 GPM

Orange

> <500 GPM

Red



Depth of Bury is Very Important

Depth of Bury

 AWWA Defines it as the "Distance Measured to the Nearest ½ foot from the Bottom of the Connecting Pipe to the Groundline of the Hydrant"



Safety First

- 400 U.S. Workers Die in Trench Related Accidents Each Year
- About 6400 Workers are Seriously Injured

Routine Maintenance

- Fall & Spring Flushing & Inspection
- Open Hydrant Fully
- Check Hydrants for Leakage Past the Seat
- Look for Leakage at the Flanges
- Check to See if Hydrants Need Extensions
- Check Nozzles/Caps & Apply "Never-Seez" (if Desired)

Routine Maintenance

- Check Chains for Free Action
- Lubricate Operating Mechanism with Oil or Grease (if Applicable)
- Update Record Keeping
- Location
- Identification
- Manufacturer & Model
- Cast Date

Common Errors With Fire Hydrants



Extension Needed

Common Errors With Fire Hydrants



Hydrants Buried Too Low May Not Break-Off Correctly if Struck



Common Errors With Fire Hydrants



Hydrants Buried Too High May Not Break-Off Correctly if Struck



- Hydrant Leaks Past Seat (Most Common)
- Hydrant Spins Freely When Operated
- Hydrant is Hard to Open
- Hydrant Didn't Break off Properly
- Hydrant Leaks at One of the Flanges
- Hydrant Chatters When Operated
- Ground around hydrant is saturated with water

Hydrant Leaks Past Seat



Hydrant Spins Freely When Operated

- Break Coupling is Broken
- Stem is Broken

- Hydrant is Hard to Open
- Grease/Oil is Needed
- Stem is Bent
- Rubber Packing is Worn (Eddy Hydrants)
- Drain Slides are Worn

Hydrant Didn't Break off Properly





Hydrant Didn't Break off Properly

- Hydrant not Installed Properly
- Wrong Coupling Installed at Ground Line
- Inadequate Soil Conditions

Hydrant Leaks at One of the Flanges

- Nuts & Bolts are Loose
- O-ring/Gasket is Damaged or Missing

- Hydrant Chatters When Operated
- Break Kit/Extension Installed That Isn't From Manufacturer
- Drain Slides are Damaged or Worn
- Incorrect Length of Stem
- Coupling is Stretched
- Multiple Extensions are Installed

Ground around hydrant is saturated with water

- Hydrant isn't off all the way
- Debris Stuck in Main Valve Rubber

Nozzles are Facing the Wrong Direction

Hydrant Opens the Wrong Direction

- High Water Table
- Frozen Hydrants in Winter

Quiz

- The Auxiliary Gate Valve Should be Installed How Many Feet Away from the Hydrant?
- **4**
- Nozzles Should be At Least How Many Inches Above Ground Line When Hydrant is Installed?
- **18**
- When was the 1st "Dry Barrel" Fire Hydrant Introduced?
- 1812

Valve Maintenance for Resilient Seat Gate Valve

- Installation
- Operation
- Inspection and Maintenance

- Check that valve ends joints are clean.
 Again check for damage to the valve.
 Open and close valve to insure proper operation. Close wedge before placing valve in trench line.
- Handle valve carefully. Do not drop into position. Do not sling through the port opening

- Prepare pipe ends according to manufacturer's instructions. Install valve per proper methods according to end joint type. All piping should be properly supported to avoid line stress on the valve. Do not use the valve as a jack to force a pipeline into position
- A valve box or vault should be provided for each valve used in a buried service application. These should be installed such

- That no load is transferred to the valve
- Before pressurization of the pipeline and valve, all pressure containing bolting (cover, follower plate, end connection) should be inspected for adequate tightness. (usually 90 ft lbs)
- Buried valves should be pressurized before backfilling

- With valve in open position, the entire system should be thoroughly flushed to clean the system. Debris in the valve could prevent valve from closing or possibly damage the resilient material on the wedge.
- Upon completion of installation, gate valve location, size, type, date of installation, number of turns to open, direction of opening should recorded.

Operation

- Do not operate valves in systems that exceed the rated working pressure of the valve. (2-20" 250psi, 24" 200 psi)
- System should be completely flushed before valve is operated in normal cycle
- The R/W valve opens and closes by turning the main valve stem with an operating nut or handwheel

Operation

- The valve closes by compressing the resilient material bonded to the wedge against the valve body.
- If the valve fails to seal after necessary number of turns, open the valve four or five times and reseat.

Inspection and Maintenance

- Frequency of inspection should be based on frequency of operation. Semi annual inspections are minimum recommended.
- Valve should not be disassembled unless a breakdown has occurred.
- During inspection, the valve should be opened and closed with pressure in the pipeline. The valve should function freely with no binding or vibration

Inspection and Maintenance

Count the number of turns to full closed. This will reveal an obstruction if correct number of turns are not achieved.

RW Valve Operation and Maintenance

All gaskets and joints should be checked for leakage and tightness.

With the valve closed and pressure against the wedge, a check for leakage is possible by 'listening" to the valve for flow. A stethoscope will help this procedure

Inspection and Maintenance

- Attached actuators should be inspected per manufacturer's recommendations provided with those units
- OS&Y Valves should have the exposed stem lubricated at each inspection. Check the stuffing box bolts for tightness.
- A permanent inspection record should be kept for each valve.

Thanks for coming!

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