

CROSS TALK

QUARTERLY BULLETIN

FOUNDATION FOR CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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New Approvals

During this last quarter the Foundation has granted approvals to three sizes of reduced pressure principal devices manufactured by the Cal-Val Company of Newport Beach, California. These are the 2-1/2", 8" and 10" RP Backflow Prevention assemblies.

These assemblies are the first design to be approved under the specifications of the 4th Edition of the *Manual of Cross-Connection Control*. The 4th Edition initiates the new continuous surveillance program of the Foundation over backflow prevention devices. Under this program the new approvals, such as those cited above, undergo the regular Laboratory evaluation and then are placed

in the field for a minimum of twelve months of trouble-free operation. Upon satisfactory completion of this twelve-month period a Certificate of Approval is issued to the manufacturer for the specific size and type of device. The certificate is valid for only a three year period; and, may be renewed by the Foundation on the anniversary date of its original issuance. The basis for re-issuance of a certificate will be a continuous surveillance program whereby not only the data gathered by the Foundation, but that of other cooperating agencies will be used to make sure that no malfunction goes unnoticed that is traceable to the design, materials or technique of manufacture of these

devices. Two of the cooperating agencies now have placed their backflow prevention inspection data on computer decks which will allow an immediate review of all cleaning and repairs required by any specific size and manufacture of device. Thus in combination with the field spot-checks of the Foundation this surveillance program will offer the water utility industry a much more comprehensive safety factor. It also will tend to get new devices into the field about two and a half years earlier than under the former evaluation program which should be a major inducement for the development of new designs of backflow prevention devices.

Lab Progress

The Laboratory is slowly progressing toward completion. In recent weeks the Sparling instrumentation center has been delivered and installed; and, very recently the main electrical switch gear panel that has been assembled by the W. A. Benjamin Electric Co. of Los Angeles has been delivered and is currently being installed on the electrical mezzanine

of the Lab. The service pull and metering section that was fabricated by Zinsco of Los Angeles has been installed and the main cables pulled in from the transformer vault to this metering section. Due to the complexity of the electrical and instrumentation wiring the progress has been somewhat slow; but, we are making progress.

During this period of construction the Lab has been in almost continuous use. A 200 HP Diesel driven single stage centrifugal pump was given a performance test; and, the meter evaluation section of the Lab has been used on numerous occasions. Further assistance with capital fund gifts for the completion of the Lab would be sincerely appreciated.

Seminars

On June 10th the *Inland Counties Water Utilities Association* presented a most successful Cross-Connection Seminar under the direction of *Ken Anderson* of the City of Riverside. This seminar was held at the beautiful Monte Corona Conference Center near Lake Arrowhead and there were about 90 participants present. Presentations were made by representatives of the US Public Health, California Department of Public Health, County Health Departments, large water utilities, a Consulting Engi-

neer, and the Foundation of Cross-Connection Control Research. This effort of the Inland Counties Water Utilities Association to bring the matter of backflow prevention control to the attention of the top management of all of the water utilities within their area is most commendable. The discussion illustrated that not only is such a seminar needed; but, that management is willing to listen and learn when this vital subject is presented in a comprehensive and well balanced manner.

A similar seminar is now planned for the day before the California Section AWWA meeting in September. All water utility managers are urged to encourage their boards or directors to at least send a representative if not to attend in a body. This seminar will be held in Santa Barbara on Wednesday, September 24, 1969; and, participation by a large cross-section of the water utility industry will assure a healthy exchange of information.

Conferences

June 18th was a memorable day in the City of Chicago, for on that day Prof. Springer, Director of the Foundation, had an opportunity to present the development of the Foundation from its inception 25 years ago to its present position, as the only facility in the Nation that is designed and instrumented specifically to evaluate backflow prevention devices, to members of the Water Commission and members of the Building Department. It was the first time that the story of the work of the Foundation had been presented to Chicagoans

responsible for water quality control by a member of the staff of the Foundation. This opportunity for members of a number of city offices to ask questions related to backflow prevention will long be remembered because of the free, uninhibited and sincere give and take during the question and answer period. We of the Foundation are very appreciative of the courtesy extended by Mr. R. D. Johnsos, Deputy Commissioner for Water and his staff in making this meeting possible. For it is only by such free exchanges of ideas and information that

the work of the Foundation and its value to the entire water utility industry can ultimately be understood and appreciated.

Another landmark of this very same nature will occur on August 22 when Prof. Springer will address a group of water, health and building officials of western Canada in a meeting in Vancouver, B.C. We welcome these opportunities to discuss the general matter of backflow prevention and control as well as the specific part that the Foundation is playing in this vital health effort.

Industrial Interest

Two very encouraging developments took place during recent weeks. Both involved large water user organizations. In each case the cognizant person had been in correspondence and telephone contact with the Director of the Foundation over quite a few months with respect to the cross-connection problems within their respective jurisdictions. In each case

as the problem neared solution the unsolicited request for an application for sustaining membership in the work of the Foundation was made. This was truly a graphic illustration of the value that each of these organizations placed on the work of the Foundation.

There are undoubtedly many other organizations who can benefit from being sustaining members of the Founda-

tion. By direction of the Board of Directors there have been two grades of membership established. One is the Purveyor Member and the other is for the company, governmental or water related organization and is called the Associate Member grade. A request for information or an application blank will be promptly acknowledged.



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