

Tech Tip from the Piping Specialist

Standardized Piping Specifications by Steven R. Neveu, P.E

Does your facility or manufacturing process have significant piping infrastructure? Are you regularly spending to upgrade and expand that infrastructure? If so, consider adopting standardized piping specifications (SPS).

What can SPS do for you?

- Reduce engineering required to generate piping specifications for each new project
- Prevent leaks and early failure caused by improper specifications as well as related property damage and downtime
- Capture institutional knowledge (lessons learned) regarding which materials and fitting types perform best for your unique applications
- Provide apples-to-apples bid information for your mechanical contractors
- Minimize your on-hand stock of valve and fitting styles for emergencies

From a risk management standpoint, SPS lets you invest the time once to determine what is required to properly meet local, state and national codes and standards, including OSHA PSM.

From an economic standpoint, SPS lets you invest the time once to determine which combination of materials and fitting types provides the lowest life cycle cost for each service.

If SPS makes sense for your company, consider these three implementation options:

1. Develop SPS in-house, either at a local or corporate level
2. Hire an engineering firm to develop SPS for your company
3. Subscribe to "Process Industries Practices," access their standards and use them as a baseline for your company. [Click here for a sample.](#)

If you would like input in this process, please contact Notch. We can provide the contractor's perspective on installed cost comparisons and the pipe/fitting technologies you might want to consider.



VERMONT

MASTER PLUMBER PM-03659
NATURAL GAS INSTALLER GN- 03448 (H)

CONNECTICUT

MECHANICAL CONTRACTOR MEC-1094
UNLIMITED HEATING PIPING COOLING HT.G-038981-1-
S1 PLUMBING & PIPING UNLIMITED PLM-0280742-P1

MASSACHUSETTS

MASTER PIPEFITTER PM-030953
MASTER PLUMBER 13152
REFRIGERATION CONTRACTOR RC- 019404
SPRINKLER CONTRACTOR SC-007053

RHODE ISLAND

MASTER PIPEFITTER 1 00006620
MASTER PLUMBER MP-002173
MASTER REFRIGERATION 00007427

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MASTER PLUMBER 3965