Engineering Bulletin 1-2003

Date: June 20, 2003  (Revised: June 11, 2004)

Subject: Air Emergency Valve System Plumbing

This information is intended to be used as a general guide to explain the typical workings of an Air Emergency Valve System. The end user must develop a detailed operating procedure to ensure all safety and regulatory requirements are met.

Typical Operating Instructions:

Step 1: Distributor Valves are used to select which Emergency Valves are to be opened. Move handle of appropriate Distributor Valve(s) downward to the open position.

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Step 2: Master Control Valve (Black Button) is used to introduce air to the system after Distributor Valves have been selected. Depress and hold down Master Control Valve button until all desired emergency valves have opened.

Step 3: Once all desired emergency valves have opened, release Master Control Valve button to isolate the Emergency Valves from the air supply. As long as the air system does not leak, emergency valves will remain open until Distributor Valves are closed or Fusible/Frangible plugs are activated. Note: Fusible and frangible remote control is only used in an emergency situation and must be replaced if activated. See detailed explanation below.

Step 4: Once all loading or unloading is complete, move handles of the Distributor Valves to the upright closed position. This will release air only from the system corresponding to each particular Distributor Valves.

Emergency Closure

- Fusible plugs designed to melt at less than 250°F are installed in each Betts Air Operated Emergency Valve. In case of fire, they will melt, automatically dumping air pressure and allowing emergency valve to close. Betts Fusible and Frangible Remote Controls also include a fusible plug.

- Plumb Remote Control into the end port on manifold block. In case of emergency, break remote by striking it on side. Pressure to all emergency valves will be dumped allowing emergency valves to close. Remote must be installed next to a rigid support so that it will break properly.