Water Meters

Cash register for the water system

Determine the amount of unaccounted for water loss
METERS USED FOR MEASURING LOW FLOW RATES ARE CALLED POSITIVE DISPLACEMENT METERS

- NUTATING DISC AND ROTATING DISC
- NOT INTENDED TO OPERATE AT FULL FLOW FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME
- A METER SHOULD BE SIZED TO OPERATE AT HALF ITS MAXIMUM RATING
- CUSTOMER WILL RECEIVE FREE WATER AT FLOW RATES THAT ARE TOO LOW TO START THE METER OPERATION
- SPECIAL METER THREADS
- HIGH WATER BILLS ARE OFTEN ACCUSED BY CUSTOMER TO BE METER RELATED.
SMALL METER INSTALLATION

- SMALL METERS ARE USUALLY INSTALLED WITH A CURB STOP FOR A SHUT OFF
- METER YOLKS AND SETTERS HAVE THE METER SPACEING PREDESIGNED
LARGE METERS

• TURBINE METER – ROTORS TURN BY WATER FLOW, TURBINE METERS WILL UNDER-REGISTER IF THE BLADES GET CLOGGED WITH SEDIMENT.

• MULTI JET METER – SIMILAR BUT HAS MULTIBLADE ROTOR MOUNTED ON A VERTICAL SPINDLE WITHIN THE MEASURING CHAMBER

• PROPELLER METER – PROPELLER IS TURNED BY WATER FLOW

• PROPORTIONAL METER – HAS A RESTRICTION IN THE PIPELINE THAT FORCES A PORTION OF THE FLOW TO PASS THROUGH A SMALLER METER

• VENTURI METERS – DEFINED THROAT CONSTRUCTION WITHIN THE METER BODY. AS FLOW IS CONSTRICTED THE VELOCITY INCREASES. DIFFERENCE IN PRESSURE IS MEASURED

• ORIFICE METERS – THIN PLATE WITH A CIRCULAR HOLE

• MAGNETIC METERS – UNTRANSONIC FLOWMETER USES TRANSDUCERS TO GENERATE AND RECEIVE SOUND PULSES

• INSERTION METERS – PROBE WITH A SMALL ROTOR

• COMPOUND METERS – FIGURE 12-9
METER ACCURACY

- All meters operate on the principle of flow velocity
- Laminar flow
- Disturbance such as pipe bends and valves might create eddies in the water
- Manufactureres recommendations – pipe diameters before and after

[Diagram of velocity profile for laminar flow down a circular pipe]
METER READING

- Early meters had round reads.
- Meter registers in gallons or cubic feet.
- Most registers have one or more fixed zeros (10X – 100X).
- Direct meter reading – meter reader must visit each service.
- Doornolb reads – ask customer to read meter.
- Remote meter reading – register is located outside the meter box.
- Meter register sends a signal to a receiver.
- Hand held probe.
- Radio reads.
AUTOMATIC METER READING

• NEWEST TECHNOLOGY
• METER HAS A SMALL TRANSMITTER THAT SENDS A SIGNAL TO THE RECEIVER
• TELEPHONE LINES
• SOUND TRANSMISSION THROUGH WATER MAINS
• CABLE TV
• SATELLITE SYSTEMS
• WALK DOWN STREET WITH HAND HELD
• READS RECEIVED ON HOME COMPUTER
• ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) – MEASURE, COLLECT, AND ANALYZE ENERGY USAGE
• CUSTOMERS CAN OBTAIN AND USE INFORMATION TO HELP CONTROL USAGE
METER MAINTENANCE

- Meters are tested before shipping
- Meters gradually decrease their accuracy because of wear
- Meter testing – bench test / apply an ultrasonic
- Replace worn parts with new
- Replace meter
LOW FLOW – All water passes through the nutating disc / PD

CROSSOVER – As water flow increase control valve opens, water passes through both chambers until throttling down begins on the PD side

FULL FLOW – high flows the control valve is fully opened, bulk of the water passe through the turbine meter side.
METER CHARACTERISTICS

• ACCURACY WITHIN THE RANGE OF ANTICIPATED FLOWS
• MINIMAL HEAD LOSS
• DURABILITY
• EASE OF REPAIR
• AVAILABILITY OF SPARE PARTS
• QUIET OPERATION
• REASONABLE COST
POSITIVE DISPLACEMENT METERS

Customer water meters

PISTON METER

NUTATING DISC
Meter Testing

- **Volumetric**
  - Calibrated tank
  - Calibrate volumetric tanks annually
  - Wet the tanks prior to conducting initial tests

- **Gravimetric**
  - Weigh Scale
  - Calibrate scale annually
  - Wet tank procedure not required

- **Master Meter**
  - Known good meters
  - Volume to volume comparison
  - Correct flow profile using strainer and flow straighteners
Testing should be based more on meters consumption history

- Perform at least 3 flows per meter

- Start at the low flow
- A minimum of one sweep hand
- A poor test result should be repeatable
- In field calibration can be performed on some meters +/- 3% to 5%
- Spare Measuring Elements will allow for minimal customer disruption.
- Verify isolation valve closure
- Use calibration certificate of tester
  Clean Strainer
MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

• DISMANTLE THE METER
• THOROUGHLY CLEAN THE PARTS
• INSPECT ALL PARTS FOR WEAR, PITTING AND DISTORTION
• REPLACE OR REPAIR PARTS AS NECESSARY
• REASSEMBLE THE METER
• RETEST THE METER
STUDY QUESTION 68

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS NOT A METER TYPE COMMONLY USED ON WATER SYSTEMS

a. PROPORTIONAL
b. CURRENT
c. MAGNETIC
d. INVERSE
STUDY QUESTION 69

POSITIVE-DISPLACEMENT METERS _____ WHEN THEY ARE EXCESSIVELY WORN

a. DO NOT REGISTER
b. UNDER REGISTER
c. OVER REGISTER
d. REGISTER INTERMITTENTLY
STUDY QUESTION 70

WHEN USING TUBINE METERS, CLOGGING OF THE WHEEL’S BLADES CAN BE PREVENTED BY INSTALLING A(N) AHEAD OF THE METER

a. VENTURI DEVICE
b. IMPELLER
c. STRAINER
d. RESTRICTOR
STUDY QUESTION 71

WHAT TYPE OF METER IS USED FOR SERVICE WHERE DAILY USE IS RELATIVELY LOW BUT WHERE HIGH FLOW RATES MAY BE REQUIRED IN AN EMERGENCY

a. MAGNETIC METER

b. DETECTOR-CHECK METER

c. VENTURI METER

d. COMPOUND METER
STUDY QUESTION 72

WHAT TYPE OF METER IS USED FOR CUSTOMERS THAT HAVE WIDE VARIATIONS IN WATER USE

a. MAGNETIC
b. DETECTOR-CHECK
c. VENTURI METER
d. COMPOUND METER
Water Meters Q & A

Q-1: What are two reasons for metering water customers?

A-1: • To help a water utility account for water pumped to the system
      • To equitably charge customers for the water they use
Q-2: Name the two types of positive displacement meters commonly used on customer water services.

A-2: • Piston meters • Nutating-dish meters
Q-3: Compound meters are generally used under what conditions?

A-3: Compound meters are generally used where there is a considerable variation between low-flow and high-flow requirements for the customer.
Q-4:
List four factors that must be considered to select the correct size of meter.

A-4:
• The expected maximum customer demand for water
• The normal pressure in the system at the point of connection
• Friction losses in the service line, meter, and customer plumbing
• The range of flow rates that are expected
Q-5:
List 10 requirements for an acceptable meter installation.
Water Meters Q & A

A-5:

• The installation should not be subject to flooding with non-potable water.
• Valves should be provided on each side of the meter to isolate the meter for repair.
• The meter should preferably be mounted horizontally.
• The meter should be reasonably accessible for service and inspection.
• Provisions should be made either to have the meter easily accessible for reading or to have it provided with a remote reading device.
Water Meters Q & A

A-5:
- The meter should be protected from freezing and from mechanical damage.
- The installation should not create a safety hazard.
- The meter should be sealed to prevent tampering.
- Large meters should be properly supported to prevent excessive stress on the service pipe.
- Large-meter installations should have either a bypass line or multiple meters so that water service does not have to be discontinued while the meter is tested or replaced.
Q-8: List three basic elements in a meter test.

A-8:
• Running a number of different rates of flow over the operating range of the meter to determine overall meter efficiency.
• Passing known quantities of water through the meter at various test rates to provide a reasonable determination of meter registration.
• Meeting accuracy limits on different rates for acceptable use.
Water Meters Q & A

Q-8:
List three basic elements in a meter test.

A-8:
• Running a number of different rates of flow over the operating range of the meter to determine overall meter efficiency.
• Passing known quantities of water through the meter at various test rates to provide a reasonable determination of meter registration.
• Meeting accuracy limits on different rates for acceptable use.
CHAPTER 14

PUMPS AND MOTORS
TYPES OF PUMPS

• MOST PUMPS ON A PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ARE CALLED VELOCITY PUMPS

• PUMPS MOVE WATER BY A SPINNING IMPELLER
CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS

- CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS HAVE A ROTATING IMPELLER WITHIN A PUMP CASE
- WATER IS DRAWN FROM THE CENTER AND THROWN OUTWARD
- VOLUTE DESIGN
- SINGLE SUCTION
- DOUBLE SUCTION – HORIZONTAL SPLIT CASE
- THEORETICAL SUCTION LIFT 34 FEET AT SEA LEVEL
- PRACTICAL IS 15-25 FEET
- CENTRIFUGAL PUMP ADVANTAGES
  - SIMPLE CONSTRUCTION
  - MODERATE COSTS
  - SMALL SPACE REQUIREMENTS
  - LOW MAINTENANCE
  - ABILITY TO OPERATE AGAINST CLOSED HEAD FOR SHORT TIME PERIODS
AXIAL-FLOW PUMPS

- PROPELLER PUMPS

- THEY DO NOT HAVE VOLUTE OR DIFFUSER VANES AND ACHIEVE FLOW BY LIFTING ACTION OF A PROPELLER-SHAPED IMPELLER
VERTICAL TURBINE PUMP

• TYPE OF CENTRIFUGAL PUMP
• MULTIPLE STAGES PRODUCE HIGH PRESSURE AT HIGH EFFICIENCIES (90-95%)
• CLOSE IMPELLER / VOLUTE HOUSING – SAND AND SILT CAN WEAR AWAY IMPELLERS
• PUMP IS DRIVEN BY A LARGE SHAFT
• CAN BE INSTALLED AT MORE THAN 2000 FEET
• SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS ARE TURBINE AND SUBMERSIBLE MOTOR COMBOS
• SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS ELIMINATE THE LONG DRIVE SHAFT
JET PUMPS

• FIGURE 14-10

• CENTRIFUGAL PUMP AT THE GROUND SURFACE GENERATES HIGH VELOCITY WATER THAT IS DIRECTED DOWN THE WELL TO AN EJECTOR

• PARTIAL VACUUM IS CREATED THAT RAISES ADDITIONAL WATER TO THE SURFACE

• THE DISCHARGE OF THE PUMP IS SPLIT PART OF THE WATER GOES TO DISTRIBUTION WHILE THE OTHER PART BACK TO THE EJECTOR

• JET PUMPS USED MAINLY FOR SMALL HOUSEHOLD APPLICATIONS - LOW EFFICIENCY / LOW COST / LOW MAINT.
READING A PUMP CURVE

A PUMP CURVE IS A GRAPH SHOWING:

- CAPACITY
- HEAD
- REQUIRED POWER
- EFFICIENCY
READING A PUMP CURVE

- H-Q CURVE – RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE HEAD (FEET) AND THE CAPACITY (Q) IN GALLON PER MINUTE

- P-Q – RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN POWER REQUIRED AND CAPACITY (Q) POWER IS IN BRAKE HORSEPOWER, MOTOR EFFICIENCY MUST BE KNOWN

- E-Q – RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUMP EFFICIENCY (E) PERCENT AND CAPACITY

- SIZING A PUMP A MODEL SHOULD BE SELECTED THAT PROVIDES THE DESIRED FLOW RATE NEAR PEAK EFFICIENCY

- EFFICIENCY OF THE ELECTRIC MOTOR

- WIRE TO WATER EFFICIENCY
PUMP STARTING AND STOPPING

258-259

• SUCTION SIDE OF PUMP WATER IS ALWAYS SUPPLIED UNDER PRESSURE THE PUMP WILL ALWAYS BE PRIMED AND READY FOR IMMEDIATE USE

• SMALL PUMPS ARE USUALLY PROVIDED WITH A CHECK VALVE ON THE DISCHARGE SIDE WHICH WILL OPEN WHEN PUMP IS RUNNING AND CLOSE WHEN PUMP IS OFF

• WATER HAMMER PUMPS MAY NEED A PRESSURE RELIEF VALVE OR SURGE CHAMBER/TANK

• LARGE PUMPS POWER ACTIVATED DISCHARGE VAVES ARE NEEDED

• SPECIAL PROVISIONS MUST BE MADE FOR CLOSING THE DISCHARGE VALVE IN THE EVENT OF A POWER FAILURE
FLOW CONTROL

• MOST PUMPS USED IN WATER INDUSTRY ARE CONSTANT SPEED

• VARYING DEMANDS ARE MET BY TURNING THE PUMPS ON AND OFF

• FLOW CAN BE TEMPORARILY CONTROLLED BY THROTTLING A VALVE

• GATE VALVES WILL EVENTUALLY BE DAMAGED

• BUTTERFLY VALVES NOT AS CRITICAL

• CONTINUOUS VARYING PUMP DISCHARGE – VARIABLE FREQUENCY SPEED (VFD)
MONITORING PUMP OPERATION

- SUCTION AND DISCHARGE SHOULD BE MONITORED BY READING GAUGES
- BEARINGS AND MOTOR TEMPERATURES SHOULD BE MONITORED REGULARLY
- EXPERIENCED OPERATORS LEARN NORMAL AND ABNORMAL SOUNDS
- VIBRATION
- PUMP DISCHARGE CAN BE METERED
- PACKING LEAKAGE SHOULD BE OBSERVED
- AMPERAGE DRAWN SHOULD BE CHECKED
PUMP MAINTENANCE

- MAINTENCE PROGRAM
- SEASONAL MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE
- CONDITION OF BEARINGS, IMPELLER, SEALS, COUPLING ALIGNMENT
- PUMP MANUFACTURER SHOULD BE CONSULTED FOR MAINTENANCE ITEMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Periodical PM tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Monitoring Water level in Tanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Monitoring Noise &amp; Vibration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Monitoring water leakage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Pets control service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Check pressure gauges &amp; Pressure Tank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Monitoring Pressure Switch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Check float valve and float switch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Monitoring oil or grease leakage from bearing box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Monitoring pump parts temp. (Bearing temp.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Clean the pump and pump room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Make sure that motor performance is matching pump duty point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Monitoring electrical motor temp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Check automatic operating mode circuit + operate stand by pump 5 minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Check valves throttling position degree</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BEARING MAINTENANCE
262-263

- Pump bearings are either grease or oil lubricated
- Use manufacturer's recommended lubricant
- Change oil every 6-12 months
- Grease - never over lubricate

**Bearing Grease Procedures**

- Open grease plug
- Fill bearing with grease until grease flows from grease plug
- Run pump with grease plug open until grease is warm
- Replace drain plug
MOTORS

- Electric motors are used in \( \frac{263}{263} \) of all pumps
- Internal combustion used as standby – 38% efficient
- AC current used to power motors – 3 phase
- Single phase for smaller motors
SINGLE PHASE MOTORS

264

• MOTORS ARE USED FOR FRACTIONAL HP SIZES
• 10 HP AT 120-240V
• S-PH PUMPS HAVE NO POWER TO BRING IT UP TO SPEED (STARTING TORQUE)
• 3 BASIC TYPES
  • SPLIT CASE MOTORS – ROTOR WITH NO WINDINGS. LOW STARTING TORQUE AND CURRENT.
  • REPULSION-INDUCTION MOTORS – COMPLEX AND EXPENSIVE, HIGHER STARTING CURRENT.
  • CAPACITOR START MOTORS – HIGH STARTING TORQUE AND CURRENT.
  • USED WHERE THE LOAD CAN BE BROUGHT UP TO SPEED QUICKLY AND INFREQUENT STARTING IS REQUIRED.
THREE PHASE MOTORS
264-265

- MOTORS ABOVE 1/2 HP
- 230, 460, 2300, 4000 VOLTS

3 CLASSES - READ DEFINITIONS ON PAGE 264

- SQUIRREL-CAGE INDUCTION MOTOR - SIMPLEST OF ALL MOTORS
- SYNCHRONOUS MOTOR - REVOLVING MAGNETIC FIELD
- WOUND-ROTOR INDUCTION - SAME AS SQUIRREL CAGE EXCEPT RESISTANCE OF ROTOR CAN BE CONTROLLED WHILE MOTOR IS RUNNING
• MOTORS CONVERT ELECTRICAL ENERGY INTO MECHANICAL ENERGY AND HEAT
• 5% IS LOST IN HEAT
• AMBIENT TEMPERATURES OF 104 DEGREES
• HIGH OPERATING TEMPERATURES SHORTER LIFE SPAN
• MOTORS NEED AIR FLOW
MECHANICAL PROTECTION

- HOUSING TO LOCATION RELATIONSHIP
- OUTSIDE MOTORS MUST BE PROTECTED
- MOTOR HOUSING DESIGNS
  - OPEN
  - DRIP PROOF
  - SPLASH-PROOF
  - GUARDED
  - TOTALLY ENCLOSED WITH FAN COOLING
MOTOR STARTERS

• SMALL MOTORS ARE STARTED BY DIRECTLY CONNECTING LINE VOLTAGE TO THE MOTOR

• LARGER MOTORS A MOTOR STARTER

• MOTOR STARTER INCLUDES A MAIN DISCONNECT SWITCH

• FUSES

• MOTOR PROTECTION BY TEMPERATURE MONITOR
REDUCED-VOLTAGE CONTROLLERS

- HIGH STARTER CURRENT PROTECTION
- REDUCED VOLTAGE SUPPLIED TO MOTOR
MOTOR CONTROL SYSTEMS

266

• REMOTE AND AUTOMATIC CONTROLS ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR AN OPERATOR
• SYSTEM ALSO FURNISHES ALARMS – HIGH / LOW
INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINES POWER PUMPS DURING EMERGENCIES

ELECTRIC GENERATORS ARE POWERED BY THESE ENGINES

TYPES OF ENGINES

• GASOLINE ENGINES

• DIESEL ENGINES
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

START UP OPERATING PROCEDURES

- SERVICE PRIOR TO OPERATION – INSPECT BEFORE STARTING – FLUIDS, BELTS, HOSES
- INITIAL OPERATION SERVICE – AFTER STARTING – CHECK IDLE, PRESSURES, TEMPS
- SERVICE DURING OPERATION – CHECK GAUGES, FUEL LEVELS
- SERVICE AFTER OPERATIONS – ANY ISSUES SHOULD BE CORRECTED
- ROUTINE PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE – ENGINES USED FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE SHOULD BE EXERCISED REGULARLY IN FULL LOADS.
PUMP, MOTOR, AND ENGINE RECORDS

268-269

- Detailed records should be maintained on all equipment.

**Typical Information**

- Make, model, capacity, type, serial number, warranty information
- Date and location
- Part numbers
- Test results
- Manufacturers suggested inspection and maint. schedules
- Names, addresses, phone numbers of the manufacturers