

The Client

East Bay Municipal
Utility District,
California

The Challenge

- Lack of surge protection during hydrant flushing
- Unable to reduce pressure in distribution piping

The Solution

Singer's Pressure Reducing Valve with Integral Back-up

The Result

- 100% surge protection
- Huge cost savings due to no emergency repairs

Patented Singer Valve Reduces Water Pressure



East Bay, California – It's not everyday that a valve manufacturing company will design and produce a prototype to help solve one of your water problems. But that's what happened when Singer Valve heard about the pressure problems East Bay Municipal Utility District (MUD) near San Francisco faced in its water system.

“We had problems regulating pressure,” says Ron Lauw, a mechanical maintenance supervisor with East Bay MUD who is now retired. “And we had valves that wouldn't close when they were supposed to so that caused a lot of problems.”

When the PR-SM valve's primary control system fails, the secondary system kicks in to control the downstream pressure, but at a slightly higher pressure. That's why the valve is so effective when loss of control is not an option.

When Kari Oksanen, Singer's general manager, visited East Bay MUD's office in Oakland in 1991, they found Lauw and his team at the drawing board, trying to create a new valve with standard components.

“After hearing about their valve problems,” recalls Oksanen, “we decided to try to build a valve too. We left it up to them to decide which valve—theirs or ours—worked better for that application.”

Oksanen adapted a standard pressure-reducing valve to include an integrated back-up system with a second diaphragm and a secondary pilot system that did not require electricity. Several months later, he returned with a prototype of the first-ever PR-SM valve. The four-inch valve was installed with excellent results.

“The valve is now East Bay's standard pressure reducing valve,” says Oksanen. “And we ensured that they could retrofit existing Singer valves in their system with the PR-SM valve.”

“The PR-SM works well for us,” says Lauw. “That's why we keep buying it.”

“We were surprised that Singer actually built this valve for us,” says Lauw. “And they kept improving it until it was what we wanted. That's the best thing about working with them—Singer is very responsive to our needs.”

Since that first installation in 1992, Singer's PR-SM valves, which are now patented, have been installed in water districts around the world. The PR-SM is ideal for remote or sensitive locations where safe continuous delivery is essential.

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Did You Know...

Singer's PR-SM Valve maintains constant downstream pressure, regardless of fluctuations in upstream flow or pressure. If the main diaphragm or primary pilot fails, the back-up system takes over.

Benefits of Singer's PR-SM Valve

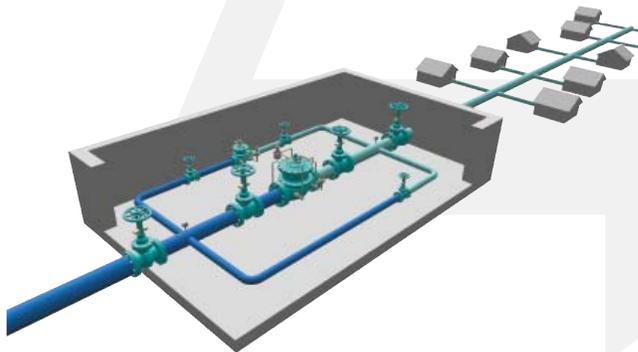
- Guarantees safe, continuous delivery when failure is not an option
- Reduces emergency repairs and costs
- Allows scheduled maintenance repairs
- Minimizes risk of malfunction and damages due to malfunction
- Ideal for remote or sensitive locations

How It Works

Singer's PR-SM Valve has a second independent operating system superimposed upon the standard primary one. If the primary pilot system and/or main valve fail to maintain the downstream pressure, the independent back-up pilot system will kick in. Set slightly higher than the primary pilot, it controls the pressure above the diaphragm in the second operating chamber. The forces in the top chamber assume control of the inner valve assembly and maintain pressure-reducing control. The secondary pilot continually senses the downstream pressure and, if the pressure rises, the pilot responds quickly by pressurizing the top chamber, which protects and maintains safe downstream system pressure.

Singer Clients Who Use It

- Yarra Valley Water, Victoria, Australia
- San Jose, California
- Los Angeles County, California
- Vancouver International Airport, Canada
- Oakhurst, California



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