



**American Water Works
Association**

The Authoritative Resource on Safe Water®

ANSI/AWWA C518-08
(First Edition)

AWWA Standard

Dual-Disc Swing- Check Valves for Waterworks Service



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Foreword

This foreword is for information only and is not a part of ANSI/AWWA C518.

I. Introduction

I.A. *Background.* Dual-disc swing-check valves have been commonly used on pump discharge applications in the waterworks industry for more than half a century. These check valves are designed to prevent backflow by automatically closing rapidly on flow-reversal. They provide tight shutoff while requiring relatively little space for installation.

I.B. *History.* The need for standardization of dual-disc swing-check valves was recognized by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) in 1992. The AWWA Gate and Check Valve Committee worked to publish this first edition of ANSI/AWWA C518 beginning in 2003. It was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on Jan. 27, 2008.

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 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, NSF[†]/ANSI[‡] 60,

* Persons outside the United States should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.

† NSF International, 789 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

‡ American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10036.

Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals—Health Effects, and NSF/ANSI 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects.

4. Other references, including AWWA standards, *Food Chemicals Codex*, *Water Chemicals Codex*,* and other standards considered appropriate by the state or local agency.

Various certification organizations may be involved in certifying products in accordance with NSF/ANSI 61. Individual states or local agencies have authority to accept or accredit certification organizations within their jurisdiction. Accreditation of certification organizations may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Annex A, “Toxicology Review and Evaluation Procedures,” to NSF/ANSI 61 does not stipulate a maximum allowable level (MAL) of a contaminant for substances not regulated by a USEPA final maximum contaminant level (MCL). The MALs of an unspecified list of “unregulated contaminants” are based on toxicity testing guidelines (noncarcinogens) and risk characterization methodology (carcinogens). Use of Annex A procedures may not always be identical, depending on the certifier.

ANSI/AWWA C518 does not address additives requirements. Thus, users of this standard should consult the appropriate state or local agency having jurisdiction in order to

1. Determine additives requirements, including applicable standards.
2. Determine the status of certifications by parties offering to certify products for contact with, or treatment of, drinking water.
3. Determine current information on product certification.

II. Special Issues.

II.A. *General.* Conditions under which a valve is to be operated must be evaluated carefully by the purchaser. The evaluations must include the determination of the hydraulic characteristics of the system in which the valve will be installed and the operation of the valve including (1) the maximum transient and static differential pressure across the valve disc and (2) minimum and maximum flow through the valve under the most adverse operating conditions.

Hydraulic testing, flow capacities, and valve characteristics are based on the flow upstream of a valve being uniform and undisturbed, like the flow produced by a constant-diameter, straight pipe of at least six diameters. Piping configurations that

* Both publications available from National Academy of Sciences, 500 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

produce a nonuniform or turbulent flow pattern upstream of the valve can create damaging vibrations, increase head loss, and increase stresses in valve components.

II.B. *Advisory Information on Product Application.* This standard does not describe all possible applications or manufacturing technologies. The purchaser should identify special requirements and required deviations from this standard and include appropriate language in purchase documents. Refer to Sec. III.A in this foreword. Other advisory information is provided below.

1. Check valves may be subject to excessive wear if there is insufficient flow to open the valve fully. Manufacturers can supply information during the valve sizing process to prevent this from occurring.

2. These valves are designed for use with clean water and installation in horizontal pipelines with the hinge pin oriented in the vertical or vertical lines with flow upward. If installed in a flow-down application, the valves may not have sufficient spring torque to close.

3. These valves are sometimes used for air blower discharge service and therefore are subject to unusual temperature and flow conditions. Air service should be considered a special application for this valve and warrants a review of the operating parameters with the supplier or manufacturer.

4. When open, the valve discs extend a significant distance into the downstream piping and may strike or interfere with downstream valves or flow elements. A sufficient distance of open pipe downstream of the valve should be planned for every installation.

III. Use of This Standard. It is the responsibility of the user of an AWWA standard to determine that the products described in that standard are suitable for use in the particular application being considered.

III.A. *Purchaser Options and Alternatives.* The following items should be provided by the purchaser:

1. Standard to be used—that is, ANSI/AWWA C518, Dual-Disc Swing-Check Valves for Waterworks Service, of latest edition.

2. Whether compliance with NSF/ANSI 61 Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects is required.

3. Size of check valves.
4. Quantity required.
5. Maximum line pressure.
6. Required flow rate through valve.
 - a. Under minimum conditions.