

Technical News Release

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NEW Pro-Con ULTRA-LOC and HANDI-LOC Connectors

Intercon announces the release of new Pro-Con ULTRA-LOC and HANDI-LOC Connectors. These incorporate improvements over the original design parts which make them more durable and service-friendly, while improving their operation.

As a number of our Distributors reported to us, there have been shortcomings with both the ULTRA-LOC and HANDI-LOC connectors in the areas of “holding prime” and failure to draw product. These can be traced to certain steps in the manufacturing process and some parts design features. These issues were not readily detectable in the pre-production parts which we originally tested before release of the Pro-Con ULTRA Systems and became apparent only after mass-produced parts were in use. An additional issue has been the less than “service-proof” durability of the “ell” barb on the ULTRA-LOC.

After a series of interviews held by phone and in the field during which we collected very valuable input from our Distributors, we reviewed the design and function of these two parts with the manufacturer. This led to several design improvements which were then evaluated in detail by Intercon after receiving the new design parts from the manufacturer. We have concluded that the shortcomings in both the ULTRA-LOC and the HANDI-LOC have been successfully addressed and the new design parts are fully serviceable.

One fact which emerged during our evaluation of the new parts is that the Pro-Con ULTRASOURCE 5, ULTRASOURCE 4 and ULTRASOURCE 1 are very efficient at producing the vacuum necessary to draw the product through the connectors and into the dispenser. They are so efficient that, under certain conditions, they may produce enough vacuum to contribute to the failure of the ULTRA-LOC backflow diaphragm. In order to circumvent this potential problem, we recommend the following:

- 1) In any instance where you choose to run the dispenser with NO TIP to achieve a very strong product solution (typically involving Pro-Con Brown and Pro-Con Yellow), the IN-LINE REGULATOR SHOULD BE INSTALLED before the water inlet.

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- 2) In instances where you suspect the water supply pressure in your area is at the high end of the nominal operating range (over 50psi) and you will be using a

large orifice size tip (White, Yellow, Pink), the IN-LINE REGULATOR SHOULD BE INSTALLED before the water inlet.

3) Service personnel should be supplied a few of the IN-LINE REGULATORS for use as a buffer against water supply pressure problems. Given the fact that water pressures can vary widely between locations in the same sales territory or even from day to day at the same location, having the ability to control this critical factor in the performance of the system can save considerable time and aggravation.

These recommendations have been very strongly confirmed by the results of our evaluation of the new connectors. No failures of any other kind were observed during the evaluations, including failure to hold prime or failure to draw product.

We appreciate the input from our Distributors which has led to these positive developments.

If you have questions about this or any other Intercon product, please call Intercon Technical Services at (800) 325-9218 ext. 580

