
AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

**CLASSIFICATION AND OPERATING
PRINCIPLES OF STEAM TRAPS**

Fluid Controls Institute, Inc.

Sponsor:



Fluid Controls Institute, Inc.
1300 Sumner Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2851

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Foreword

For many years, steam trap manufacturers and users have recognized the need to establish standards for determining capacities of industrial steam traps. Many factors affect steam trap capacity and this has led to some confusion in the past. The FCI Steam Trap Section has developed a series of standards that serve as the authoritative source for reference regarding the capabilities of steam traps.

Since steam traps are for the purpose of venting air and discharging condensate, many principles of operation are employed. This has led to some confusion in determining trap capacities. However, since all steam traps are governed by basic flow principles which will affect the amount of condensate through an orifice, a set of standards is very practical.

In order to have a comprehensive standard, we have developed this standard, which describes the various types of steam traps, their principles of operation, and factors that affect their performance. This information enables a user to compare the relative capacities of traps of different types and different manufacturers.

The Steam Trap Section of the Fluid Controls Institute began work on these standards many years ago. The final results represent the labors and the accumulated years of experience of many individuals in arriving at what we feel is a very complete and correct set of standards. At the same time, we as a committee realize that there are always opportunities to expand and to improve, and we invite comments for consideration.

FCI recognizes the need to periodically review and update this standard. Suggestions for improvement should be forwarded to the Fluid Controls Institute, Inc., 1300 Sumner Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, 44115-2851. All constructive suggestions for expansion and revision of this standard are welcome.

The existence of a Fluid Controls Institute (FCI) standard does not in any respect preclude any member or non-member from manufacturing or selling products not conforming to this standard nor is the FCI responsible for its use.

Please go to the FCI web site for all of the latest technical articles and standards.

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