

9.0 MAINTENANCE

TFT appliances are designed and manufactured to be damage resistant and require minimal maintenance. However, as the primary firefighting tool upon which your life depends, it should be treated accordingly. Do not drop or throw equipment.

This valve should be disconnected, cleaned and visually inspected inside and out at least quarterly for proper function per NFPA 1962 section 8.2, or as water quality and use may require. Moving parts such as handles, valve ball and couplings should be checked for smooth and free operation. Seals shall be greased as needed with a silicone-based grease such as Dow Corning 112. Any scrapes that expose bare aluminum should be cleaned and touched up with enamel paint such as Rust-Oleum. Replace any missing or damaged parts before returning to service. Any repaired device must be tested before being placed in service.

9.1 SERVICE TESTING

In accordance with NFPA 1962 (2013), appliances must be tested a minimum of annually. Appliances failing any part of this test must be removed from service, repaired and retested upon completion of the repair.

9.1.1 HYDRAULIC TEST

1. The appliance being tested shall be positioned in a protective device or cover capable of holding the appliance and tested to a minimum hydrostatic pressure of 300 psi (20.7 bar or 2070 kPa).
2. Test caps capable of withstanding the required hydrostatic pressure shall be attached to openings, and a device capable of exerting the required hydrostatic pressure shall be attached to the appliance.
3. Appliances with relief valves shall have the relief valve outlet blanked off or otherwise closed during the test.
4. All air shall be bled from the system.
5. The gauge pressure shall be increased by 50 psi (3.45 bar or 345 kPa) increments and held for 30 seconds at each pressure up to the maximum pressure for which the appliance is being tested and held for 1 minute without leakage.

9.1.2 RELIEF VALVE TEST

1. Hydrostatic testing of the appliance shall be conducted prior to testing the relief valve.
2. The relief valve shall be tested separately from any device it is connected to.
3. The relief valve shall be set to its lowest setting and pressurized.
4. If the relief valve does not operate at or below a pressure 10 percent over the setting, the test shall be discontinued and the relief valve repaired or replaced.
5. A calibrated test gauge shall be used to verify the setting.
6. After successful completion of the relief valve test, the relief valve shall be reset to the pressure designated by the authority having jurisdiction.
7. The final setting of the relief valve shall be confirmed by pressure testing.

9.1.3 SHUTOFF VALVE TEST

1. If the appliance has a shutoff valve, the intake side of the shutoff valve shall be hydrostatically pressurized to the maximum working pressure of the appliance with the valve in the shutoff position.
2. There shall be no leakage through the valve.
3. A water flow through the fire hose appliance at 100 psi (6.9 bar or 690 kPa) shall be established.
4. The valve shall be closed and reopened twice and shall operate smoothly without evidence of binding or other problems.

9.1.4 RECORDS

A record of testing and repairs must be maintained from the time the appliance is purchased until it is discarded. Each TFT appliance is engraved with a unique serial number which, if so desired, can be used to identify appliance for documentation purposes.

The following information, if applicable, must be included on the test record for each appliance:

1. Assigned identification number
2. Manufacturer
3. Product or model designation
4. Vendor
5. Warranty
6. Hose connection size
7. Maximum operating pressure
8. Flow rate or range
9. Date received and date put in service
10. Date of each service test and service test results
11. Damage and repairs, including who made the repairs and the cost of repair parts
12. Reason removed from service