



Series RBXc OPERATION

PRE NOTES:

1. VENTING OF A FILLING PIPELINE:

The operation of a kinetic air release valve is such that fast approaching water is almost instantaneously halted by the valve's closure without the shock cushioning benefit of any retained air in the pipeline. Consequently a transient pressure rise or shock of potentially damaging proportions can be generated in a pipeline system, even at normal filling rates.

In addition to venting through the Large Orifice (1) when water approach velocities are sub critical, the Vent-O-Mat series RBXc air release valves feature an automatic 'Anti-Shock' Orifice (8) device that serves to decelerate water approaching at excessive speed, thereby limiting pressure rise to a maximum of 1.5 x rated working pressure of the valve.

2. SURGE ALLEVIATION - PIPELINE PRESSURIZED:

In instances where a pipeline experiences water column separation due to pump stoppage, high shock pressures can be generated when the separated water column rejoins.

The Vent-O-Mat series RBXc takes in air through the unobstructed large orifice when water column separation occurs, but controls the discharge of air through the 'Anti-Shock' Orifice (8) as the separated column commences to rejoin. The rejoining impact velocity is thereby sufficiently reduced to prevent an unacceptably high surge pressure in the system. In the same way the series RBXc valve prevents high surge pressures resulting from liquid oscillation in a pipeline.

3. PRESSURIZED AIR RELEASE FROM A FULL PIPELINE:

Effective discharge by the valve of pressurized air depends on the existence of a 'CRITICAL RELATIONSHIP' between the area of the Small Orifice (7) and the mass of Lower Float (4), i.e. the mass of the float must be greater than the force created by the working pressure acting on the orifice area. If the float is relatively too light or the orifice area relatively too great, the float will be held against the orifice, even when not buoyed, and air discharge will not be effected.

To ensure that the correct 'CRITICAL RELATIONSHIP' exists the requisite 'DROP TEST' must be applied to any air release valve which is intended for discharge of pressurized air.

VENTING OF A FILLING PIPELINE (SUB CRITICAL WATER APPROACH VELOCITY)



Air enters Orifice (3), travels through the annular space between the cylindrical floats (4), (5), and (6) and the valve Chamber (2) and discharges from the Large Orifice (1) into atmosphere.

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OPERATION

VENTING OF A FILLING PIPELINE (EXCESSIVE WATER APPROACH VELOCITY)



In reaction to increased air flow, the "Anti-Shock" Float (6) closes Large Orifice (1) and air is forced through the "Anti-Shock" Orifice (8) resulting in deceleration of the approaching water due to the resistance of rising air pressure in the valve. Attention is drawn to Pre Note 1 and 2 on page 1.

PRESSURIZED AIR RELEASE FROM A FULL PIPELINE



Subsequent to the filling of a pipeline, liquid enters the valve Chamber (2) and the Floats (4), (5) and (6) are buoyed so that the Large Orifice (1) is closed by the "Anti-Shock" Float (6), the valve will then become internally pressurized. A minimal working pressure of < 0.5 bar (7.3 psi) acting on the relatively large area of the Orifice (1) will lock the "Anti-Shock" Float (6) into the closed position across the Large Orifice (1).

Disentrained air rises through the liquid and accumulates in the valve chamber, when the volume of air is sufficient to displace the liquid, Float (5) will no longer be buoyant and will gravitate downwards thereby opening the Small Orifice (7) and allowing accumulated air to be discharged into atmosphere, as air is discharged the liquid raises and Float (5) re-seals the Small Orifice (7) and prevents the escape of liquid Specific attention is drawn to pre note 3 on page 1.

VACUUM RELIEF (AIR INTAKE) OF A DRAINING PIPELINE



Simultaneous drainage of liquid from Valve Chamber (2) causes Floats (4), (5) and (6) to gravitate downwards onto the Baffle Plate (9), thereby allowing atmospheric air through the valve to rapidly displace draining liquid in the pipeline and prevent potentially damaging internal negative pressure.

information subject to change without prior notice

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VENT-O-MAT®

Series RBXc

SURGE & WATERHAMMER PROTECTION

Introduction

The Vent-O-Mat Series RBXc "Anti-Shock" air release and vacuum break valve, is the product of extensive research into the development of an efficient, but cost effective solution to surge problems (both mass liquid oscillation and elastic transient phenomena) associated with any operating pipeline. Automatic dampening, relevant to the pipeline's needs is provided by either one of two design features. These special features are unique in a pipeline component of such compact and economic design.

Surge Protection - Initial Filling

The RBXc incorporates the additional floating "Anti-Shock" Orifice which is aerodynamically engineered to throttle air discharge when water approach velocity would otherwise become too great and induce an unacceptable pressure rise. The air throttling action increases resistance to the flow of the approaching water which consequently decelerates to a velocity which reduces the pressure rise when the valve closes (see operation of valve on pages 1 & 2). Vent-O-Mat series RBXc is an essential precaution for pipeline priming.

Surge Protection - Pump Trip Conditions

In instances where a pipeline experiences water column separation due to pump stoppage, high shock pressures can be generated when the separated water column rejoins.

The Vent-O-Mat series RBXc takes in air through the unobstructed large orifice when water column separation occurs, but controls the discharge of air through the "Anti-Shock" Orifice as the separated column commences to rejoin. The rejoining impact velocity is thereby considerably reduced to alleviate high surge pressures in the system (see operation of valve on pages 1 & 2).

Other surge control measures may, dependant on pipeline profile, diameter and operating conditions, be needed to provide the primary surge alleviation function with the Vent-O-Mat air-valves forming an integral and valuable addition in a combined strategy for further reducing surge pressures. The benefit of the "Anti-Shock" Orifice can be readily demonstrated by suitable surge modeling software.

Surge Protection - Pipeline Operating

The operation of valves and similar flow control devices can cause high-pressure transients in an operating pipeline.

The unique, single chamber design of the Vent-O-Mat series RBXc valve enables a pocket of air to be trapped in the valve chamber. Automatic operation of the small orifice control float regulates the volume of air entrapped.

The volume maintained in the valve will provide a cushioning benefit to the pipeline for short duration transient pressure "spikes". This effect can be modelled by the design engineer using suitable surge software

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Computer Modelling

The effectiveness of Vent-O-Mat series RBXc has been substantiated by independent third party testing and by thousands of applications globally. Effective computer modelling, based on practical tests, has been ensured in the well-known and respected commercially available **SURGE 2000** surge analysis software programme. Accurate results are also obtained by other commercially available surge analysis software programmes such as FLOWMASTER and TRANSAM.

Holistic Surge & Water Hammer Protection

Vent-O-Mat forms an integral part of a well planned, holistic surge protection strategy that should, according to application needs and financial constraints, include surge vessels, check valves, control valves and/or any other equipment needed to alleviate unacceptable surge behaviour.

Technical and Financial Benefits

The Vent-O-Mat series RBXc valve offers definite financial and technical advantages when incorporated as part of a holistic surge protection strategy. This includes:

- 1. Improved alleviation of surge behaviour including reduction of:
 - Surge pressure magnitudes by slowing surge velocities
 - Duration of oscillation following a pump trip, as the air-valve continuously absorbs and dissipates the energies of the surge.
- 2. Potential for reduction in size and/or quantity of conventional surge protection devices such as surge vessels etc.
- 3. Automatic protection during initial filling when most surge protection devices are not operational.
- 4. Holistic protection as each air valve installed has design features to automatically damp surges.
- 5. The valve is virtually maintenance free.

Service

Vent-O-Mat is committed to finding the most cost effective and efficient solution to pipeline complexities. Services include air valve sizing and positioning and assistance to consulting engineers on defining appropriate surge and water hammer protection strategies. Vent-O-Mat has built a sound relationship with many international consulting firms and has gained global recognition for selling solutions!





























