Mid-West® Instrument

Differential Pressure Gauges, Switches and Transmitters

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Subject: **Annual Accuracy Verification of Backflow Prevention Assembly Test Kits**

To Whom It May Concern.

Manufacturers, including Mid-West® Instrument recommend annual accuracy verification of backflow prevention assembly test kits. There are several reasons for this recommendation.

- Backflow prevention assemblies protect drinking water and public health. You need backflow prevention assembly test kits that are accurate to determine which assemblies are functioning and protecting public health and which assemblies require repair.
- Like backflow prevention assemblies, the test kits are mechanical devices that have components that must be pressure tight and error tolerances that must be met. They are exposed to the same conditions as backflow prevention assemblies that can affect performance including, aggressive water, debris in the water, exposure to UV and heat, exposure to freezing, mechanical impacts, hydraulic impacts.
- Pressure gauge standards recommend regular accuracy check intervals based on use and backflow prevention assembly test kits are portable pressure gauges.
- Third party quality management systems require all measuring instruments and tools to be under some procedure to ensure accuracy. Backflow prevention assembly test kits are measuring instruments.
- Annual accuracy verification is not unique to backflow prevention. Gas pumps, flow meters, radar guns, medical instruments, measuring tools used in manufacturing are just a few areas where accuracy checks are routine.

Annual accuracy verification will ensure that backflow prevention assembly test kits are working properly to provide accurate test results and will identify which test kits require recalibration or repair to be within proper error tolerance. Annual accuracy verification of backflow prevention assembly test kits should be a part of every cross-connection control program.

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