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# **Examination Standard for Playpipes**

**Class Number 1411**

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# Foreword

This standard is intended to verify that the products and services described will meet stated conditions of performance, safety and quality useful to the ends of property conservation. The purpose of this standard is to present the criteria for examination of various types of products and services.

Examination in accordance with this standard shall demonstrate compliance and verify that quality control in manufacturing shall ensure a consistent and reliable product.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose

- 1.1.1 This standard states testing and certification requirements for playpipes.
- 1.1.2 Testing and certification criteria may include performance requirements, marking requirements, examination of manufacturing facility(ies), audit of quality assurance procedures, and a surveillance program.

### 1.2 Scope

- 1.2.1 Playpipes for 2½ in. hose are used for fire fighting and for measuring water flows. The underwriter playpipe has an over-all length of 30 in.; the short playpipe has an over-all length of 15 in. Both use the same tip.

### 1.3 Basis for Requirements

- 1.3.1 The requirements of this standard are based on experience, research and testing, and/or the standards of other organizations. The advice of manufacturers, users, trade associations, jurisdictions and/or loss control specialists was also considered.
- 1.3.2 The requirements of this standard reflect tests and practices used to examine characteristics of alarm check valves for the purpose of obtaining certification.

### 1.4 Basis for Certification

Certification is based upon satisfactory evaluation of the product and the manufacturer in the following major areas:

- 1.4.1 Examination and tests on production samples shall be performed to evaluate:
  - the suitability of the product;
  - the performance of the product as specified by the manufacturer and required for certification;
  - the durability and reliability of the product.
- 1.4.2 An examination of the manufacturing facilities and audit of quality control procedures may be conducted to evaluate the manufacturer's ability to consistently produce the product, which is examined and tested, and the marking procedures used to identify the product. Subsequent surveillance may be required by the certification agency in accordance with the certification scheme to ensure ongoing compliance.

### 1.5 Basis for Continued Certification

The basis for continual certification may include the following based upon the certification scheme and requirements of the certification agency:

- production or availability of the product as currently certified;
- the continued use of acceptable quality assurance procedures;

- compliance with the terms stipulated by the certification;
- satisfactory re-examination of production samples for continued conformity to requirements; and
- satisfactory surveillance audits conducted as part of the certification agency's product surveillance program.

### 1.6 Effective Date

The effective date of this examination standard mandates that all products tested for certification after the effective date shall satisfy the requirements of this standard.

The effective date of this standard is eighteen (18) months after the publication date of the standard for compliance with all requirements.

### 1.7 System of Units

Units of measurement used in this standard are United States (U.S.) customary units. These are followed by their arithmetic equivalents in International System (SI) units, enclosed in parentheses. The first value stated shall be regarded as the requirement. The converted equivalent value may be approximate. Conversion of U.S. customary units is in accordance with ANSI/IEEE/ASTM SI 10.

Two units (liter and bar), outside of but recognized by SI, are commonly used in international fire protection and are used in this standard.

### 1.8 Normative References

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the cited edition applies:

ANSI B 2.3, *Fire Hose Coupling Screw Threads*

## 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

### 2.1 Certification Application Requirements

The manufacturer shall provide the following preliminary information with any request for certification consideration:

- a complete list of all models, types, sizes, and options for the products or services being submitted for certification consideration;
- general assembly drawings, complete set of manufacturing drawings, materials list, anticipated marking format, piping and electrical schematics, nameplate format, brochures, sales literature, spec. sheets, installation, operation and maintenance procedures, and
- the number and location of manufacturing facilities.

All documents shall identify the manufacturer's name, document number or other form of reference, title, date of last revision, and revision level. All foreign language documents shall be provided with English translation.

### 2.2 Requirements for Samples for Examination

2.2.1 Following authorization of certification examination, the manufacturer shall submit samples for examination and testing based on the following:

- Sample requirements to be determined by the certification agency.

2.2.2 Requirements for samples may vary depending on design features, results of prior or similar testing, and results of any foregoing tests.

2.2.3 The manufacturer shall submit samples representative of production.

2.2.4 It is the manufacturer's responsibility to provide any necessary test fixtures, such as those which may be required to evaluate the playpipes.

### 3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

#### 3.1 Review of Documentation

- 3.1.1 During the initial investigation and prior to physical testing, the manufacturer's specifications, technical data sheets, and design details shall be reviewed to assess the ease and practicality of installation and use. The product shall be capable of being used within the limits of the certification investigation.

#### 3.2 Physical or Structural Features

- 3.2.1 **Playpipe** - The underwriter playpipe consisting of a tip, collar, tube, handle, and butt shall have the dimensions shown in Appendix A. The short playpipe differs only in the length of the tube. All waterways shall have a smooth surface.
- 3.2.2 **Tip** - The intersection of the straight and tapered sections shall be concentric and have a smooth surface. The inlet and outlet shall be shaped to resist deformation by impact. The outlet of the waterway shall be recessed to prevent edge damage. Threads shall be of a design having 12 threads per inch with a  $2\frac{3}{16}$  in. diameter male or female thread. While these specifications do not fully describe the thread, they are adequate for recognition by the playpipe manufacturers.
- 3.2.3 **Collar** - The collar shall be recessed to hold a suitable gasket. Threads shall accept the tip.
- 3.2.4 **Tube** - The tube shall have a straight taper. The tube shall be tightly wound with knot free cord and painted. The tube shall have a length of  $24\frac{9}{16}$  in. or  $9\frac{9}{16}$  in. for the Underwriter and short playpipes respectively with a plus or minus tolerance of  $\frac{1}{8}$  in.
- 3.2.5 **Butt** - The butt shall be recessed to hold a suitable  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. hose washer. The threads shall conform to ANSI B 2.3 —“Fire Hose Coupling Screw Threads”. Other threads interchangeable with those already existing in the specific locality may be certified.
- 3.2.6 **Handles** - Swivel handles shall be fitted as shown in Appendix A. They shall form a ready grasp for the hands.

#### 3.3 Materials

All metal parts shall be made from corrosion-resistant materials suitable for hose line service.

#### 3.4 Markings

- 3.4.1 Marking on the product or, if not possible due to size, on its packaging or label accompanying the product, shall include the following information:
- name and address of the manufacturer or marking traceable to the manufacturer;
  - date of manufacture or code traceable to date of manufacture or lot identification ;
  - model designation; nominal valve size; rated working pressure; directional flow arrow; etc., as appropriate.

When hazard warnings are needed, the markings should be universally recognizable.

- 3.4.2 The model or type identification shall correspond with the manufacturer's catalog designation and shall uniquely identify certification agency's mark of conformity.
- 3.4.3 The certification agency's mark of conformity shall be displayed visibly and permanently on the product and/or packaging as appropriate and in accordance with the requirements of the certification

agency. The manufacturer shall exercise control of this mark as specified by the certification agency and the certification scheme.

### 3.5 Manufacturer's Installation and Operation Instructions

3.5.1 The manufacturer shall:

- prepare instructions for the installation, maintenance, and operation of the product;
- provide facilities for repair of the product and supply replacement parts; and
- provide services to ensure proper installation, inspection, or maintenance for products where it is not reasonable to expect the average user to be able to provide the installation, inspection, or maintenance.

### 3.6 Calibration

3.6.1 Each piece of equipment used to verify the test parameters shall be calibrated within an interval determined on the basis of stability, purpose, and usage. A copy of the calibration certificate for each piece of test equipment is required. The certificate shall indicate that the calibration was performed against working standards whose calibration is certified and traceable to an acceptable reference standard and certified by an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited calibration laboratory. The test equipment shall be clearly identified by label or sticker showing the last date of the calibration and the next due date. A copy of the service provider's accreditation certificate as an ISO/IEC 17025 accredited calibration laboratory should be available.

3.6.2 When the inspection equipment and/or environment is not suitable for labels or stickers, other methods such as etching of control numbers on the measuring device are allowed, provided documentation is maintained on the calibration status of the equipment.

## 4. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

### 4.1 Examination

#### 4.1.1 Requirement

The playpipes shall conform to the manufacturer's drawings and specifications and to certification requirements.

#### 4.1.2 Test/Verification

A sample shall be examined and compared to drawings and specifications. It shall be verified that the sample conforms to the physical and structural requirements described in Section 3, General Requirements.

### 4.2 Hydrostatic

#### 4.2.1 Requirements

A sample playpipe will be hydrostatically tested to 500 psig for five (5) minutes.

#### 4.2.2 Tests/Verification

There shall be no failure or permanent deformation as a result of this test.

### 4.3 Discharge Coefficient

#### 4.3.1 Requirement

A sample playpipe will be tested to determine the discharge coefficient (Actual Flow | Theoretical Flow). The coefficient shall be 0.95 minimum.

#### 4.3.2 Test/Verification

The stream leaving the nozzle shall be solid and without fray.

### 4.4 Drop

#### 4.4.1 Requirement

The sample playpipe will be dropped at least ten times from 4 ft elevation onto a concrete floor. Initial position of the playpipe will vary from vertical with tip down, to horizontal.

#### 4.4.2 Test/Verification

There shall be no deformation or rupture which will interfere with the specified flow coefficient and pattern.

## 5. MANUFACTURER'S REQUIREMENTS

### 5.1 Demonstrated Quality Control Program

- 5.1.1 A quality assurance program is required to assure that subsequent products produced by the manufacturer shall present the same quality and reliability as the specific products examined. Design quality, conformance to design, and performance are the areas of primary concern.
- Design quality is determined during the examination and tests and may be documented in the certification report.
  - Continued conformance to this standard is verified by the certifier's surveillance program.
  - Quality of performance is determined by field performance and by periodic re-examination and testing.
- 5.1.2 The manufacturer shall demonstrate a quality assurance program which specifies controls for at least the following areas:
- existence of corporate quality assurance guidelines;
  - incoming quality assurance, including testing;
  - in-process quality assurance, including testing;
  - final inspection and tests;
  - equipment calibration;
  - drawing and change control;
  - packaging and shipping; and
  - handling and disposition of non-conforming materials.
- 5.1.3 Documentation/Manual
- There should be an authoritative collection of procedures/policies. It should provide an accurate description of the quality management system while serving as a permanent reference for implementation and maintenance of that system. The system should require that sufficient records are maintained to demonstrate achievement of the required quality and verify operation of the quality system.
- 5.1.4 Records
- There should be an authoritative collection of procedures/policies. It should provide an accurate description of the quality management system while serving as a permanent reference for implementation and maintenance of that system. The system should require that sufficient records are maintained to demonstrate achievement of the required quality and verify operation of the quality system.
- 5.1.5 Drawing and Change Control
- The manufacturer shall establish a system of product configuration control that shall allow no unauthorized changes to the product. Changes to critical documents, identified in the certification

report, may be required to be reported to, and authorized by the certification agency prior to implementation for production.

Records of all revisions to all certified products shall be maintained.

## **5.2 Surveillance Audit**

5.2.1 An audit of the manufacturing facility may be part of the certification agency's surveillance requirements to verify implementation of the quality assurance program. Its purpose is to determine that the manufacturer's equipment, procedures, and quality program are maintained to ensure a uniform product consistent with that which was tested and certified.

5.2.2 Certified products or services shall be produced or provided at, or provided from, location(s) disclosed as part of the certification examination. Manufacture of products bearing a certification mark is not permitted at any other location prior to disclosure to the certification agency.

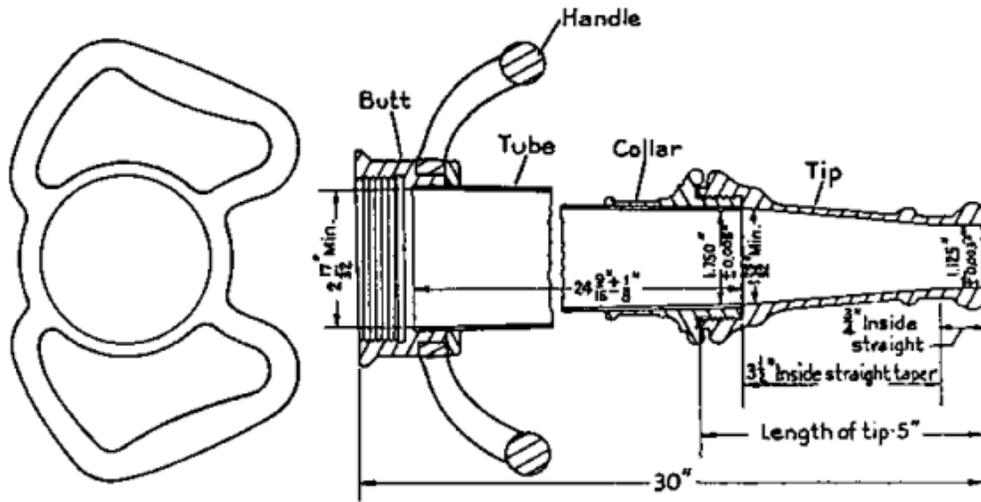
## **5.3 Product Modification**

5.3.1 The manufacturer shall notify the certification agency of changes in product construction, components, raw materials, physical characteristics, coatings, component formulation or quality assurance procedures prior to implementation.

## **6. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

ISO/IEC 17025, *General Requirements for the Competence of Testing and Calibration Laboratories*.

APPENDIX A: Underwriter Playpipe



Underwriter Playpipe