

## NOTICE

### Regarding Inspection of Appliances and Testing of Pressure Relief Valves

It has recently come to our attention that the industry experienced an incident which resulted in the bursting of a valve. This was a potentially dangerous situation.

Although the valve in question **was not** a Kochek valve, it is still important to take this time to stress the importance of preventative maintenance and a consistent testing program for your pressure relief valves. This will help to ensure that they will work properly when called upon.

The NFPA's publication 1962 "Inspection, Care, and Use of Fire Hose, Couplings, and Nozzles and Testing of Fire Hose", sets forth some minimum standards and procedures. Sections 8.2 and 8.3 of that document put forth procedures for the inspection of appliances and pressure relief valves. We recommend that you read and follow these procedures.

In addition to these minimum standards, **Kochek has developed our own testing procedure.** We recommend that you test your Kochek pressure relief valves **at least semi-annually.** Detailed steps for this safety procedure are contained below.

### ***Kochek Pressure Relief Valve Testing Procedure***

#### **Set Up Procedures**

1. Place a pressure gauge upstream of the relief valve and appliance.
2. Pre-set the relief valve to 100 PSI.
3. Close all outlets of the appliance.
4. Fill the appliance with water using pressure less than 100 PSI.
5. Bleed off air

#### **Low Pressure Testing**

6. Using the upstream gauge as a reference, increase the pressure on the appliance to 100 PSI.
7. Examine the pressure relief valve for evidence of liquid discharge.
8. If the valve opens and liquid is discharged you have passed the low pressure testing phase of this procedure.
9. If the valve does not open, increase the pressure to 110 PSI, repeat Steps 7 and 8, if the valve does not open, increase the pressure to 120 PSI, repeat steps 7 and 8.
10. If the pressure does not release, the pressure relief valve has failed low pressure testing, proceed to Step 12.
11. If pressure relief occurs within the range above, proceed to step 12.

#### **High Pressure Testing**

12. Follow the Set Up procedures in Steps 1 through 5 again. However, in steps two and four, use 200 PSI as your settings.
13. Increase pressure on the appliance to 200 PSI.
14. Examine the relief valve for evidence of liquid discharge.
15. If the valve opens and liquid is discharged, you have passed the high pressure testing phase of this procedure.
16. If the valve does not open, increase the pressure to 210 PSI repeat steps 14 and 15, If the valve does not open, increase the pressure to 220 PSI, repeat steps 14 and 15.
17. If the pressure still does not release, the pressure relief valve has failed high pressure testing and should be replaced.
18. If pressure release occurs within the 200 to 220 PSI range, the pressure relief valve has passed high pressure testing.

● If your pressure relief valve passes both phases of this procedure the valve has passed testing. Repeat this test at six month intervals.

● If it fails the low pressure phase, but passes the high pressure phase, repeat low pressure testing. If it passes low pressure testing on the second try, the pressure relief valve has passed testing. If it fails low pressure testing on the second try, immediately replace the pressure relief valve.

● **We do not recommend repair. We recommend complete replacement of the pressure relief valve.**

We have testing tools to help you in this process. If you would like to obtain one, please contact our **Customer Care department at 1-800-420-4673.**

You should ask for Part # LG2525 (2 ½" NH Line Gauge).

● If you find that one of your valves fails the testing procedure we recommend replacing, rather than repairing, the pressure relief valve. We have these valves in stock, should you decide upon replacement. Please ask for Part # RV-PRV (RELIEF VALVE, PRESSURE). Kochek relief valves fit most brands.

*Thank you for your kind attention to this notice. We take our commitment to your safety seriously.*