

APTech

GAS CONTROL NEWS

QUALITY – RELIABILITY – SAFETY

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IN THIS ISSUE:

M5 Thread.	2
Data Sheet Update.	2
LOTO Solution.	2
Product Note Topics	2

Shrinking the 3657 & 4657

The AP, AZ and AK 3659 /4659 are new manual valves that are downsized versions of the 3657 and 4657. The valves have a 1.3 inch (33 mm) diameter knob compared to the 3657 and 4657 knob diameter of 1.87 inch (47.5 mm). The basic function is the same, pull knob upward to open from fully closed position and rotate 90° to open. The handle may be locked in the closed position providing true lock out / tag out capability. The operating pressure is limited to 250 psig (17 bar) merely due to the small size of the handle making it difficult to actuate at higher pressures. Other than pressure rating and dimensions, the new models provide the exact same function and specifications as the larger 3657 and 4657. ❖



Ultra Mini Regulator

The new AP 20 pressure regulator has an appropriate model number. 20 is derived from its tiny size, 20 mm (0.75 inch) diameter body. It is fundamentally a miniaturized AP 500, single stage free poppet design. It can deliver absolute to 100 psig (7 bar) outlet pressure with up to 150 psig (10 bar) inlet pressure. The flow capacity is limited by the miniscule size of the diaphragm, but it can deliver up to 5 slpm depending upon conditions. It is available in face seal and IGS (C seal, surface mount) configurations. ❖

AP 500 High Inlet Pressure Option

The AP 500 has a new option – a 3,000 psig (207 bar) inlet pressure rating designated by HR. Why would we make such a thing? Quite simply, it is because customers asked us to. There are applications, such as ion implant, which require compact size and full cylinder pressure. Thus, the AP 500 HR is born. The HR option does not change any other specifications beyond inlet pressure rating. There are internal changes to accommodate the higher pressure. HR option is not available with TF or HF options. ❖

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M5 Thread Update

In August of 2010 we announced via Product Alert 557 a 10-32 inch thread conversion to M5 for mounting holes and actuator ports. The M5 is more versatile than 10-32 inch as it also accepts the 10-32 inch thread. 10-32 inch, on the other hand, only accepts 10-32 inch. We decided to convert to M5 as many customers prefer metric, and the M5 satisfies both camps.

With all that said, one might ask why the data sheets still continue to state 10-32 inch rather than M5. It is an excellent question which has a simple answer. We still have some bodies in stock with 10-32 inch mounting holes. It is not practical to convert the threads to M5, so until all these bodies are consumed the data sheets will remain 10-32 inch.

The vast majority of products shipping today have M5 mounting holes. An M marked on the bottom of the body confirms M5 threads. All actuators have M5 at this point. So in spite of 99+% of the products having M5 threads, we are reluctant to change the data sheets until all the remaining bodies with 10-32 inch are gone. It is impossible to predict exactly how long it will take to consume the straggling 10-32 inch bodies, but suffice it to say it won't be soon. ❖

Data Sheet Update Update

The article title is not a stutter or misprint. We update data sheets frequently and routinely. Unfortunately, it is not easy to revise something that is already printed. This means that hard copy catalogs that we send are generally not current, with the web site having newer revisions. If a change is mission critical, meaning important such as mounting dimensions, existing data sheets are replaced with new. The posted copy is always the most up to date and correct. So, please be aware that if you refer to a printed catalog or to a saved PDF copy downloaded, you may not be seeing the latest and greatest.

We get periodic requests for a downloadable complete catalog. We are reticent to provide such, because it is much like a hard copy catalog once downloaded – it is frozen in time at the download date's revision level. Unfortunately, sending updates is simply not practical.

A data sheet's revision level is typically noted in the bottom corner of the last page in fine print. The latest date, is the latest revision. ❖

Regulator LOTO Solution



The KL option is a lock out / tag out (LOTO) combined with tamper proof knob. The knob spins freely, not changing pressure setting, until it is pulled away from the regulator to engage stem splines. This prevents unintentional pressure adjustment. Once the knob is pulled, the outlet pressure can be adjusted by simply turning the knob. Release the knob and it is spring loaded back to the spin free mode. A center hub above the knob may be locked with hasp or padlock to prevent pulling the knob upward for adjustment, which is the LOTO feature. The knob may be ordered installed on a regulator or as a separate kit to retrofit existing regulator knobs.

The new KL option is available for all AP Tech regulators with the exception of preset, AP 20, AP 500, SL 5200, AP 9000, AP 9100, KT 10, KT 12 and switchover regulators. ❖

Product Note Topics?

The Tech Brief section of the web site is home to our Product Notes (PN) which provide a wide array of information. PN's are useful tools for conveying all sorts of things and added explanations which are not easily included in data sheets or installation and operating instructions. If there are topics you would like to see in a PN, please contact us via info@aptech-online.com. Please be forewarned that not all requests will result in a PN, as some may be more appropriately explained via other venues (such as an email reply). ❖
