

ANSI/MSS SP-96-2011



Guidelines on Terminology for Valves and Fittings

Standard Practice
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This Standard Practice has been substantively revised from the previous 2001 (R 2005) edition. It is suggested that if the user is interested in knowing what changes have been made, that a direct page by page comparison should be made of this document and that of the previous edition.

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FOREWORD

Valves and fittings were being manufactured in the United States for many years before the first standards were written. In selecting names for these products and their component parts, manufacturers chose terms which seemed appropriate to the configuration and intended use.

Uses expanded and changed, and manufacturers sometimes found that logical choices of terminology had been preempted by other products. The result has been that valves, fittings, and parts of similar configuration or intended use sometimes have more than one name. In other cases, the same name has been applied to assemblies or parts of different configuration and function.

The absence of a common statement of preferred terms has contributed to the variations of terms used by individual manufacturers.

This Standard Practice has been developed to serve two functions:

- 1) To assist the users of valves and fittings in communicating with their manufacturers.
- 2) To promote standardization in the usage of terms within the industry.

This Standard Practice provides definitions of the preferred items, and provides cross referencing to the appropriate preferred terms for other commonly used terminology. It is subject to the periodic review procedure common to standards.

This 2011 American National Standard edition, ANSI-approved and published in 2014, is substantively consistent with the currently available 2011 MSS edition and will utilize this 2011 year in its nomenclature. Substantive revisions will be applied to the next edition, with a goal of having one unified and consistent ANSI/MSS Standard Practice.

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GUIDELINES ON TERMINOLOGY FOR VALVES AND FITTINGS

1. **SCOPE**

1.1 This Standard Practice lists and defines principle terms and acronyms widely used to describe general purpose valves, fittings, and related components. It is comprised of separate sections which contain:

- Acronyms for organizations whose documents are applicable to valves and fittings, and a brief summary of the applicable area of interest.
- A glossary of terms used in valve and fittings specifications to describe design, operation, and performance characteristics.
- Abbreviations commonly used in the valve and fittings industry.

2. **DOCUMENT SOURCES**

A number of technical societies, trade associations, and governmental agencies in the United States of America promulgate codes, standards, or specifications that are pertinent to valves and fittings. Some are recognized throughout the valve and fittings industry, some are relevant to specific services, while others are applicable to all usages within a specific industry. Most of these organizations and their standards or specifications are designated by letters. The organizations most frequently referenced and their relationship to the valve and fittings industry are listed below:

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| <p>AAR Association of American Railroads – publishes design and dimensional standards for bronze valves and 300 psi pressure rating, malleable pipe fittings used by railroads.</p> <p>ACI Alloy Castings Institute – publishes material specifications for heat and corrosion resistant alloys.</p> | <p>ABS American Bureau of Shipping – publishes safety standards for shipbuilding, including specifications for valves and fittings used in commercial maritime service.</p> <p>AFS American Foundry Society – publishes information on casting methods, procedures, and practices that are basic references for product design, procurement, and inspection of cast products.</p> <p>ANSI American National Standards Institute – serves as administrator of the United States voluntary standardization system by accrediting the procedures of standards developing organizations (SDO’s). ANSI is also the sole U.S. member body to the ISO and IEC.</p> <p>API American Petroleum Institute – publishes standards for systems and equipment related to the oil and natural gas industry.</p> <p>ASME American Society of Mechanical Engineers (also known as ASME International) – publishes codes, standards and specifications for materials, products, systems, services, and test methodologies involving a full range of technical fields, including the valves and fittings industry.</p> <p>ASNT American Society for Non-Destructive Testing – publishes specifications for non-destructive examination procedures and methods for parts of valves and fittings.</p> <p>ASQ American Society for Quality Control – publishes specifications applicable to valve and fitting components covering systems and procedures for quality assurance.</p> |
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