

"ANTI-SHOCK" AIR RELEASE AND VACUUM BREAK VALVES

FOR EFFECTIVE AIR RELEASE VACUUM PROTECTION AND SURGE ALLEVIATION





VENT - O - MAT[®]

Series RBX

COMPONENT DESCRIPTION & MATERIAL SPECIFICATION SCREWED - DN25(1") & DN50(2")

Type:

Series RBX - Double Orifice (Small & Large Orifice) with Anti Shock Orifice Mechanism.

End Connection: Screwed BSP (ISO R7)/ NPT Male

Nominal Sizes: Model No's: **Pressure Ratings:** RBX 2511 & 2521 DN25 (1") ____ PN25 (363 psi) DN50 (2") RBX 4011 & 4021 _____ PN40 (580 psi) **Top Flange Fusion Bonded Epoxy Powder Coated** Ductile Cast Iron **Top Cover** BS2789 Grade 420/12 ABS Polylac PA737 Alternatively Mild Steel Bs4360 Grade 43A Assembly Screws Cheesehead **Barrel Seal** Stainless Steel AISI 304 Klingersil C4430 /Treadit Naloor Nuts Gasket Stainless Steel AISI 304 O - Ring Seal **EPDM Rubber** Washer (NSF61) Stainless Steel AISI 304 Anti Shock Orifice Top Float High Density Polyethylene High Density Polyethylene Nozzle O - Ring Seat EPDM Rubber (NSF61) Stainless Steel AISI 316 **Optional Test Cock** /4" Female BSP Nozzle Seat **EPDM Rubber** Lower Float Tie Rods High Density Polyethylene Stainless Steel AISI 304 Barrel Float Guide Stainless Steel AISI 304L Stainless Steel AISI 304 Support Screw Cheesehead **Baffle Plate** Stainless Steel AISI 304 Stainless Steel AISI 304 **Baffle Plate Spacer** Lower Flange ABS Polylac PA737 Support Screw Fusion Bonded Epoxy Powder Coated Cheesehead Ductile Cast Iron Stainless Steel AISI 304 BS2789 Grade 420/12 Alternatively Mild Steel Bs4360 Grade 43A

Valves are available in AISI 316L on request.

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Series RBX

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS SCREWED - DN25(1") & DN50(2")



Туре:

Double Orifice (Small & Large Orifice) with Anti-Shock Orifice Mechanism.

End Connection: Screwed BSP/ NPT Male

Nominal Sizes:

DN25 (1") & DN50 (2")

Model No's:	Pressure Ratings bar (psi):
RBX 2511	PN 25 (363 psi)
RBX 4011	PN 40 (580 psi)

Operating Pressure Range - bar (psi):

	Min.	Max.
PN25 (363 psi)	0.5 (7.25)	25 (363)
PN40 (580 psi)	0.5 (7.25)	40 (580)

Operating Temperature Range:

4°C (40°F) to 80°C (176°F)

Acceptable Media:

Potable or strained raw water.

Function:

- i) High volume air discharge pipeline filling.
- ii) High volume air intake pipeline draining
- iii) Pressurized air discharge pipeline filled.
- iv) Surge dampening high velocity air discharge, water column separation & liquid oscillation.

Materials of Construction: - see page 4

Installation:- see page 3

Standard Factory Tests:

- i) Hydrostatic 1.5 x max. rated working pressure
- ii) Low head leak 0.5 bar (7.25 psi)
- iii) Small orifice function at max. rated working pressure (minimum 1 valve in 10).

OVERALL DIMENSIONS & WEIGHTS

	ŅΝ	MODEL No.	PRESSURE RATING	Ą		Ŗ		С	WEIGHT	
mn	n in.			mm	in.	mm	in.		kg.	lbs
25	1"	025 RBX 2511 & 2521	PN25 (363 psi)	120	4 ³ /4	265	10 ⁷ /16	1"BSP/NPT	5	11
25	1"	025 RBX 4011 & 4021	PN40 (580 psi)	120	4 ³ /4	317	12 ¹ /2	1" BSP/ NPT	5.5	12.2
50	2"	050 RBX 2511 & 2521	PN25 (363 psi)	165	6 ¹ /2	325	12 ⁸ /10	2" BSP/NPT	9.5	21
50	2"	050 RBX 4011 & 4021	PN40 (580 psi)	165	6 ¹ /2	340	13 ⁶ /16	2" BSP/ NPT	10	22



Series RBX OPERATION

PRE NOTES:

1. VENTING OF A FILLING PIPELINE:

The operation of a conventional air release valve is such that fast approaching water is almost instantaneously halted by the valve's closure without the shock cushioning benefit of any retained air in the pipeline. Consequently a transient pressure rise or shock of potentially damaging proportions can be generated in a pipeline system, even at normal filling rates.

In addition to venting through the Large Orifice (1) when water approach velocities are sub critical, the Vent-O-Mat series RBX air release valves feature an automatic "Anti-Shock" Orifice (8) device that serves to decelerate water approaching at excessive speed, thereby limiting pressure rise to a maximum of 1.5 x rated working pressure of the valve.

2. SURGE ALLEVIATION - PIPELINE PRESSURIZED:

In instances where a pipeline experiences water column separation due to pump stoppage, high shock pressures can be generated when the separated water column rejoins.

The Vent-O-Mat series RBX takes in air through the unobstructed large orifice when water column separation occurs, but controls the discharge of air through the "Anti-Shock" Orifice as the separated column commences to rejoin. The rejoining impact velocity is thereby sufficiently reduced to prevent an unacceptably high surge pressure in the system. In the same way the series RBX valve prevents high surge pressures resulting from liquid oscillation in a pipeline.

3. PRESSURIZED AIR RELEASE FROM A FULL PIPELINE:

Effective discharge by the valve of pressurized air depends on the existence of a 'CRITICAL RELATIONSHIP' between the area of the Small Orifice (7) and the mass of Control Float (4), i.e., the mass of the float must be greater than the force created by the working pressure acting on the orifice area. If the float is relatively too light or the orifice area relatively too great, the float will be held against the orifice, even when not buoyed, and air discharge will not be effected.

To ensure that the correct 'CRITICAL RELATIONSHIP' exists the requisite 'DROP TEST' described under TEST SPECIFICATION on page 17 must be applied to any air release valve which is intended for discharge of pressurized air.

VENTING OF A FILLING PIPELINE (SUB CRITICAL WATER APPROACH VELOCITY)



Air enters Orifice (3), travels through the annular space between the cylindrical floats (4), (5), and (6) and the valve Chamber Barrel (2) and discharges from the Large Orifice (1) into atmosphere.

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Series RBX OPERATION

VENTING OF A FILLING PIPELINE (EXCESSIVE WATER APPROACH VELOCITY)



In reaction to increased air flow, Float (6) closes Large Orifice (1) and air is forced through the "Anti-Shock" Orifice (8) resulting in deceleration of the approaching water due to the resistance of rising air pressure in the valve.

Attention is drawn to Pre Note 1 and 2 on page 1. PRESSURIZED AIR RELEASE FROM A FULL PIPELINE



Subsequent to the filling of a pipeline, liquid enters the valve Barrel Chamber (2) and the Floats (4), (5) and (6) are buoyed so that the Large Orifice (1) is closed by Float (6), the valve will then become internally pressurized. A minimal working pressure of < 0. 5 bar (7. 3 psi) acting on the relatively large area of the Orifice (1) will lock Float (6) into the closed position across the Large Orifice (1).

Disentrained air rises through the liquid and accumulates in the valve chamber, when the volume of air is sufficient to displace the liquid, Float (4) will no longer be buoyant and will gravitate downwards thereby opening the Small Orifice (7) and allowing accumulated air to be discharged into atmosphere, as air is discharged the liquid raises Float (4) and re - seals the Small Orifice (7) and prevents escape of liquid

Specific attention is drawn to pre note 3 on page 1.

VACUUM RELIEF (AIR INTAKE) OF A DRAINING PIPELINE



Simultaneous drainage of liquid from Valve Chamber (2) causes Floats (4), (5) and (6) to gravitate downwards onto the Baffle Plate (9), thereby allowing atmospheric air through the valve to rapidly displace draining liquid in the pipeline and prevent potentially damaging internal negative pressure.

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Series RBX

SURGE & WATERHAMMER PROTECTION

Introduction

The Vent-O-Mat Series RBX "Anti-Shock" air release and vacuum break valve, is the product of extensive research into the development of an efficient, but cost effective solution to surge problems (both mass liquid oscillation and elastic transient phenomena) associated with any operating pipeline. Automatic dampening, relevant to the pipeline's needs is provided by either one of three design features. These special features are unique in a pipeline component of such compact and economic design.

Surge Protection - Initial Filling

The RBX incorporates the additional floating "Anti-Shock" Orifice which is aerodynamically engineered to throttle air discharge when water approach velocity would otherwise become too great and induce an unacceptable pressure rise. The air throttling action increases resistance to the flow of the approaching water which consequently decelerates to a velocity which reduces the pressure rise when the valve closes (see operation of valve on pages 1 & 2). Vent-O-Mat series RBX is an essential precaution for pipeline priming.

Surge Protection - Pump Trip Conditions

In instances where a pipeline experiences water column separation due to pump stoppage, high shock pressures can be generated when the separated water column rejoins.

The Vent-O-Mat series RBX takes in air through the unobstructed large orifice when water column separation occurs, but controls the discharge of air through the "Anti-Shock" Orifice as the separated column commences to rejoin. The rejoining impact velocity is thereby considerably reduced to alleviate high surge pressures in the system (see operation of valve on pages 1 & 2).

Other surge control measures may, dependant on pipeline profile, diameter and operating conditions, be needed to provide the primary surge alleviation function with the Vent-O-Mat airvalves forming an integral and valuable addition in a combined strategy for further reducing surge pressures. The benefit of the "Anti-Shock" Orifice can be readily demonstrated by suitable surge modelling software.

Surge Protection - Pipeline Operating

The operation of valves and similar flow control devices can cause high-pressure transients in an operating pipeline.

The unique, single chamber design of the Vent-O-Mat series RBX valve enables a pocket of air to be trapped in the valve chamber. Automatic operation of the small orifice control float regulates the volume of air entrapped.

The volume maintained in the valve will provide a cushioning benefit to the pipeline for short duration transient pressure "spikes". This effect can be modelled by the design engineer using suitable surge software.

Surge Protection - Primary Pipeline Surge Protection Failure

In instances where air vessels or other alleviation measures are utilised as primary surge protection and these devices fail, excessively high surge pressures will be generated. The same is true if pipeline demands are increased with time without the upgrading of initial surge protection equipment.

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Series RBX

SURGE & WATERHAMMER PROTECTION

Protection by Vent-O-Mat Series RBX will provide the benefits already described. The valve in addition, has a pipeline over pressure safety feature which acts as a "rupture-disc". Operation of this feature will be without an explosive effect and without damage to valve. This feature consists of easily replaceable components such as gaskets and seals.

This feature will thus provide surge alleviation in instances where surge pressures are abnormally high. The net alleviation effect can be taken into account by the design engineer using surge modelling software.

Computer Modelling

The effectiveness of Vent-O-Mat series RBX has been substantiated by independent third party testing and by thousands of applications globally. Effective computer modelling, based on practical tests, has been ensured in the well-known and respected commercially available SURGE 2000 surge analysis software programme. Accurate results are also obtained by other commercially available surge analysis software programmes such as FLOWMASTER and TRANSAM.

Holistic Surge & Water Hammer Protection

Vent-O-Mat forms an integral part of a well planned, holistic surge protection strategy that should, according to application needs and financial constraints, include surge vessels, check valves, control valves and/or any other equipment needed to alleviate unacceptable surge behaviour.

Technical and Financial Benefits

The Vent-O-Mat series RBX valve offers definite financial and technical advantages when incorporated as part of a holistic surge protection strategy. This includes:

- 1. Improved alleviation of surge behaviour including reduction of:
 - Surge pressure magnitudes by slowing surge velocities
 - Duration of oscillation following a pump trip, as the air-valve continuously absorbs and dissipates the energies of the surge.
- 2. Potential for reduction in size and/or quantity of conventional surge protection devices such as surge vessels etc.
- 3. Automatic protection during initial filling when most surge protection devices are not operational.
- 4. Holistic protection as each air valve installed has design features to automatically damp surges.
- 5. The valve is virtually maintenance free.

Service

Vent-O-Mat is committed to finding the most cost effective and efficient solution to pipeline complexities. Services include air valve sizing and positioning and assistance to consulting engineers on defining appropriate surge and water hammer protection strategies. Vent-O-Mat has built a sound relationship with many international consulting firms and has gained global recognition for selling solutions!



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Series RBX

SELECTION & POSITIONING

PRE-NOTES

The functional limits of an air valve are governed by three physical laws namely: Joukowski's Equation Boyle's Law and Pascal's Law. Air valve operation however is also dependent on design and internal configuration, and can vary dramatically from manufacturer's product to manufacturer's product, within the parameters of what is physically possible. The basis of the Vent -O- Mat design is in the understanding of these laws, which have been used to design an air release and vacuum break valve that provides the optimum usable safe performance relative to all functions. The following summary is a general guideline of factors to consider when sizing air valves.

Sizing for Vacuum

Calculate necessary valve orifice sizes independently for each apex point.

Determine the smallest air release and vacuum break valve capable of admitting air into the pipeline equal to the potential water flow out of the pipeline whilst not exceeding a differential pressure that would put the pipeline and gasket joints at risk due to negative internal pressure. We recommend 0.35 bar (5 psi) Dp or lower. This exercise is simplified on pages 11 and 12 of this catalogue. Be cautious of air valve designs with spherical floats as a low pressure zone is created above the float which causes it to partially close off the large orifice during air intake.

Note that vacuum protection is dependent on valve size selection and orifice size relative to the nominal size of the valve. *In sizing air valves be cautious of designs with restricted orifice diameters, i.e., orifice diameters that are smaller than the nominal size of the valve, as this could lead to insufficient vacuum protection and pipe collapse if not accommodated for.* Vent-O-Mat large orifice diameters and flow path through the valve is equal to the nominal size of the valve e.g. a DN100 (4") valve has a 100mm (4") orifice. This ensures the least possible resistance to the intake of air and consequently the least possible negative pressure within a draining pipeline.

Sizing for Discharge

If a Vent-O-Mat air valve is sized correctly for air intake, discharge should not be a factor in sizing as all air will be discharged through the large orifice or "Anti-Shock" orifice (refer to RBX operation on pages 1 and 2 of this catalogue). *If this* information is used for the sizing of air valves other than Vent-O-Mat, we recommend that a valve be selected that is capable of discharging air equal to the filling rate, whilst not exceeding a differential of 0.05 bar (0.725 psi) across the large orifice in order to prevent pressure surge and water hammer.

Pressurized Air Discharge

Effective discharge by an air release and vacuum break valve of pressurised air depends on the existence of a "Critical Relationship" between the area of the small orifice and the mass of the control float, i.e., the mass of the float must be greater than the force created by the working pressure acting on the orifice area. If the float is relatively too light or the orifice area relatively too great, the float will be held against the orifice even when not buoyed, and air discharge will not take place.

Surge Alleviation

It is imperative, due to the unpredictable nature of pipeline operation, that every air release and vacuum break valve should as standard, incorporate a surge and water hammer alleviation mechanism. This mechanism should only be activated in the instance of high velocity air discharge or pump trip (where the separated liquid columns rejoin at excessive velocities). The alleviation of surge and/or water hammer must be achieved by deceleration of the approaching liquid prior to valve closure (see operation of RBX on pages 1 and 2 of this catalogue). Relief mechanisms that act subsequent to valve closure cannot react in the low millisecond time span required and are therefore unacceptable.

Kindly contact the manufacturer for free copies of the Vent-O-Mat publications; "Points to Consider when Sizing and Position Air Release and Vacuum Break Valves" and "Air Valve Technology Reviewed", should you require more information on the phenomena of surge and water hammer as a result of air release, as well as the functional limits of all available air valve designs and configurations.

Vent-O-Mat has an interactive sizing programme available on the Internet. The website address is: http://www.ventomat.com. You can, should you experience any problems, or need additional assistance, contact us at our E Mail address: ventomat@dfc.co.za

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designer to move within certain parameters which eventually allows the most suited and economically viable valve to be selected.

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MPORTANT NOTE: The graph is based on vacuum breaking and limiting vacuum to 0.34 bar (5 psi) below atmospheric. It is not good practice to go below 0.69 bar (10 psi) absolute (0.303 bar (4. 4 psi) differential in pipeline at sea level). The graph allows for change in altitude and hence change in atmospheric pressure and is based on the assumption that more than one valve per section is used for vacuum protection and venting.



Series RBX

Alternatively: - 1 meter per every mm in pipe diameter e.g. space air valves every 600 meters

for a 600mm diameter pipeline or every 800m for a 800mm diameter pipeline.

HYDRAULIC GRADIENT

BLANK ENDS (not shown in diagram) - where a pipeline is terminated by a blind flange or a valve.

PUMP DISCHARGE (not shown in diagram) - just subsequent to non return valve.

LONG DESCENDING SECTIONS - every 600 metres (1/3 of a mile) maximum. LONG ASCENDING SECTIONS - every 600 metres (1/3 of a mile) maximum.

NEGATIVE BREAKS (increase in downward slope or decrease in upward slope). LONG HORIZONTAL SECTIONS - every 600 metres (1/3 of a mile) maximum.

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MAY BE REQUIRED FOR SCOURING

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HORIZONTAL DATUM

