

American Water Works Association

ANSI/AWWA C512-99

(Revision of ANSI/AWWA C512-92)



AWWA STANDARD
FOR
**AIR RELEASE, AIR/VACUUM, AND
COMBINATION AIR VALVES FOR
WATERWORKS SERVICE**

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AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION

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Foreword

This foreword is for information only and is not a part of AWWA C512.

I. Introduction.

I.A. *Background.* This standard describes three types of air valves: air-release valves, air/vacuum valves, and combination air valves.

1. Air-Release Valves, also called small orifice valves, are designed to automatically release small pockets of accumulated air from a pipeline while the system operates under pressure exceeding atmospheric pressure.

2. Air/Vacuum Valves, also called large orifice valves, are designed to exhaust large quantities of air automatically during pipeline filling and to admit large quantities of air automatically when the internal pressure in the pipeline drops below atmospheric pressure.

3. Combination Air Valves are designed to perform the same function as Air/Vacuum Valves but, in addition, they will automatically release small pockets of air from the pipeline while under pressure like an Air-Release Valve.

I.B. *History.* The AWWA Standards Committee on Waterworks Air-Release Valves was authorized on Nov. 17, 1984, to respond to a request for a standard on air valves. The first edition of this standard AWWA C512, was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on Jan. 26, 1992. This edition was approved on June 20, 1999.

I.C. *Acceptance.* In May 1985, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) entered into a cooperative agreement with a consortium led by NSF International (NSF) to develop voluntary third-party consensus standards and a certification program for all direct and indirect drinking water additives. Other members of the original consortium included the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AWWARF) and the Conference of State Health and Environmental Managers (COSHEM). The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) joined later.

In the United States, authority to regulate products for use in, or in contact with, drinking water rests with individual states.* Local agencies may choose to impose requirements more stringent than those required by the state. To evaluate the health effects of products and drinking water additives from such products, state and local agencies may use various references, including

1. An advisory program formerly administered by USEPA, Office of Drinking Water, discontinued on Apr. 7, 1990.

2. Specific policies of the state or local agency.

3. Two standards developed under the direction of NSF, ANSI[†]/NSF[‡] 60, Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals—Health Effects, and ANSI/NSF 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects.

*Persons in Canada, Mexico, and non-North American countries should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.

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