

November 13, 2024

## The valve is allowed to leak?

As crazy as it sounds, depending on the valve type and the service, a valve is allowed to leak, but only past the seat or sealing member, through the valve. How much leakage is well defined by the testing standards that relate to the specific type of valve, and the service in which it is used.

Milwaukee Valve has updated a recent technical bulletin ([Gate Valve Installation & Leakage MVTB-05-001](#)), addressing issues related to iron or steel flanged gate valves. The bulletin is generic in nature but serves to highlight certain important considerations.



[Milwaukee Valve iron gate valves](#) are designed, built, and tested to Manufacturers Standardization Society (MSS) standard MSS SP70. [Milwaukee Valve cast steel valves](#) are designed and built in accordance with American Petroleum Institute (API) 600 and tested per the applicable sections of API 598.

In both cases, seat leakage tests are performed on factory new valves with the stem vertical and the maximum handwheel torque applied, with measurable leakage allowed at the test pressures involved (i.e., full rated pressure for the iron valves, 60-100 psig for the steel valves, unless a high-pressure closure test is specified by the purchaser).



The bulletin points out that, insofar as the valves are metal seated and by specification have allowable leakage when tested new at the factory, it can be inferred that there will be increased leakage at lower pressures, since pressure assists sealing, particularly when the valve is installed stem horizontal or when steam or gas is the application fluid, as gas will traverse

an available leak path more readily than liquid.

The new Technical Bulletin, [Gate Valve Installation & Leakage MVTB-05-001](#), gives a general overview of allowable leakage for MSS and API standards. The bulletin can be found on the website [HERE](#). In addition, Ryan Murphy, Milwaukee Valve's vice president of product development, conducted a short but informative webinar on the valve standards and testing procedures required to ensure the safety and reliability of our products. If you missed the webinar, you can view it [HERE](#), or pass it along to others within your organization. (Registration required.) This webinar qualifies for CEU credits from ASPE, even if viewed on-demand.

For more information, contact your [Milwaukee Valve regional manager or sales representative](#) today. Get complete specs and features for all Milwaukee Valve products at [www.MilwaukeeValve.com](http://www.MilwaukeeValve.com).



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