

MSS SP-96-2017



Terminology for Valves, Fittings, and Their Related Components

Standard Practice
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This Standard Practice has been substantively revised from the previous 2011 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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Originally Published: September 1986
Current Edition Approved by MSS: September 2016
Current Edition Approved by ANSI: January 2017
Current ANSI/MSS Revised Edition Published: April 2017

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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 set of preferred terminology has contributed to variations being used by individual manufacturers and the industry in general.

This Standard Practice has been developed to serve two functions:

- 1) To assist the users of valves, fittings, and their related components in communicating with their manufacturers.
- 2) To promote standardization in the usage of terminology and acronyms 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.

The 2011 American National Standard (ANS) edition was published in 2014, after successful balloting with the ANSI/MSS Consensus Committee and final approval by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

This 2017 revised American National Standard edition was ANSI-approved and published in 2017 after being substantively revised, reformatted, and approved by MSS in 2016, then being submitted unpublished to the ANSI/MSS Consensus Committee balloting and ANSI final approval process.

NOTICE REGARDING NEW PROPOSALS:

SP-96 is subject to the periodic review procedure common to standards; however, proposed inclusions and updates can be submitted by anyone to MSS, at any time, by sending correspondence to: standards@msshq.org. Proposals will be collected and transmitted to MSS Committee 302 for consideration.

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Manufacturers Standardization Society of the Valve and Fittings Industry

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TERMINOLOGY FOR VALVES, FITTINGS, AND THEIR RELATED COMPONENTS

1. SCOPE

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

- Acronyms for organizations whose documents are applicable to valves, fittings, and their related components, and a brief summary of the applicable area of interest as it relates to this subject.
- A glossary of terms used within the valve and fittings industry, including standards developers, to describe design, operation, and performance characteristics.
- Abbreviations commonly used in the valve and fittings industry.

2. DOCUMENT SOURCES AND ACRONYMS

A number of technical societies, Standards Development Organizations (SDOs), trade associations, and governmental agencies promulgate codes, standards, or specifications that are pertinent to the valve and fittings industry. Many SDOs are recognized throughout the valve and fittings industry, while others are relevant to specific services, segments, or regions, while others are applicable to all usages within a specific industry. The organizations and their acronyms most frequently referenced, and their relationship to the valve and fittings industry, are listed below in alphabetical order (according to acronym):

AAR	<i>Association of American Railroads</i> – publishes design and dimensional standards for bronze valves and 300 psi pressure rating, malleable pipe fittings used by railroads.
ABS	<i>American Bureau of Shipping</i> – publishes safety standards for shipbuilding, including specifications for valves and fittings used in commercial maritime service.
ACI	<i>Alloy Castings Institute</i> – publishes material specifications for heat and corrosion resistant alloys.
AESC	<i>American Engineering Standards Committee</i> – one of the precursor structures of ANSI; from 1916 to 1928.
AFS	<i>American Foundry Society</i> – publishes information on casting methods, procedures, and practices that are basic references for product design, procurement, and inspection of cast products.
AGA	<i>American Gas Association</i> – a trade association that represents companies which deliver natural gas to customers. Promotes and advocates for natural gas industry issues, regulatory constructs and business models that are priorities for their industry. See “CSA” with regard to gas distribution markings.
AISI	<i>American Iron and Steel Institute</i> – a trade association that represents the North American steel industry; membership comprised of furnace steelmakers and suppliers to or customers of the steel industry.
ANSI	<i>American National Standards Institute</i> – serves as administrator of the United States voluntary standardization system by accrediting the procedures of standards developing organizations (SDO’s); known as ASDs or Accredited Standards Developers. ANSI originally organized in 1916 as the American Engineering Standards Committee (AESC).