

**APPARATUS VALVES** PRODUCT GUIDE

SAFE SF FLEET Driving Safety Forward™

## **DON'T OVERLOOK VALVES**

## **ARE ELECTRIC VALVES UNRELIABLE?**

Apparatus valves are easily overlooked, but their importance becomes clear when one fails. Manual valves are tucked away behind panels, while electric valves have a reputation for unreliability based on outdated technology. However, valve technology has advanced significantly, and understanding the specifics of the valves in your apparatus can contribute to safer, more efficient operation.

Manual valves are the traditional choice for fire apparatus, offering affordability and reliability in controlling discharges. However, their design can impact the layout of the plumbing system and pump panel due to the need for manual handles, rods, and levers for operation. NFPA guidelines further complicate the layout by requiring the valve handle to be near the corresponding gauge. Proper sizing is crucial, as valves larger than 2.5 inches necessitate slow closure and are harder to operate under pressure. While durable, these valves have wear points like seals and balls that may require maintenance depending on age, use, and water conditions.

Electric valves, despite being available for over 30 years, have faced reliability issues due to their initial design being directly adopted from industrial applications without considering the demands of fire service. This led to failures and a loss of confidence in the technology. However, modern electric valves have been redesigned to withstand extreme environments and high-pressure operations, addressing the shortcomings of their predecessors. Although they come at a higher cost, electric valves offer benefits like compact design, improved maneuverability, and easier maintenance access.

For more information on valves - visit rigrecon.com

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**EFFICIENT** 



## **ELKHART BRASS VALVES**



MANUAL

The Unibody<sup>™</sup> Valve provides a solution to all of your apparatus valve needs. Ball valves utilize solid brass construction and incorporate a universal design to simplify both configuration and installation. All Unibody Valves, when paired with an electric actuator, are compatible with the APEX<sup>™</sup> Valve Controller.



Combine customization capabilities with space saving design, add tactile keypad buttons and large, easy-to-read graphics and the result is an innovative new valve controller. APEX<sup>™</sup> provides great benefits to OEMs as well as end users!



RECON

The design and versatility of the APEX Valve allow an OEM to save valuable pump panel space and adapt the controller to any application, while offering only one version of actuator. It takes the guesswork out of the ordering process.

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