

Model B1 Accelerator with Integral Accelo-Check

Instructions for Installation, Operation, Care and Maintenance

Features

- 1. Quickens the operation of dry pipe valves.
- 2. Increases the number of automatic sprinklers controlled by one dry pipe valve.
- 3. Equalizes rapidly as dry system is being filled with air to required pressure.
- 4. Adjusts without operation for small fluctuations in system air pressure.
- 5. Dependable in operation, compact and light-weight construction.
- 6. Accelo-Check prevents water and debris from entering critical areas, minimizing the need of removing cover plates, etc. to reset or clean internal mechanisms.
- 7. Tested and approved for use with all Reliable dry pipe valves and dry systems.
- 8. UL Listed, FM Approved

General

The Reliable Model B1 Accelerator with its integral Accelo-Check (anti-flooding device) is used to speed up the operation of both dry pipe valves (in dry-type automatic sprinkler systems) and deluge valves (in pre-action sprinkler systems). Both of these system types utilize pressurized air, instead of water, in their piping as to avoid exposure to water sensitive areas and/or freezing conditions.

The accelerated operation of the dry pipe valve floods the sprinkler system with water permitting a substantial increase in both the number of sprinklers that can be controlled by one dry pipe valve and the volume of the dry system that can be installed.



Patent number 3,785,440

Approvals

- 1. Listed by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.
- 2. Underwriters' laboratories of Canada for up to 1500 gal. (5678 liters) systems.
- 3. Approved by Factory Mutual Research Corporation
- 4. Loss Prevention Council
- 5. NYC B5&A No. 587-75-SA.

Accelerator Operation

The Model B1 Accelerator is basically a normally-closed valve with ½" NPT ports, that is highly sensitive to the rate of air pressure change in a dry pipe sprinkler system. This device retains normal dry system air pressure in its top chamber even though pressure in that system may be dropping as a direct result from one or more sprinklers opening.

Fig. 1 illustrates a cross-section of the Model B1 Accelerator in the "closed" position while being pressurized. Upon initial setup, the Accelerator is filled by air from the dry pipe system via a ½" NPT connection. Air passes through its filter assembly (item #18) and passageway E to the device's middle chamber. This air pressure also lifts the diaphragm assembly (Items #5 through #8) off of the push rod (item #10) thereby opening up passageway G. The air then completely fills the top chamber to the desired system pressure level. When filled, the diaphragm assembly rests on the push rod's end and closes passageway G, except for minor leakage which is designed to compensate for air pressure fluctuations in the system.

Upon a significant air-pressure decay of the sprinkler system piping (such as sprinkler activation), the retained air pressure in the Accelerator's top chamber exerts a netdownward force across the diaphragm assembly (Items #5 through #8). This forces the poppet (item #15) to open thereby allowing system air pressure to pass out of the Accelerator's 1/2" outlet port and into the intermediate chamber of the dry pipe valve (or to atmosphere depending on the type of system to which it is installed). This in turn will activate the dry pipe valve. Simultaneously, pressurized air also passes through the Accelerator and closes the integral Accelo-Check (items #11, #19 through #25) by pressurizing cavity H and preventing water and waterborne debris from entering the internal restriction area in passageway G. This increases the reliability of the Accelerator and reduces the maintenance which would otherwise be required to clean it after each operation.

Installation

The Reliable Model B1 Accelerator is quickly attached to the various Reliable-manufactured dry pipe valves/systems. The following table lists the figures in this technical bulletin that illustrate the specific trim attachment locations along with the complete component listing of their contents.

When installed into the basic trim of a Reliable Model D Dry Pipe Valve (refer to Fig 2), the Accelerator's ½" outlet port should be directly connected to the intermediate chamber of the dry pipe valve. In this specific application, the Model B1 Accelerator is used like an exhauster that directly assists the clapper of the dry pipe valve to open.

For installations into all other Reliable-manufactured dry systems such as Models LDX, DDX-LP & EX (refer to Figs 3, 4 & 5), the Accelerator's ½"outlet port should be vented to the atmosphere. These other types of systems do not utilize differential-type clappers that require additional air pressure to operate. Instead, these systems all utilize a Model LP Actuator to keep a push-rod chamber pressurized to a certain level of air pressure. In these instances,

the Model B1 Accelerator speeds up the purging of the air side of the Model LP Actuator, which in turn, vents the push-rod chamber pressure of the main fire control valve thereby causing its clapper to open and fill the system piping with water.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ " outlet port of the Accelerator should also be vented to atmosphere when installed into Reliable's Model DDX Type F Double Interlock Preaction systems (refer to Fig. 6). As in the previously mentioned systems, the Accelerator also helps to speed up the purging of air pressure in a Model LP Actuator and the opening of the main fire control valve, however, no water will enter the sprinkler piping until the normally-closed solenoid valve (installed in series with the Model LP Actuator) of the trim becomes energized open via some type of incoming detection signal(s).

Note: The Model B1 Accelerator may be capable of hastening the operation of non-Reliable-manufactured dry pipe valves having intermediate chamber designs. However, it has been tested and approved only with Reliable Dry Pipe Valves.

<u>Dry Pipe</u> System Type	<u>Refer to</u> Figure #	<u>Model</u> <u>B1</u> <u>Accelerator</u> <u>Part #</u>	Accelerator Trim Kit Part #
Model D (4" & 6")	2	6301000300	6516000002 (Does not include Accelerator)
Model LDX (4" & 6")	3	- 6516000003 (Includes Accelerator)	
Model DDX-LP (All Sizes)	4		
Model EX (All Sizes)	5		
Model DDX Type F Preaction System (All Sizes)	6		

In addition and for more detailed instructions in connecting the Model B1 Accelerator a specific type of system, please go to <u>www.reliablesprinkler.com</u> and refer to the pertinent technical bulletins describing those systems.



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Fig. 1

MODEL B1 ACCELERATOR TRIM KIT INSTALLED INTO MODEL D 4" & 6" DRY PIPE SYSTEMS



MODEL B1 ACCELERATOR PART #: 6301000300 TRIM KIT PART #: 6516000002 NOTE: THIS TRIM KIT DOES NOT INCLUDE ACCELERATOR

4" 6" PART NO. DESCRIPTION 1 1 98248000 GAUGE, PRESSURE-AIR	SUPL.
1 1 98248000 GAUGE, PRESSURE-AIR	1
	3
2 2 98604406 PLUG, 1/2"	-
3 3 98604405 PLUG, 1"	1
4 4 98174401 ELBOW, 1/2"	3
5 5 98174400 ELBOW, STREET, 1/2"	1
6 6 98840105 BALL VALVE, 1/2"	1
7 7 98815200 UNION, 1/2"	2
8 8 98840171 VALVE, GLOBE, BRONZE 1/2"	1
9 9 98761651 TEE, 1/2" X 1/2" X 1/2"	3
10 10 98761650 TEE, 1" X 1" X 1/2"	1
11 11 98543252 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 10 1/2"	2
12 12 98543235 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 8 1/2"	2
13 13 98543204 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 6"	3
- 14 98543202 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 5 1/2"	2
15 15 98543207 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 4"	1
16 – 98543216 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 3 1/2"	1
17 – 98543210 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 2 1/2"	2
- 17 98543210 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 2 1/2"	1
18 18 98543209 NIPPLE, 1/2" X 2"	2
19 19 98543213 NIPPLE, 1" X CLOSE	1

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System Requirements

NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) 13 titled "Installation of Sprinkler Systems", specifies that Accelerators (quick-opening devices) are required in dry systems having capacities of more than 500 gallons. However, exceptions permit the omission of quick-opening devices for larger systems when water can be delivered to the inspector's test connection in less than 60 seconds.

- Reliable's Accelerator is UL Listed for system volumes to 1500 gallons. This capability is also approved by FM.
- System pneumatic pressure must be maintained at a minimum of 15 psi in order for the Accelerator to be effective.

It must be cautioned that accelerator operation and water delivery at the inspectors test connection does not occur at the same time. There is a delay while the air is being expelled through the inspectors test connection ahead of the water. This time delay depends on the piping configuration system size, available water supply and other factors which are beyond the control of the accelerator and restrict the system's capability to deliver water in the 60 second time requirement. While field installation experience will aid in the determination of system size limitations, it is recommended that the Reliable Technical Service Department be consulted when large volume systems are encountered.

Figure 7 provides an approximate graph of actual Accelerator operating time versus system size when one sprinkler head opens. The time of operation of the Accelerator is relatively unaffected by inlet pressures so the graph applies for all normal dry system pressures from 25 psi to 50 psi (1.7 bar to 3.4 bar). As described in the following section, water delivery time will significantly exceed the accelerator operating times shown is Figure 7.

Resetting Procedure For Model D Dry Pipe Valve Systems (Refer to Figs. 1 & 2)

- 1. Isolate the Accelerator by closing the valves A and C, Fig.
- 2. Close the air and water supply valves to the dry pipe valve. Drain and fully reset the dry pipe valve in accordance with its technical bulletin.
- 3. Re-close the main water supply control valve and then re-open the dry pipe valve's drain valve.
- 4. Remove Plugs B and E, Fig. 2.
- 5. Remove the body drain plug from the lower section of the Accelerator, Item #3, Fig 1.
- 6. Remove the top chamber drain plug, Item #3, Fig. 1, from the side of the Accelerator. If water is present in the top chamber, disassemble the Accelerator, and clean and dry the top and middle chambers and diaphragm assembly using a clean lint free cloth. Reassemble the Accelerator. Replace the top chamber drain plug using new thread sealant.
- 7. Remove the Accelo–Check Body, Item #19, Fig. 1, and gently lift the Accelo–Check Diaphragm Assembly, Item #22, Fig. 1, to verify venting of the middle chamber. Carefully reinstall these parts.



- Partially open Valve A, Fig. 2, gently purging any water which may be in the trim lines. Close Valve A. Re- place Plugs B and E, Fig. 2. Partially open Valve A and gently purge. Close Valve A and replace the body drain plug at the lower section of the Accelerator, Item #3, Fig. 1.
- Pressurize the Accelerator by opening Valve A, Fig.
 Open Valve C and check for leakage at the Ball Drip Valve D, Fig. 2. The top chamber pressure of the Accelerator should equal the system pressure.
- 10. Slightly open the main water supply control valve. Close the main drain valve when water flows, then fully open the main supply valve. The system is now ready for service.

Resetting Procedure For Model LDX, DDX,EX Dry Systems & Model DDX Type F Preaction Systems

(Refer to Figs. 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6)

- 1. Isolate the Accelerator by closing valve B, Figs. 3, 4, 5 or 6.
- 2. Close the air and water supply valves to the deluge valve. Drain and fully reset the deluge valve in accordance with its technical bulletin.
- 3. Re-close the main water supply control valve to prevent accidental operation of the system while resetting the Accelerator.
- 4. Remove the body drain plug from the lower section of the Accelerator, Item #3, Fig 1.
- 5. Remove the top chamber drain plug, Item #3, Fig. 1, from the side of the Accelerator. If water is present in the top chamber, disassemble the Accelerator, and clean and dry the top and middle chambers and diaphragm assembly using a clean lint free cloth. Reassemble the Accelerator. Replace the top chamber drain plug using new thread sealant.
- 6. Remove the Accelo–Check Body, Item #19, Fig. 1, and gently lift the Accelo–Check Diaphragm Assembly, Item #22, Fig. 1, to verify venting of the middle chamber. Carefully reinstall these parts.
- 7. Partially open valve B, Figs. 3, 4, 5 or 6, gently purging any water which may be in the trim lines. Close this valve and replace the. body drain plug from the lower section of the Accelerator, Item #3, Fig 1.
- Pressurize the Accelerator by opening valve B, Figs.
 3, 4, 5 or 6. The top chamber pressure of the Accelerator should equal the system pressure.
- 9. Slightly open the main water supply control valve. Close the main drain valve when water flows, thenfully open the main supply valve. The system is now ready for service.

Caution

The presence of water in the Accelerator may cause premature operation. Therefore, it is imperative that after system operation, the Accelerator be inspected for any signs of water in the top chamber and that the Accelerator trim lines are purged prior to completing the Accelerator reset procedure. In addition, after system set–up, the prime water level must not exceed the dry pipe valve's prime level (if applicable). If water is found in the Accelerator, due to excessive prime level or back drainage, the Accelerator's inlet system connection must be relocated to the riser at least 2 ft. above the dry pipe valve.

Recommended Periodic Inspections

The following inspections should be performed on the Model B1 Accelerator on a weekly basis.

- 1. Check that the correct system air pressure has been set.
- 2. Verify that Accelerator's top chamber pressure and system air pressure are equal.
- Verify that the valves located on both the Accelerator's inlet and outlet lines are in the open position. A valve located on the Accelerator's outlet port should only be present if the Accelerator is connected to vent into a dry pipe valve's intermediate chamber. Otherwise, the Accelerator's outlet port should vent to the atmosphere.
- 4. Check that the prime water level is correct (if applicable).
- 5. Check for leakage at the ball drip valve, located above the drain cup. Leakage may indicate the sealing surfaces in the dry pipe valve require maintenance.

Test

The following Accelerator tests should be performed semi–annually or whenever the Accelerator has been disassembled.

A. Accelerator test without operating the dry pipe valve.

- Isolate the Accelerator by closing the valves located on its inlet and outlet ports.
 Model D Dry Pipe Valve, Fig. 2 - Valves A and C.
 Model LDX, DDX-LP, EX, DDX Valves, Figs. 3, 4, 5 or 6 – Valve B
- 2. Loosen the body drain plug, Item #3, Fig. 1 in order to decay the pressure at the inlet of the Accelerator. This will simulate a system decay as when one or more sprinklers open. The Accelerator should operate.
- 3. Reset the Accelerator following the instructions de- scribed in the "Resetting Procedure" sections of this bulletin.

B. Sensitivity Test (Model D Dry Pipe Valves only)

- 1. Close the main water supply control valve.
- 2. Bleed the system air pressure at a rate of 1 psi per minute by opening the prime level valve located on the dry pipe valve.
- 3. After ten minutes (the air pressure should have decayed 10 psi) the Accelerator should not have tripped.
- 4. Restore the system air pressure and reopen the main water supply control valve.

Maintenance & Trouble Shooting (Refer to Fig. 1)

The following table provides a simplified, trouble-shooting guide which indicates the necessary corrective maintenance for the more common problems, which may occur.

Symptom	Probable Cause	Correction	
Air flows rapidly through the Accelerator and into the outlet port when resetting.	The Push-Rod is in the held down position by contamination, the Push-Rod is bent or the Push-Rod guide is too tight.	Clean or replace as needed.	
Minor air flow or leakage through the Accelerator.	 Contamination in the poppet area. The Poppet "O"-Ring has blown off the Poppet, or is cut. 	 Clean. Install new "O"-Ring. 	
	3. The Accelo-Check diaphragm has a hole or rip allowing air to reach the outlet through passageway (F).	3. Replace.	
	4. Leakage past the Push-Rod Guide "O"- Ring.	4. Replace.	
	aged causing leakage.	5. Replace.	
No or low air pressure in the top chamber (gauge pressure does not increase, and no air pressure in the outlet).	 Filter assembly is clogged. Restriction area (Passageway G) is clogged or the filter on the diaphragm nut is clogged. 	 Replace Replace. 	
Accelerator will not trip during a system test.	1. The top chamber air pressure is bleed- ing back to the system too fast through restriction area	 Clean the top of the Push-Rod and mating surface in diaphragm nut, or replace 	
	 The top chamber air pressure is bleeding back to the system through the ripped 	2. Replace	
	 3. External leak in top chamber. 4. Eilten eggenelele negtristed. 	 Check the gauge and the drain plug for tightness-use new PTFE tape on the plug after each resetting. 	
Accolorator floode with	4. Filter assembly restricted.	4. Replace.	
water.	 age when the system is filled with water. The Accelo-Check "O"-Ring is missing or cut 	 Wipe on the clapper facing and seat clean. Replace if necessary. 	
	 Leakage past the Push-Rod Guide "O"- Bing 	3. Replace.	
	 Push rod or Push-Rod Guide is dam- aged allowing leakage. 	4. Replace.	
	5. Condensate from the compressor has not been drained.	5. Remove Plug B (Figs. 2 & 3) to drain any water from the air supply.	
Accelerator operates	1. Water or dirt in the restriction area.	1. Clean top of the Push-Rod and mating surface-perform sensitivity test.	
p. on acciony.	2. Air is not bleeding back through the re- striction area to compensate for minor	 Replace Push-Rod and / or diaphragm nut. In "Test" section of this Technical Bulletin - perform sensitivity test 	
	 Dry pipe valve is operating prematurely - not the accelerator. 	 Review the correct pressure settings from the corresponding system's tech- nical bulletin 	
	4. On-Off is setting of the compressor's pressure switch allowing the system	 Readjust the differential of pressure switch to minimum (6-8 psi) when us- ing an appalareter 	
	 5. Excessive leakage between air/nitrogen supply and Check Valve A (Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 6). 	5. Repair leaks.	

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- Open sprinklers
- Spray nozzles
- Alarm valves
- Retarding chambers
- Dry pipe valves
- Accelerators for dry pipe valves
- Mechanical sprinkler alarms
- Electrical sprinkler alarm switches
- Water flow detectors

- Deluge valves
- Detector check valves
- Check valves
- Electrical system
- Sprinkler emergency cabinets
- Sprinkler wrenches
- Sprinkler escutcheons and guards
- Inspectors test connections
- Sight drains
- Ball drips and drum drips
- Control valve seals
- Air maintenance devices
- Air compressors
- Pressure gauges
- Identification signs
- Fire department connection

The equipment presented in this bulletin is to be installed in accordance with the latest published Standards of the National Fire Protection Association, Factory Mutual Research Corporation, or other similar organizations and also with the provisions of governmental codes or ordinances whenever applicable.

Products manufactured and distributed by Reliable have been protecting life and property for over 90 years, and are installed and serviced by the most highly qualified and reputable sprinkler contractors located throughout the United States, Canada and foreign countries.

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