

4.2.6 Valves in Gas/Vapor Service or in Light Liquid Service (264.1057 and 265.1057)

Each valve in gas/vapor or light liquid service must be monitored monthly to detect leaks.

The monthly monitoring requires the use of Method 21. Any reading of 10,00 ppm or greater determines a leak. When a leak is detected, it must be repaired as soon as possible, but no later than 15 calendar days after leak detection. A first attempt at repair must be made within five calendar days of leak detection.

Wastes generated from parts cleaning, degreasing operations, and painting system often contain constituents such as xylene, toluene, acetone, or other petroleum distillates that are considered "light liquids" based on their relatively high vapor pressure.

Delays of repair of equipment for which a leak has been detected will be allowed if the repair is technically infeasible without a hazardous waste management unit shutdown. For such instances, the repair must occur before the end of the next hazardous waste management unit shutdown. Delays of repair of equipment for which leaks have been detected are also permitted if the equipment is isolated from the hazardous waste management unit and does not continue to contain or contact hazardous waste with organic concentrations at least 10 percent by weight.

Any valve which is designated as unsafe-to-monitor is exempt from the monthly monitoring requirements in accordance with Method 21. However, the owner or operator must follow a written plan that requires monitoring of the valve as frequently as possible. Valves designated as difficult-to-monitor, because they cannot be monitored without elevating the personnel by more than two meters above a support surface, are also exempt from monthly monitoring by Method 21. The owner or operator must follow a written plan that requires monitoring of the valves at least once per calendar year. Delay of repair for valves is permitted if the owner or operator determines that emissions of purged material resulting from immediate repair are greater than the emissions likely to result from delay of repair. Delay of repair beyond a hazardous waste management unit shutdown will be permitted for a valve if a valve assembly replacement is necessary during the hazardous waste management unit shutdown, provided that valve assembly

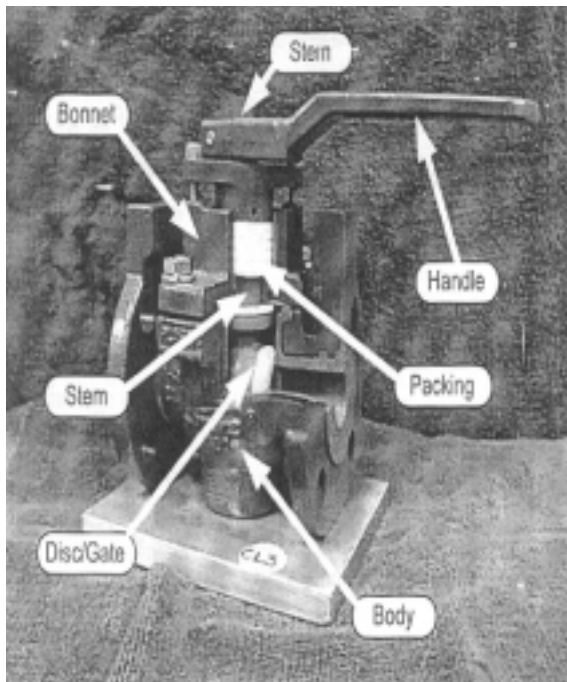


Photo of a typical valve

assembly supplies have been depleted and valve assembly supplies had been sufficiently stocked before the supplies were depleted.

Valves with two successive months without leaks may then conduct quarterly monitoring. Any valve without leak detection for two successive months may be monitored the first month of every succeeding quarter, beginning with the next quarter, until a leak is detected. Once a leak is detected, the owner or operator must return to monthly monitoring until another two successive months have passed without leak detection.

A valve in gas/vapor services which is designated as no detectable emissions and has no external actuating mechanism in contact with the hazardous waste, is exempt from the requirement of monthly monitoring in accordance to Method 21. However, this valve must be tested annually to insure that it is operating as no detectable emissions. The annually test conducted according to Method 21, must indicate that the emissions are less than 500 ppm above background.