

Bermad Air Valves



How does air enter pipeline systems?



1/ Henry's Law – re dissolved air in water
..... At 25°C water contains 2% air

Amount of dissolved air increases with pressure, and decreases with temperature.

Whenever the temperature of the water increases, air will be released as a gas Example : Cold water in reservoir being put into pipelines above ground.

Whenever the pressure drops in a mainline, air will be released as a gas Examples : Mainlines running up-hill, in pumps (high volute pressure to lower mainline pressure), when pipelines expand (into filter stations as example)

2/ Air physically 'sucked' into the system through leaks or vortexing, typically on suction side of pump stations.

Air physically 'sucked' into the system through leaks where constrictions create venturi effect. Low velocity changes to high velocity. As velocity head increases, the pressure head decreases, potentially causing suction

3/ Water Vapour & air is created in pipelines when pipe pressure drops below the vapour pressure of water ("making tea on Everest"). This can occur in situations of Column Separation, resulting typically from pump failure.

So.... What is wrong with air in pipelines?

1/ Corrosion of pipes and metal components



Galvanic corrosion is particularly rapid, effecting not only metal pipes, but also any bare metal in valves, meters, pump stations etc.

2/ Reduced pipeline capacity (Video)



Problems with air in pipe systems



3/ Air pockets can cause air-lock in equipment with small ports and tubing – like control valves



Inaccuracy in flow meters, measuring air instead of water



Reduced efficiency of pumps and filters



4/ Vacuum conditions •



Material	Collapse Pressure (m)
PVC	-1
Fiberglass	-2
Concrete	-3
Iron	-4
Steel	-5

Vacuum conditions can result in catastrophic collapse of pipework.

It may also allow suction of dirt and debris into any orifice, causing blockage and contamination risk (eg 3 way pilots, or leaky fittings)

Problems with air in pipe systems



4/ Vacuum conditions



5/ Column Separation and Surge Damage



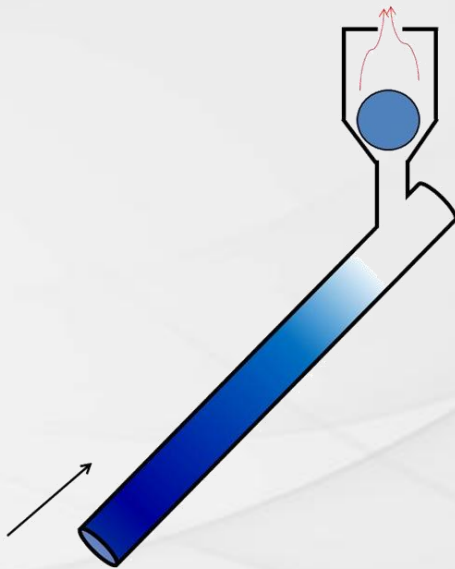
Visualize the momentum of water moving in a pipe, and the forces it generates.

Water is not compressible – it won't absorb impact and shocks

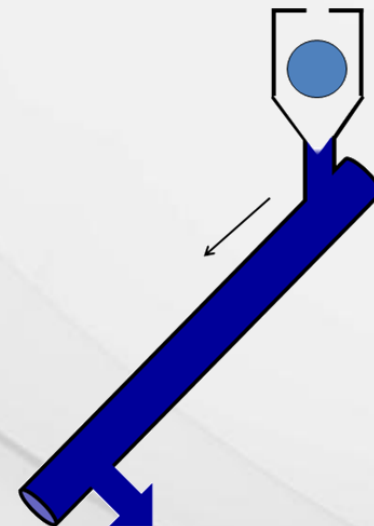
So.... What are Air Valves Types

- **Kinetic Air Valve – high air flow (expected/unexpected scenarios)**
- Automatic Air Valve
- Combination Air Valve

Initial Filling

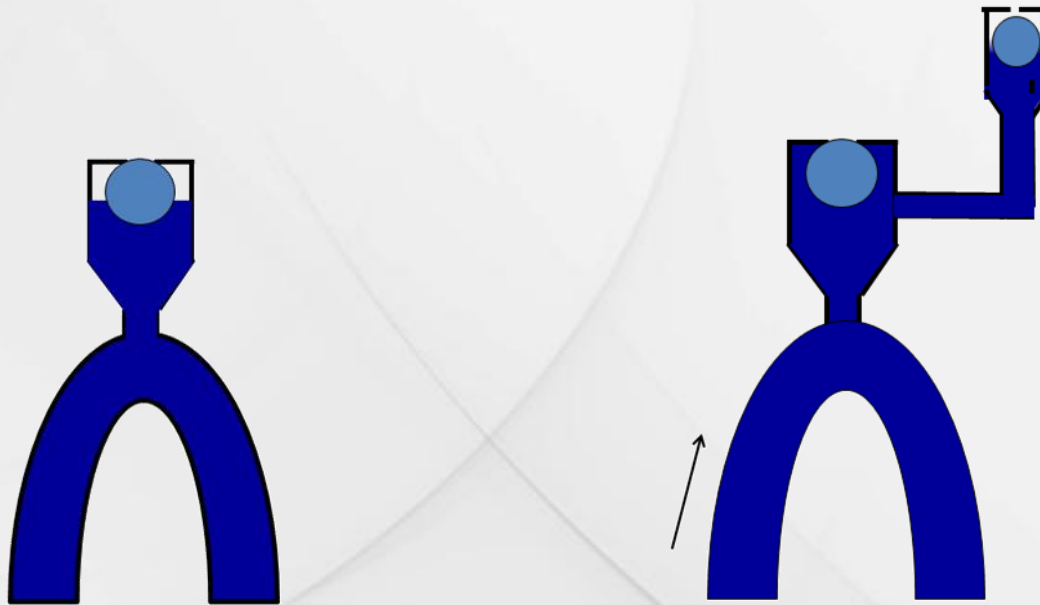


Drainage / Burst



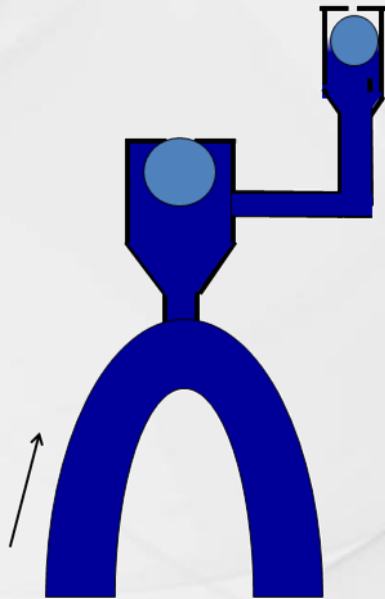
Air Valves Types

- Kinetic Air Valve
- **Automatic Air Valve – Steady State (pressurized system)**
- Combination Air Valve



Air Valves Types

- Kinetic Air Valve
- Automatic Air Valve
- **Combination Air Valve**

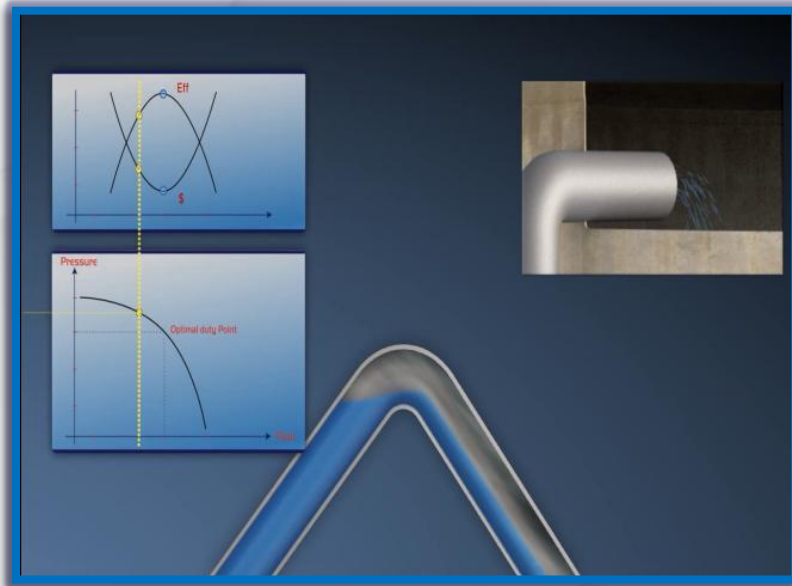


[Video](#)

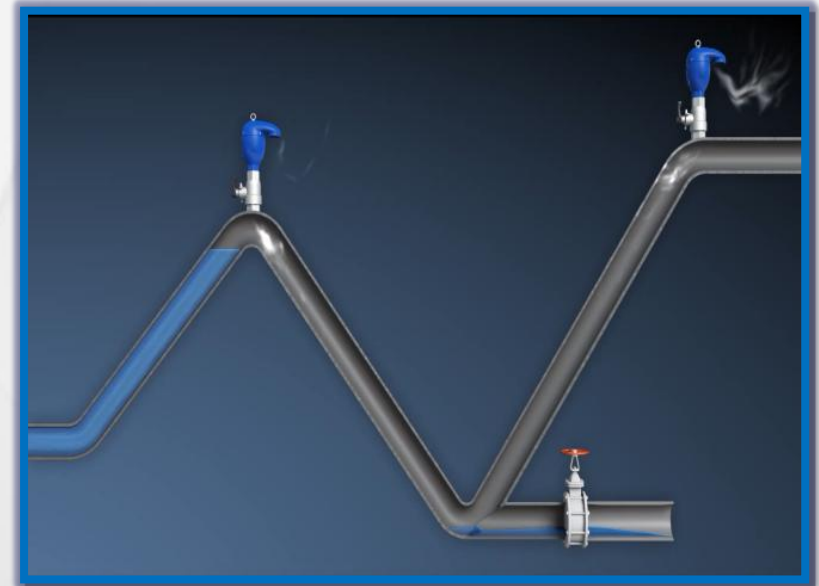
What do Air valves do?

Videos : Filling and Operation, Vacuum Condition, Column Separation

Initial Filling of the Pipeline System



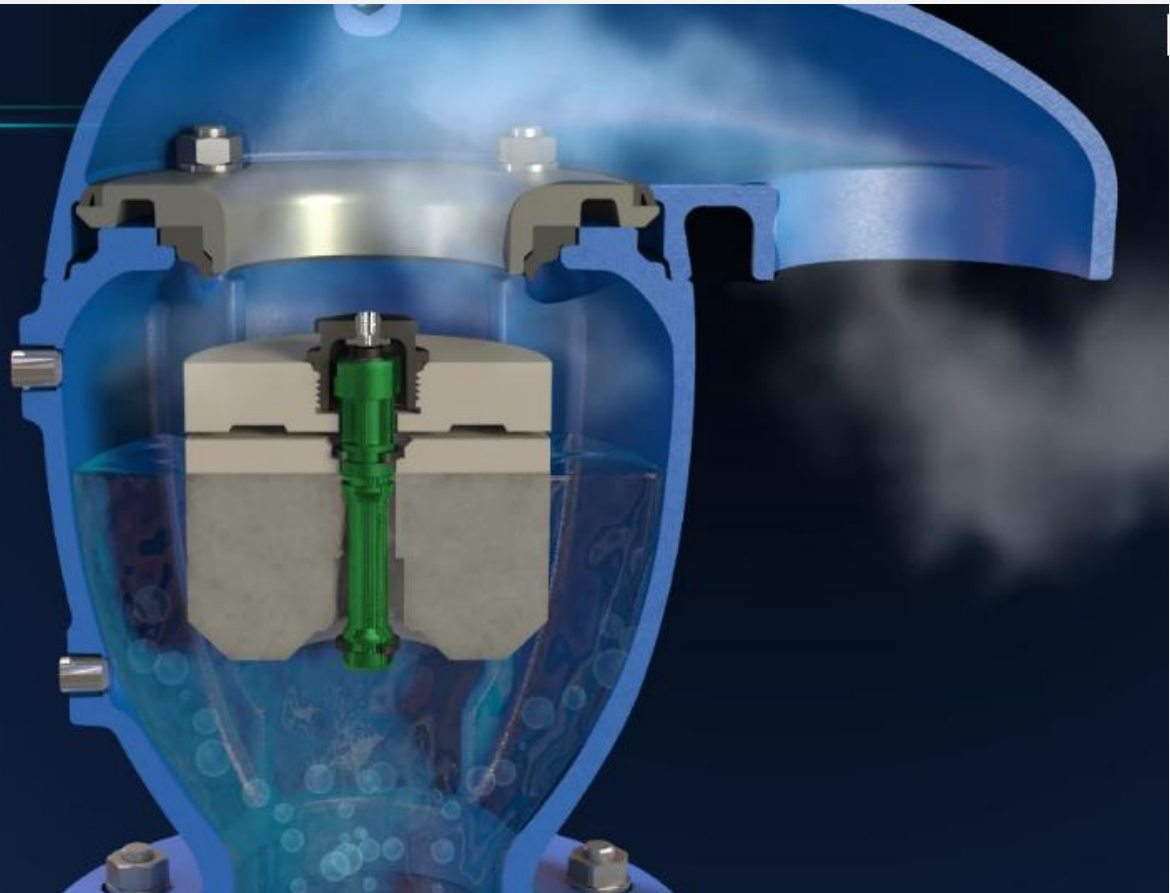
Vacuum Conditions



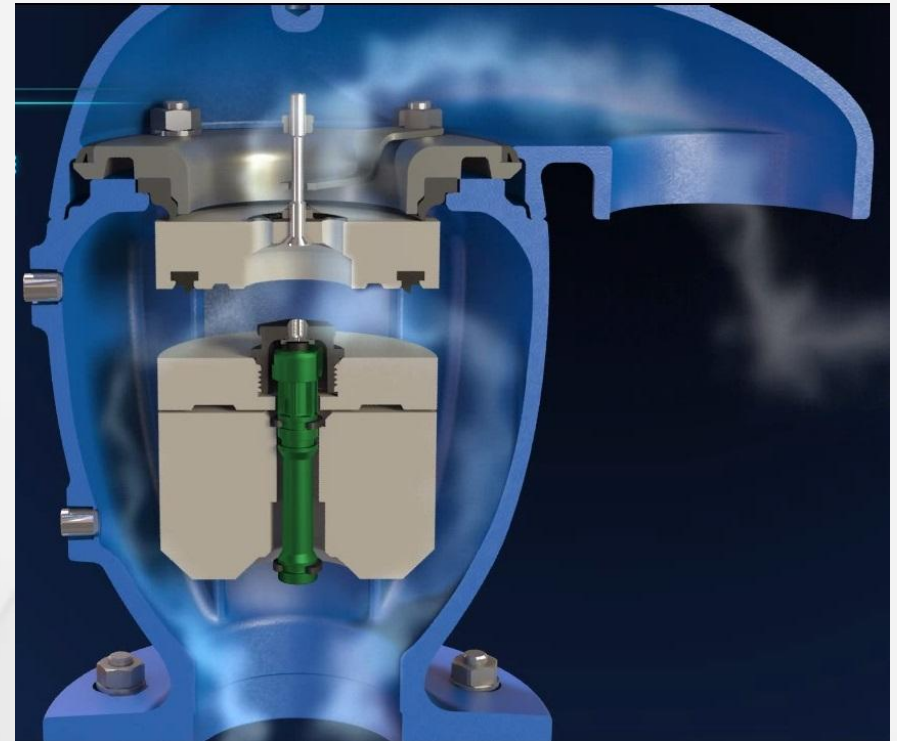
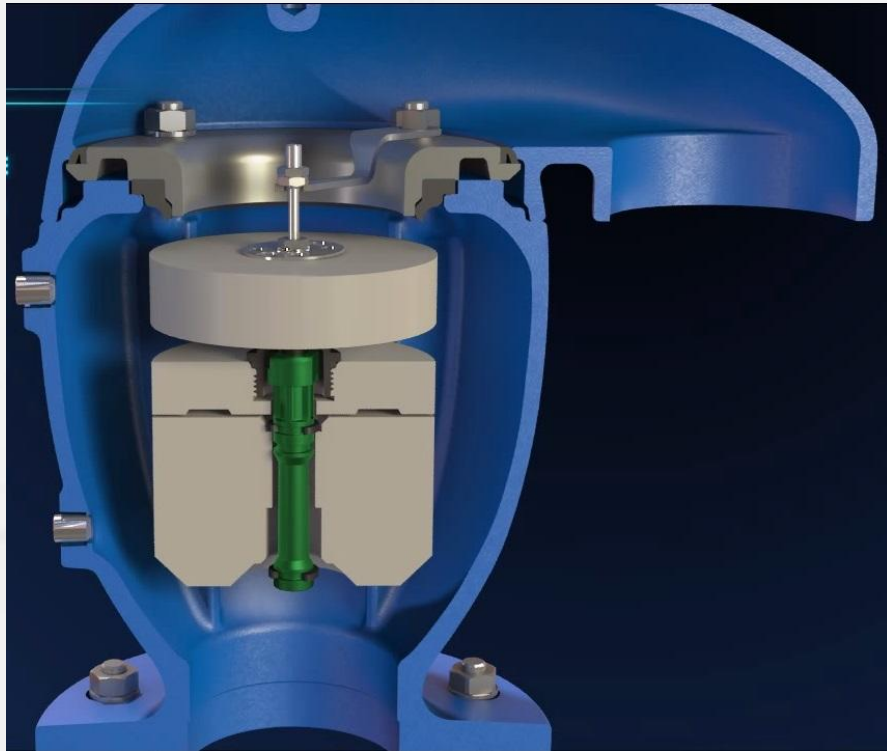
How Does the C70 Work

C70

Combination Air Valve



Surge Protection operation



As the air pressure rises the Surge Protection disc moves upward and partially closes the passageway, creating a resistance which slows pipe filling

Bermad Air Valve – Designed and developed in-house



What do we have.....PN16 rated



Automatic, PN16, $\frac{3}{4}$ ", 1" (0.1bar-16bar), male BSP

$\frac{3}{4}$ "-A30

1"-A30

Automatic, PN16, $\frac{3}{4}$ ", 1" (Low pressure 0.02-16 bar)

$\frac{3}{4}$ "-A31

1"-A31

Combination, PN16, $\frac{3}{4}$ ", 1", 2" (0.1bar-16 bar), male BSP

$\frac{3}{4}$ "-C30

1"-C30

2"-C30

What do we have....PN16 (Ductile Iron)



Down Outlet



Side Outlet
Fem threaded



Mushroom Outlet
Shorter overall height

2"-C70

3"- C70

4"- C70

6"- C70

3", 4" (BSP) – C75 seal from 0.1 bar

6", 8", 10", 12" (Flange) – C75

In PN 16, PN 25, PN 40 options

Cast Iron or Stainless steel options

Designed in compliance with :

- Functional standard ***EN-1074/4 and AS4956 (Australia)***
- Water service standards – ***NSF, WRAS, ACS, DGW***



What do we have....PN 10 & PN16 rated for Sewerage



Combination, PN10, 2", 3" (0.1bar-10 bar)
2"-C50
3"-C50

Combination, PN16, 2",3", Ductile Iron
2"-C60
3"-C60



What makes a good air valve ?

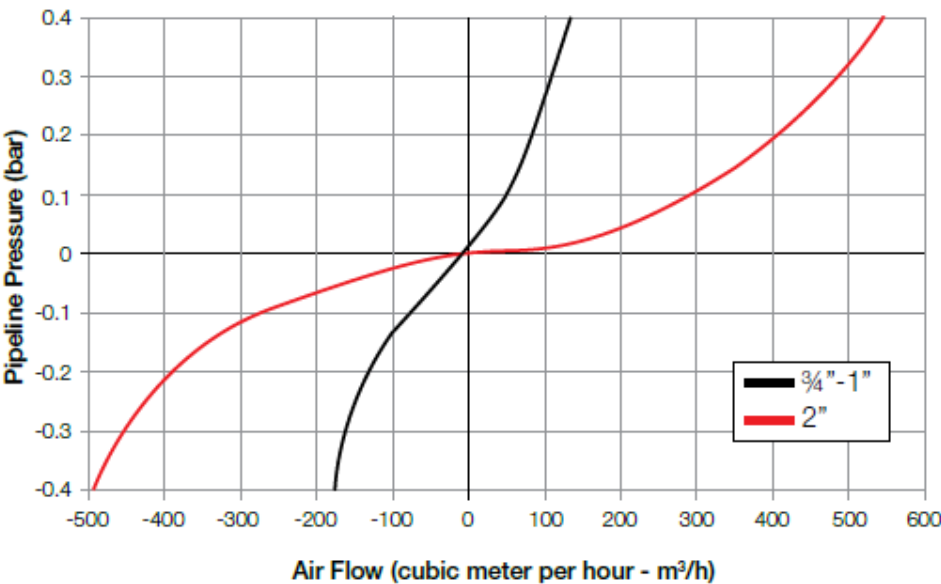
- 1/ Effective low pressure sealing – just 0.1 bar •
- 2/ High air flow rates (re valve sizing) •
- 3/ Minimal spray •
- 4/ Robust materials, corrosion resistant, and solid floats : •
Plastic Air valves – Glass Filled Reinforced Nylon bodies, with •
Polypropylene floats
- 5/ Comply with international standards
- 6/ Options:
Anti-Slam 'exhale' feature
Bug screen



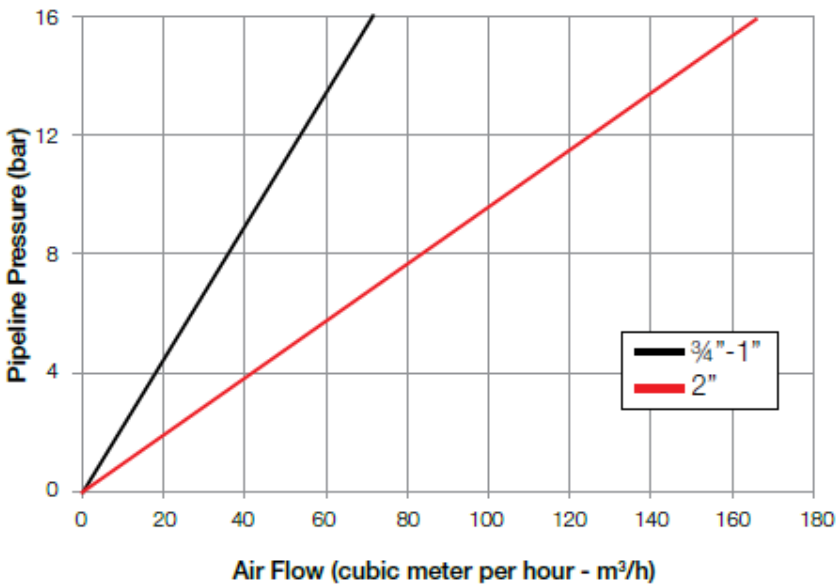
C30 (PN16 Air Valve, Plastic)



Air Relief and Intake (Pipeline Filling, Draining and Vacuum Conditions)



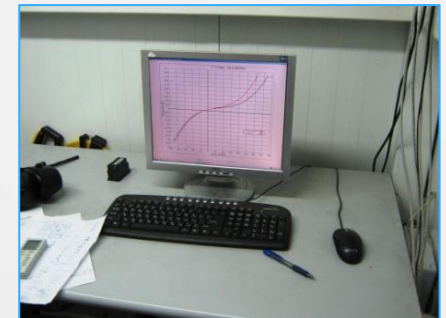
Air Release (Pressurized Operation)



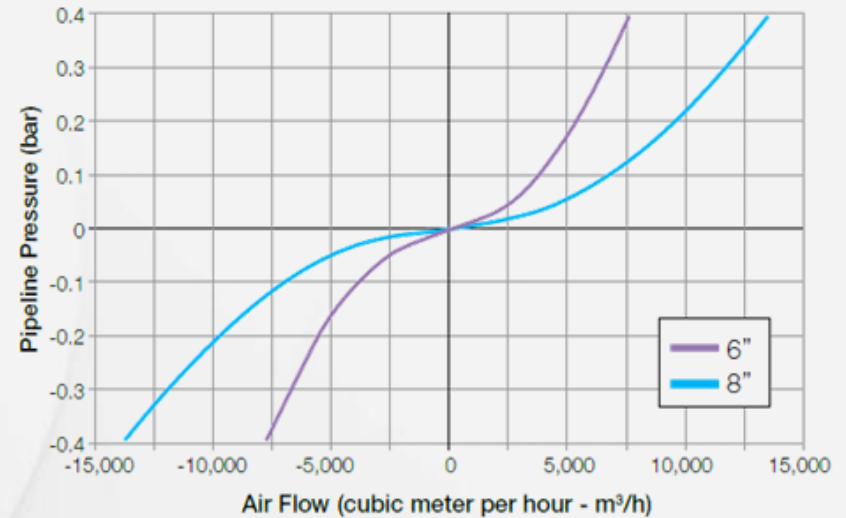
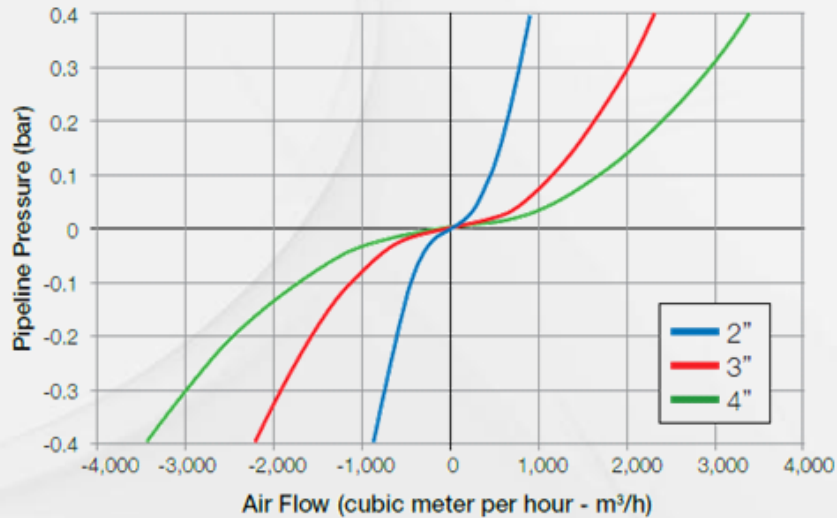
Air Valve Test Bench



- Set up according to EN-1074/4
- Online data gathering at every point (Pressure / Flow / Temp) during pipeline filling and vacuum conditions
- Presentation of actual air flow charts



Air Relief and Intake (Pipeline Filling, Draining and Vacuum Conditions)

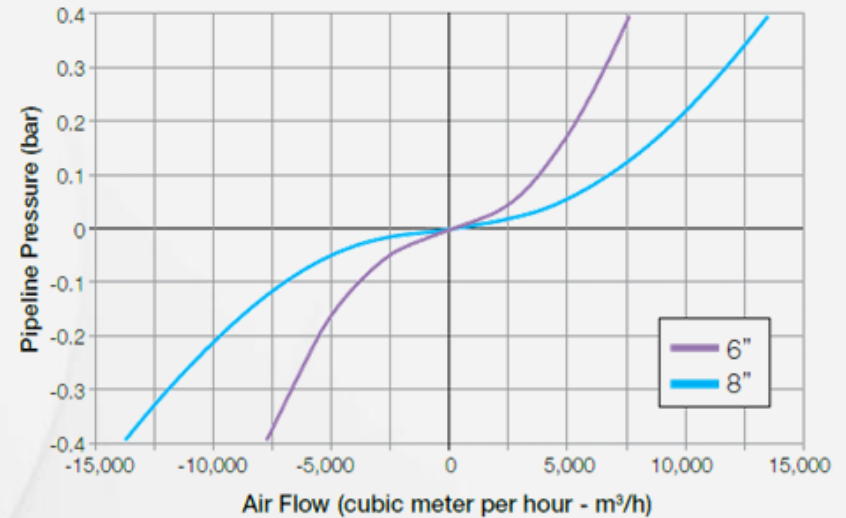
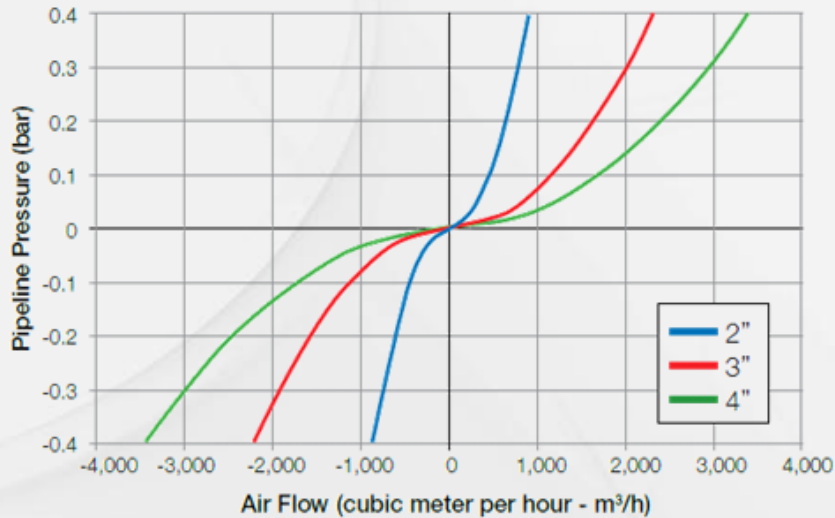


Bermad air valves are tested against the best in the industry, and outperform in almost all characteristics consistently.

Air Flow Performance Charts

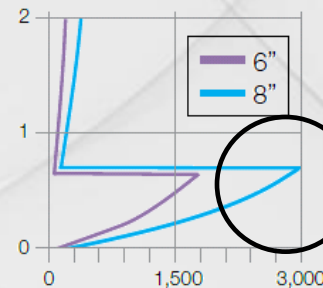
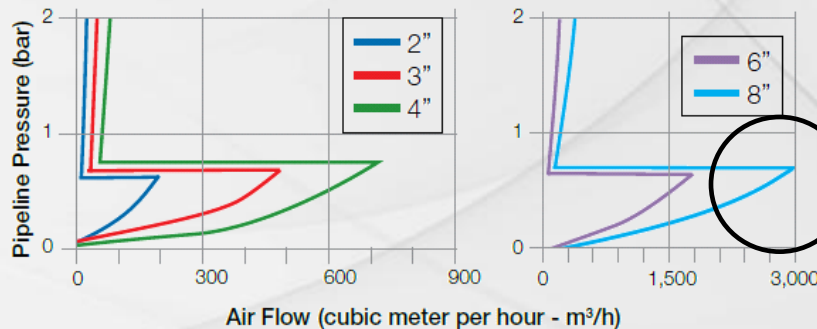


Air Relief and Intake (Pipeline Filling, Draining and Vacuum Conditions)



With Surge Protection (SP)

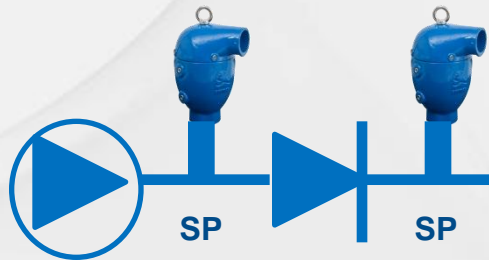
Air Relief with Surge Protection



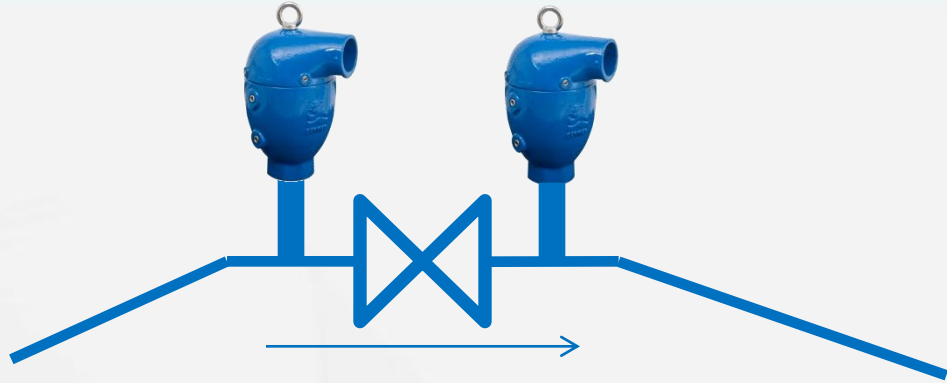
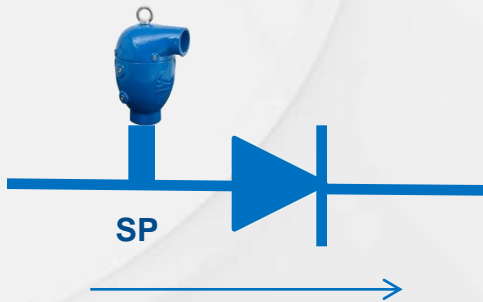
“Switching Point”

Air Valve Placement

Pumping Station



Valves

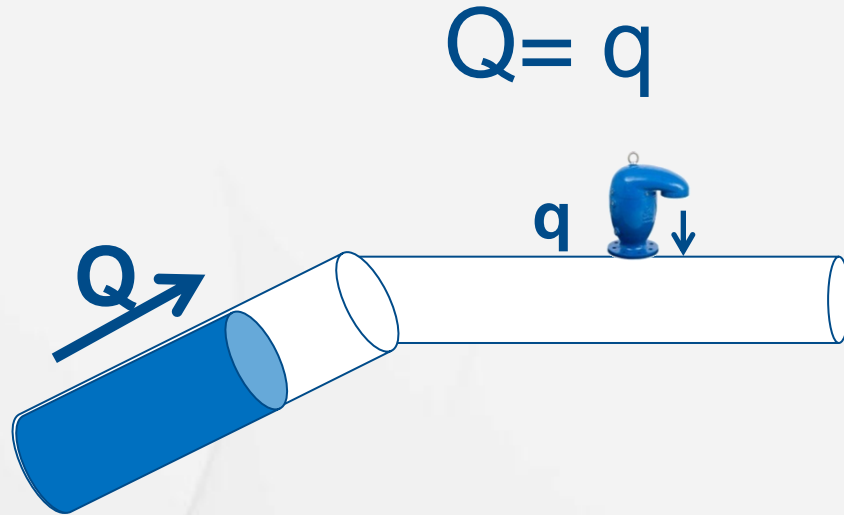


Sizing Air Valves – Line filling

Example :
300mm main filling at 0.4 m/sec

Pipe area = $\pi \times 0.150^2$
= 0.0707m²

Exhale rate = 0.0707 x 0.4
= 0.0283 m³/sec
= 101.8 m³/hr



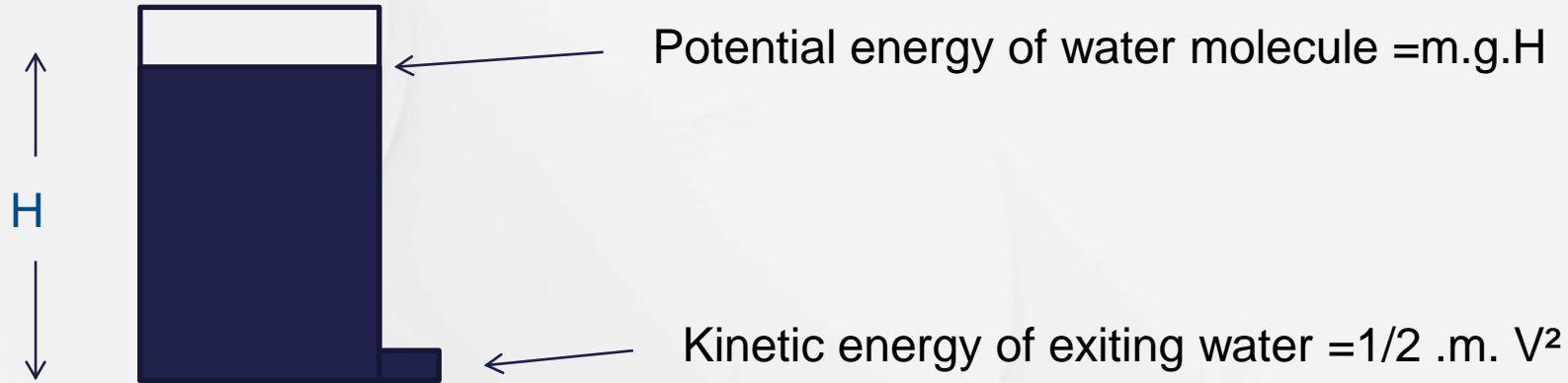
$$q = v * \pi * (D^2/4)$$

q = Air flow to be released (m³/sec).

v = Water velocity 0.3-0.5 (m/sec).

D = Pipe diameter (m)

What is 'inhale' needed for a draining pipe?



Conservation of energy : $m.g.H = \frac{1}{2} m. V^2$
 $g.H = \frac{1}{2} V^2$
or.... $V = \sqrt{2.g.H}$

However, there is a resistance factor depending on the outlet shape, denoted K

$$V = \sqrt{2.g.H/K}$$

What is 'inhale' needed for a draining pipe?

$$V = \sqrt{2 \cdot g \cdot H / K}$$

For a gate valve, $K = 3.3$ typically

$$\text{So, } V = \sqrt{(2 \cdot g \cdot H)} \times \sqrt{1/(3.3)}$$
$$V = 0.55 \times \sqrt{(2 \cdot g \cdot H)}$$

$$\& \quad Q = V \times A$$

Giving equation.....

$$Q = 0.55 \times A \times \sqrt{(2 \times g \times Dh)}$$

Q (m³/sec) - Discharge

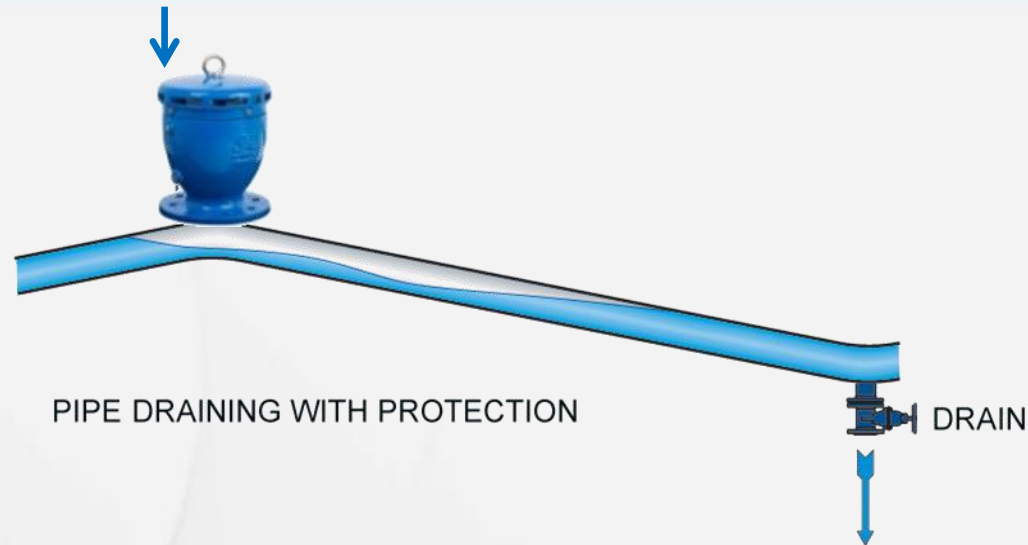
A (m²) – Cross Section area of the Drainage Valve

Dh (m) – Different in height between the Drain and the High Point

Example: 6m drop-off to a 100mm drain

$$\text{Area} = (\pi \times 0.1^2) / 4 = 0.00785 \text{ m}^2$$

$$Q = 0.55 \times 0.00785 \times \sqrt{(2 \times 9.81 \times 6)}$$
$$= 0.0468 \text{ m}^3/\text{sec}$$
$$= 168 \text{ m}^3/\text{hr}$$



Sizing Air Valves for a pipe Burst

From Hazen Williams, where:

Q - m³/hr

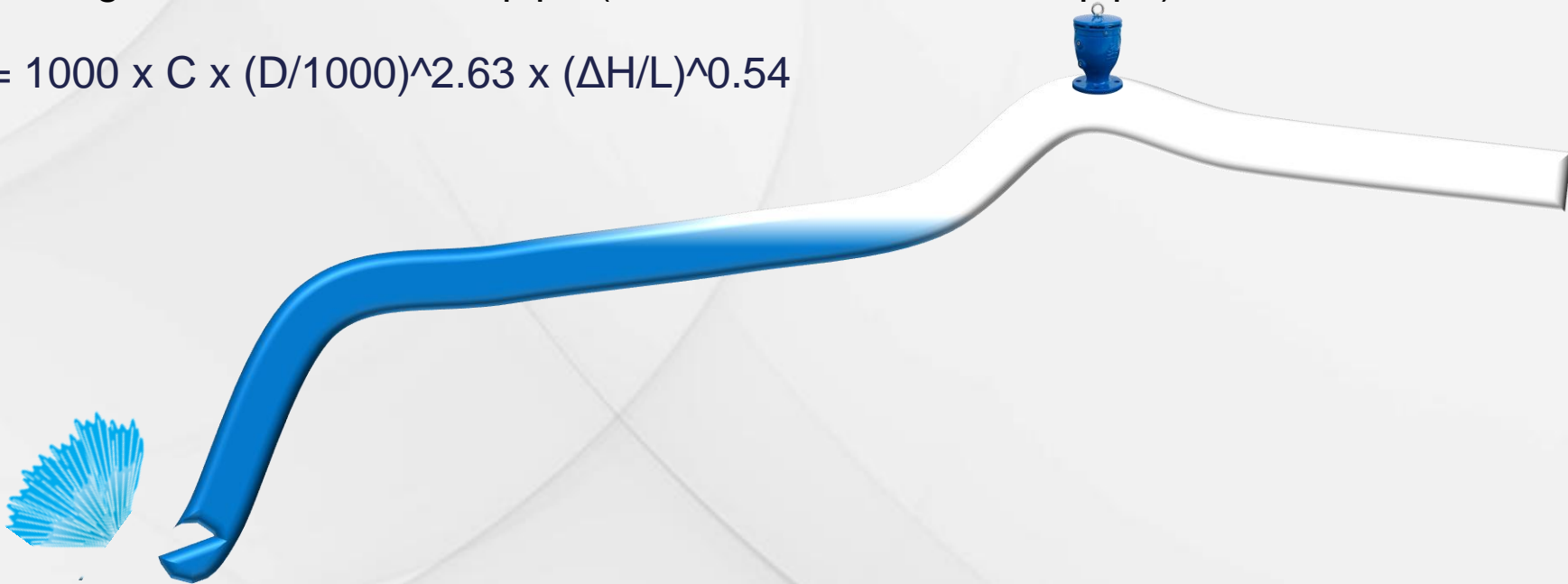
D – pipe id in mm

ΔH – Pressure change (m)

L – pipe length (m)

C – roughness coefficient of pipe (ie C=130 for clean steel pipe)

$$Q = 1000 \times C \times (D/1000)^{2.63} \times (\Delta H/L)^{0.54}$$



Or..... Use software : Bermad AIR - STA



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	Node Number	Accumulated distance from beginning of line	Invert Level (I.L.) of pipe at given distance	Main Line Diameter		Water transfer from low lake (at 34.4m elev) to storage reservoir 16.25 Km away, at elevation 80m. Use 600m concrete pipe, max flow velocity 1.2 m/s. At 1200 m³/hr, friction loss 34 m. Elev head				
2		[m]	[m]	(mm)						
3	J1	0.0	34.4	600		Bermad AIR STA				
4	J2	14.4	29.4	600		1/ Import data 'AirPlay' A3,B3,C3,D3				
5	J3	36.7	28.0	600		2/ Locate pump. Enter head 84m				
6	J4	54.3	28.0	600		Locate reservoir. Enter 'From top' and Q of 1200 m³/				
7	J5	67.6	27.9	600		4/ Analyze				
8	J6	74.2	27.9	600		5/ Reports				
9	J7	100.7	27.9	600						
10	PN8	112.9	27.9	600						
11	J9	123.2	28.2	600						
12	J10	141.2	28.7	600						
13	J11	164.0	30.2	600						
14	J12	205.5	31.0	600						
15	J13	218.8	34.7	600						
16	FM14	221.8	35.3	600						
17	J15	247.2	35.5	600						
18	J16	287.9	35.5	600						
19	J17	347.8	35.8	600						

1/ Compile data in Excel :
Nodes, distance from source,
elevation, pipe size

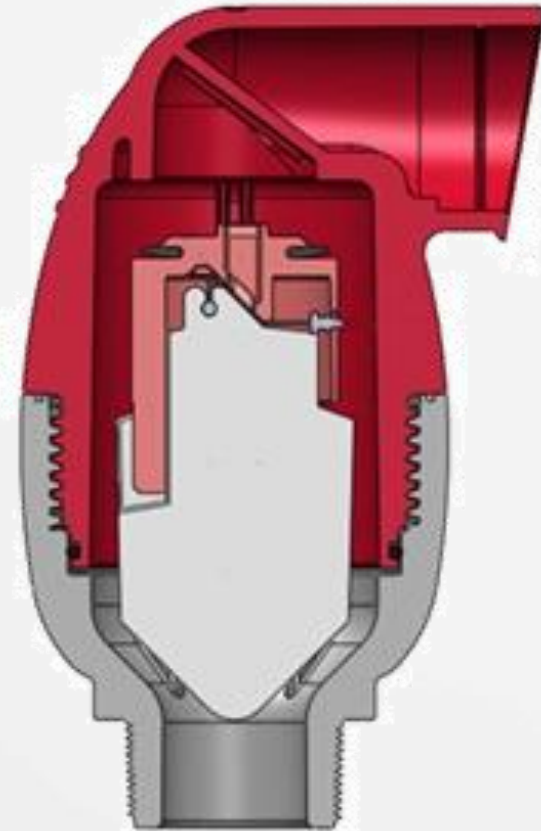
2/ Import Excel data into
Bermad AIR STA

The screenshot displays the BERMAD-AIR STA software interface. The main window is titled "BERMAD-AIR STA" and features a ribbon menu with tabs: Home, Project, Data, Analysis, Features, Reports, Extensions, and Help. The "Nodes Grid" tab is active, showing a table with columns: Node Number, Station Name, Distance from Origin, Elevation, Components, and Pt Type. The table contains 20 rows of data, including nodes J1 through J17, and pipes PN8, FM14, and J18 through J20. The "Project Properties" panel on the left shows details for the project "Panalpina", including Customer Name (KJV), Designer (Dom), Segment (Waterworks), Created date (Friday, July 24, 2015), and Project Version (0.0.1). The "Units and Scales" panel shows settings for Units Type (Metric Units), Distance (meter), Diameter (mm), Pressure (w.c.m), Water Velocity (m/sec), Water Flow (m³/hr), Graph Scale X (1), and Graph Scale Y (147). The "Library" panel on the right lists various components available in the BERMAD-AIR Library, including Kinetic Valves, Automatic Valves, Pressure Reducing Valve, Isolation Valve, Non-return valve, Pump, Reservoir, Water Tower, Demand, Drainage Valve, and No Solution.

- ***Allows efficient release*** of air pockets, while ***reducing undesirable leakage.***
- ***Pipelines*** – Protection against air accumulation in horizontal or low slope lines and road/river crossings.
- In ***proximity to control valves and water meters***
 - Prevention of biased readings and inaccurate pressure regulation due to air flow through devices.
- ***Industrial and residential networks*** - Protection against air accumulation in



- ***Designed in compliance with :***
 - Functional standard ***EN-1074/4***
 - Water service standards – ***NSF , WRAS, ACS, DGW***
- Compact, simple and reliable structure with fully corrosion-resistant parts; ***lower maintenance and increased life span.***
- Factory approval and ***Quality Control*** - Performance and specification tested and measured with ***specialized test bench***, including vacuum pressure conditions.

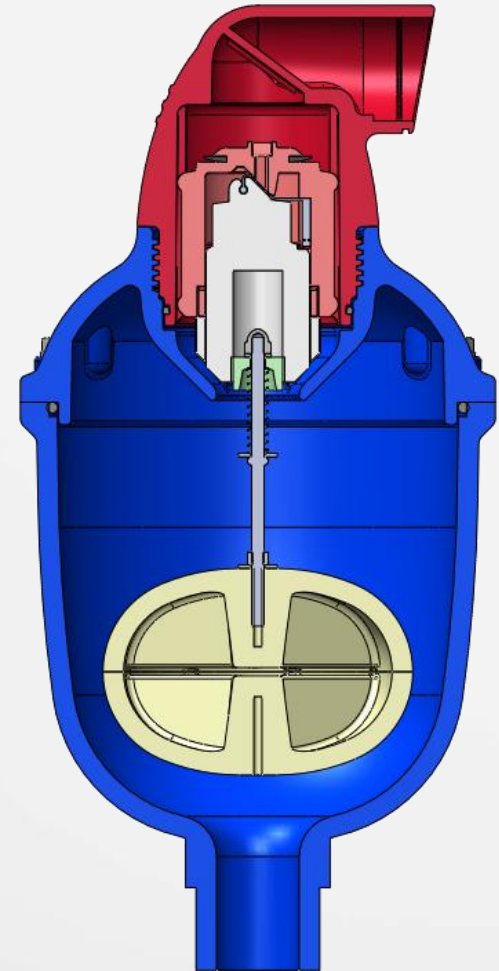


- ***Pumping stations and deep well pumps*** – Air relief, and vacuum prevention.
- ***Pipelines*** – Protection against air accumulation and vacuum formation at elevations, slope change points and at road/river crossings.
- ***Water networks*** – Protection against vacuum formation, surge and water hammers at points likely to experience ***water column separation***.



- **2 service ports** - connection of pressure gauge, check point or test drain for air valve function.
- ***Designed in compliance with :***
 - Functional standard ***EN-1074/4 and AS4956 (Australia)***
 - Water service standards – ***NSF ,WRAS, ACS, DGW***
- Compact, simple, robust and reliable structure with fully corrosion-resistant parts – ***Lower maintenance and increased life span.***

- Straight flow body with large diameter automatic orifice - ***Higher than usual flow rates.***
- Aerodynamic full-body kinetic shield – ***Prevents premature closing*** without disturbing air intake or discharge.
- Elongated body design - ***Prevents solids from making contact*** with valve's operating parts.
- ***Easy maintenance*** - Valve is opened from the top.

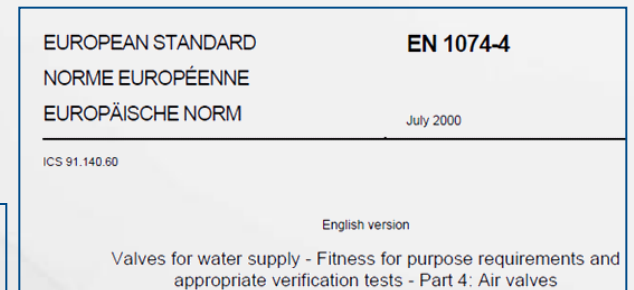
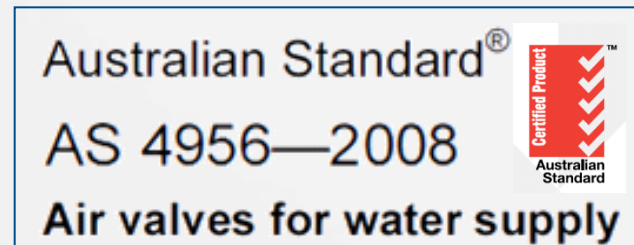
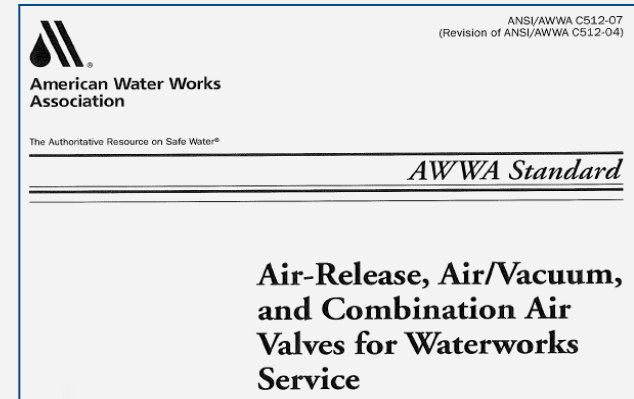


- **Functional**

- **AS4956 (Australia) – approved (C70)**
- European Standard EN1074/4 – **approved (C70)**
- WRAS (UK) - **approved (C70)**, pending (A30, C30)

- **Water Service**

- **NSF 60/61 – approved (A30, C30, C70)**
- **AS4020 (Australia) – approved (C70)**
- **KTW270 (Germany) - approved**
- ACS (France) – **approved (A30, C30, C70)**
- WRAS (UK) – **approved (C70)**, pending (A30, C30)





- ***Higher flow rates.***
- ***Low pressure sealing.***
- ***Minimal spray effects*** during automatic air release.
- ***Built in Surge Protection*** (anti slam).
- Versatile design for ***easy installation***
- Design in compliance to ***international standards.***

***Bermad's hydraulic control and air valves
creating comprehensive solutions for the
control of pressurized pipelines and networks.***

Typical installations



3"+4" C70



3"-C70



6"-C70



4 "-C70 (Brazil, 105km pipeline, 350 units)

BERMAD Solution

