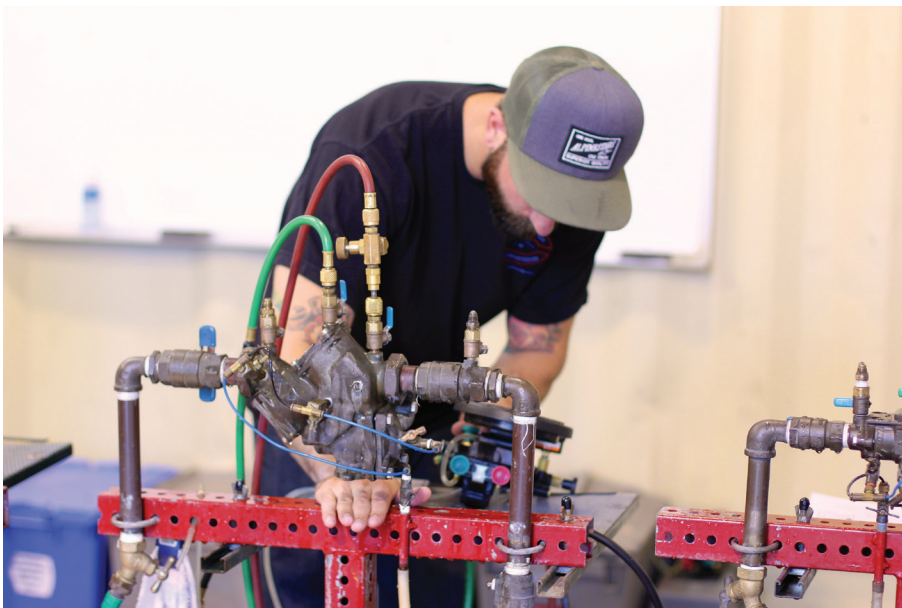


Where did the 3.0 PSID Buffer Recommendation Go?

It has been almost six years since the *Manual of Cross-Connection Control, Tenth Edition* was published, however the USC Foundation still receives questions regarding why certain changes were made between the Ninth and Tenth Editions. One of the more common questions has to do with the elimination of the 3.0 PSID buffer recommendation for the reduced pressure principle backflow prevention assembly (RP).



The 3.0 PSID buffer recommendation was a part of the field test procedure for the RP in the Ninth Edition. To explain, the “buffer” is the difference in the reading of static pressure drop across the No. 1 check valve and the differential pressure at which the relief valve opens. For example, the first check reading on an RP is 5.7 PSID and the relief valve opens at 2.5 PSID; the buffer is the difference between the two readings, in this case 3.2 PSID. The buffer is there to minimize the nuisance cre-

ated by water discharging when there are line pressure fluctuations.

Many administrative authorities took the Ninth Edition recommendation and made it a requirement in order for an RP to pass the field test. Other agencies did not see it as a requirement and did not make the buffer recommendation a mandatory requirement.

Since the recommendation caused confusion the Manual Review Committee (MRC) decided to eliminate the buffer recommendation from the Tenth Edition’s RP field test procedure. It was decided that the buffer recommendation was not an indication of the RP’s ability to prevent backflow.

Although the 3.0 PSID buffer recommendation was eliminated from the field test procedure in the Tenth Edition it is still part of the Standard in Chapter 10 of the Tenth Edition. All RP’s must have a 3.0 PSID buffer in the laboratory and field evaluation phases of the

USC Foundation’s *Approval Program*.

For questions about the elimination of the buffer recommendation in the RP’s field test procedure or other field test procedure issues please contact the Foundation office. ■