



**MATHESON**

The Gas Professionals

# General Regulator



## Operation Instructions

*READ AND COMPLY WITH THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE  
INSTALLING, OPERATING, OR SERVICING*



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## I. SERVICE

### General Service

A unit which is not functioning in a normal manner should be removed from service until such time that repairs or replacement can be made. Upon completion of repair, full testing should be performed to assure the user that the unit has been returned to its original operating parameters. MATHESON can repair or replace equipment. To arrange for repair or replacement service, call 1-800-828-4313 and ask for the Warranty Administrator. **No product will be received by MATHESON without indication of gas service and without proper return material authorization provided by the warranty administrator. (All repairs must be made by MATHESON or an assigned and approved facility to maintain any warranties or guarantees).**

If the unit is under an applicable warranty, return the unit to MATHESON for repair or replacement. To arrange for warranty service, call 1-800-828-4313 and ask for the Warranty Administrator. **No product will be received by MATHESON without indication of gas service and without proper return material authorization provided by the warranty administrator.**

If advised by the Warranty Administrator to return the product to MATHESON, prepare the product for shipment and write, in large lettering the RMA Number assigned by the Warranty Administrator on the outside of the box. Also, if required by the Warranty Administrator, supply the completed RMA form with the product. Make sure that the product is adequately packaged, in the original shipping container if possible, and shipped prepaid (MATHESON will not accept COD freight) with a description of the observed deficiency to the attention of the:

Warranty Administrator  
MATHESON  
166 Keystone Drive  
Montgomeryville, PA 18936

The user is expected to periodically inspect the product for leaks, loose or worn parts, broken or non-functioning components and to address those situations immediately. If the user would require verbal assistance in ascertaining the potential of a problem with any MATHESON product, contact the local MATHESON branch for assistance or your MATHESON Sales Representative.

## II. TROUBLE SHOOTING

### Indications of Regulator Malfunction

1. Gauges should always read zero when all gas is drained from the regulator. If they do not read zero they may have to be replaced.
2. No gas should be coming out of the outlet when the regulator is in the closed position. If there is gas flow, this is an indication of regulator seat failure or imminent seat failure.
3. The delivery pressure should not rise with the cylinder valve open, the regulator set at a given delivery pressure and the outlet valve (if supplied or in the system) closed for five to ten minutes. If there is a pressure rise, this is an indication of regulator seat failure or imminent seat failure.
4. Gas leakage should never occur from the spring case (part of the regulator with adjusting knob or handle). If there is gas leakage, it is possible that the diaphragm or diaphragm seal is deficient.
5. All joints and connections on a regulator should be periodically checked for leaks. Presence of leaking seals is indicative of deficient performance.
6. There should be no excessive periodic drop in flow from the outlet of the regulator when in service. If this occurs, there is most likely a blockage or occlusion in the flow path.
7. To ensure long life to the user of the regulator, periodically, on a schedule consistent with user experience, regulators should be reconditioned for full service.

**If any of the above noted deficiencies are observed by the user, the unit should immediately be removed from service and arrangements made for repair or replacement of the deficient product.**

### III. LIMITED WARRANTY

This equipment is sold by MATHESON under the warranties set forth in the following paragraphs. Such warranties are extended only with respect to the purchase of this equipment directly from MATHESON or MATHESON's Authorized Agent as new merchandise and are extended to the first Buyer thereof other for than the purpose of resale.

For a period of one year from date of original delivery (ninety days in corrosive service) to Buyer or to Buyer's order, this equipment, is warranted to be free from functional defects in materials and workmanship and to conform to the description of this equipment contained in this manual and any accompanying labels and/or inserts, provided that this equipment is properly operated under the conditions of normal use and that regular and periodic maintenance and service is performed or replacements are made in accordance with the instructions provided. Expendable parts of this equipment are similarly warranted to be free from functional defects in materials and workmanship and to conform to the description of this equipment contained in this manual and any accompanying labels and/or inserts. The foregoing warranties shall not apply if the equipment has been repaired other than by MATHESON or a service facility designated by MATHESON, or if this equipment has not been operated and maintained in accordance with written instructions provided by MATHESON, or has been altered by anyone other than MATHESON, or if the equipment has been subject to abuse, misuse, negligence or accident.

MATHESON's sole and exclusive obligation and the Buyer's sole and exclusive remedy under the above warranties is limited to repairing or replacing, free of charge, at MATHESON's sole discretion, the equipment or part which is telephonically reported to be a problem to the local MATHESON Branch Location, and which if so advised, is returned with a written statement of the observed deficiency, not later than seven days after the expiration of the applicable warranty, to the MATHESON Gas Equipment Technology Center during normal business hours, transportation charges prepaid, and which, upon examination, is found to comply with the above warranties. The Buyer shall pay for return trip transportation charges for the equipment or part.

**MATHESON shall not be otherwise liable for any damages including but not limited to incidental damages, consequential damages, or special damages, whether such damages result from negligence, breach of warranty or otherwise.**

**There are no express or implied warranties that extend beyond the warranties hereinabove set forth. MATHESON makes no warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose with respect to the equipment or parts thereof.**

**Acceptance of the equipment by the final buyer indicates the final buyer's acceptance of all warranties and limitations set forth above.**

#### **IV. USER RESPONSIBILITY**

This equipment will perform in conformity with the description thereof contained in this manual and accompanying labels and/or inserts when installed, operated, maintained and repaired in accordance with the instructions provided. This equipment must be checked periodically, with the frequency of such inspections depending upon the scope of use. Damaged, worn or contaminated equipment should not be used. Parts that are broken, missing, plainly worn, distorted or contaminated should be replaced immediately. Should such repair or replacement become necessary, MATHESON recommends that a telephonic or written request for service advice be made to the MATHESON Equipment Engineering Group in Montgomeryville Pennsylvania or to the nearest MATHESON branch location.

This equipment or any of its parts should not be altered without the prior written approval of MATHESON Equipment Engineering Group. The user of this equipment shall have the sole responsibility for any malfunction, which results from improper use, faulty maintenance, damage, improper repair or alteration by anyone other than MATHESON or a service facility designated by MATHESON. Further, the ultimate user of the equipment is responsible for the training and safe operation of the equipment by personnel in his/her employ.



## V. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

1. Many Specialty Gases are hazardous in nature. It is important that the user of the equipment carefully review the hazards associated with the gas to be used with the regulator. **Before installing the regulator on any cylinder of compressed or liquefied gas, refer to the MSDS that was shipped with the gas or on file in your facility, as to the specific hazards associated with the gas to be used. Also, refer to all applicable inserts contained with the equipment for additional precautions and operating instructions.**
2. Before using any regulator on toxic, corrosive, pyrophoric, flammable or other type of hazardous gas, test the leak integrity of the regulator using an inert gas.
3. Make certain that the regulator purchased is suitable for the application intended. All regulators supplied by MATHESON have a serial number, a model number, and a pressure limitation label and/or stamping. Carefully review this information to establish the regulator fit for service in the desired application.
4. Make certain that the equipment purchased or delivered to the ultimate end user conforms to the specifications of the user. The user is responsible for selecting equipment compatible with gases that are to be used, physical parameters of operation and performance and normal material compatibilities. Selection information can be found in MATHESON Catalogs, MATHESON Tech Briefs and in the MATHESON Gas Data Book. In addition, any MATHESON representative would be pleased to aid in the selection of specific equipment.
5. Before installation of the regulator onto any cylinder of compressed or liquefied gas, carefully inspect the unit for visible signs of damage or contamination. Close attention should involve visual inspection of all exposed and connecting threads for visible signs of wear and abuse. Also examine the unit for any loose parts outside of those that must swivel for connection to the gas cylinder or outlet lines. Also examine the unit for signs of contamination with dirt, grease or any other foreign material. Close attention should be given to the external appearance and the view of the unit from the inlet and the outlet. If any foreign materials are present and cannot be removed from the unit easily with a cloth, or if the threads on the unit appear to be abused as indicated above, or any of the components appear to be loose, return the unit immediately for service.

6. Before installation of regulator onto the cylinder of compressed or liquefied gas, move the cylinder(s) to the work location and secure the cylinder before removing the cylinder valve cap (if supplied). Check the cylinder valve as in step 5 for possible contamination and defective or loose parts. If for any reason the cylinder appears to be faulted as noted here, return the cylinder cap (if supplied) to the top of the cylinder, tighten down and remove the cylinder from the work area and call the supplier of the cylinder for immediate pick-up.
7. When using any hazardous gas, the cylinder of the gas should be placed under an exhaust hood or be placed in a suitable safety enclosure.
8. Before installation of the regulator onto the cylinder of compressed or liquefied gas, make certain that the CGA connection on the cylinder matches the CGA connection attached to the unit. CGA connections are fitted to the unit to limit the services in which the unit can be used. **The use of adaptors or alterations to the unit to change services can be extremely dangerous and should not be attempted.**

## VI. INSTALLATION

**Before attachment of the pressure regulator to the cylinder, read carefully the "USER RESPONSIBILITY" and "SAFETY PRECAUTIONS" sections of this manual.**

1. Move the gas cylinder to the work area before removing the cylinder cap (if supplied):
  - 1.1 Secure the cylinder as to prevent accidental toppling
  - 1.2 Remove the cylinder cap (if supplied)
  - 1.3 Make certain that the cylinder valve is tightly closed
  - 1.4 Remove the cylinder plug, if present. If there is any sign of gas leaking through the closed cylinder valve then replace the plug and contact the **Gas Supplier** immediately to arrange for disposal.
  - 1.5 Inspect the cylinder valve for contamination or abuse
2. The user should put on appropriate safety apparel such as, but not limited to, safety glasses and gloves.
3. Close the regulator by rotating the adjusting knob or handle in a counterclockwise direction. As the knob or handle is turned, the movement of the assembly should be easier.
4. Close the regulator outlet valve (if so equipped), or close the low pressure delivery valve of the system by turning as indicated.
5. Following the procedures outlined below, make the connection of the regulator to the cylinder valve or system. Always use an open ended or adjustable wrench for attachment.
  - 5.1 **DO NOT FORCE.** The connection should be made easily. If it cannot be made easily, most likely the user has the wrong regulator for the gas service.
  - 5.2 **LEFT HAND THREADS** are used on some CGA connections. Notches in the middle of the hex nut usually identify left handed CGA connections.
  - 5.3 **GASKETS** are used in conjunction with some CGA connections. If the connection requires a gasket, one has been supplied with the regulator. Inspect the gasket for signs of contamination and abuse. Do not over-tighten the connection using a gasket as this will force the gasket to extrude into the gas stream.
  - 5.4 **VCR or VCR-TYPE CONNECTIONS** are supplied as inlet and/or outlet connections on some MATHESON regulators. VCR or VCR-Type connections utilize an expendable GASKET for sealing which may or may not be supplied.
  - 5.5 **NEVER USE LUBRICANTS OF ANY TYPE** on the regulator or cylinder valve to aid in connection.
  - 5.6 **NEVER USE TEFLON TAPE** to aid in the sealing of the CGA fitting to the cylinder valve.

5.7 **REGULATORS USED FOR OXIDIZING SERVICES** should be connected directly to the cylinder or through the use of an approved pigtail. Avoid the use of any intervening tubing.

6. Make the connections between the outlet of the regulator and the system to be supplied gas.

6.1 **HOSE BARB CONNECTIONS** provided with MATHESON regulators are typically for use with 1/4" ID hose. Press hose onto the hose barb with enough force to retain the hose after tugging gently on the free end of the hose. Connect the other free end of the hose to a suitable hose connection on the equipment.

**WARNING: Hose barbs are in effect relief devices. Do not secure the hose to the hose barb with any device. Hose barbs are meant to blow off under excessive pressure. Therefore, never use hose barb connections with any hazardous material that can be released into the work area. Make sure that the type of hose is compatible with the gas to be used.**

6.2 **NATIONAL PIPE TAPER (NPT) CONNECTIONS** are supplied as outlet connections on some MATHESON regulators. Carefully inspect the pipe thread connections for contamination or abuse. Use only fittings or connections with NPT mating threads supplied by a reputable vendor. Carefully inspect the threads of the fittings or pipe to be used to connect the regulator outlet with the equipment intended. Make the connection between the outlet of the regulator and the equipment using an appropriate interconnecting material.

**WARNING: NPT connections seal on the pipe threads of the fitting or outlet connection. Teflon tape can be used to help accomplish a seal but should be used sparingly as not to block the inside of the pipe. Contaminated or abused parts sometimes will not make a gas tight seal.**

- 6.3 **COMPRESSION TUBE FITTINGS** are supplied as outlet connections on some MATHESON regulators. Standard connections provided are 1/4" and are for use with 1/4" OD rigid metal tubing. Dependent upon the application, the tubing material will either be Brass, Copper, Stainless Steel, or Monel. Connect the rigid tubing to the outlet of the regulator and then to the equipment utilizing the manufacturer's instructions for making compression tube connections.

**WARNING: Most approved and reliable compression tube connections utilize ferrules for compression of the fitting onto the tube. These ferrules are to be used for one (1) connection only. Additional connections should always utilize new ferrules. Never use Teflon tape in making a compression tube connection.**

- 6.4 **VCR or VCR-TYPE CONNECTIONS** are supplied as inlet and/or outlet connections on some MATHESON regulators. Standard connections provided are typically 1/4" male or female dependent upon customer order. Connections are to be made only to compatible connections within the User's system. VCR or VCR-Type connections utilize an expendable gasket for sealing which may or may not be supplied.

**WARNING: VCR and VCR-type connections use expendable gaskets. These gaskets are to be utilized only for one attempt at sealing and should never be reused. Make certain that the gaskets to be employed are compatible with the gas service intended.**

- 6.5 **OPTIONS** may have been ordered with the MATHESON regulator delivered. MATHESON offers several standard options provided with some regulators. **Review carefully the accompanying insert(s) for options that may have been included with your regulator.**
- 6.6 **BEFORE OPERATION** of the regulator and associated equipment, **it is strongly recommended** that the user leak check the entire system to be pressurized using an inert gas and an approved method.

**WARNING: This step is required when using any hazardous material.**

## VII. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### Read the "SAFETY PRECAUTIONS" and "INSTALLATION" sections before operation of the equipment

1. It is strongly recommended that high purity gas systems be thoroughly purged or evacuated before injecting high purity gases into the system.
2. The regulator control knob or handle should be closed as described in the "INSTALLATION" section above. The outlet valve (if supplied) or down-side low pressure isolation valve should also be in the closed position as described in the "INSTALLATION" section above.
3. The user should then put on appropriate safety apparel such as, but not limited to, safety glasses and gloves.
4. The user should then position himself/herself with the cylinder between themselves and the regulator. **Do not rest hands on or apply force to the regulator during the following charging operations.**
5. To avoid damage to the regulator's internal parts, open the cylinder valve or begin to supply pressure to the regulator **slowly**. Observe the high pressure gauge (if supplied) for a rise in pressure to full cylinder pressure or system pressure.
6. Observe all high pressure connections in the pressurized system for leaks.
  - 6.1 An approved soap solution, if compatible with materials and applications in use, can be used to check connections for leaks.
  - 6.2 An approved leak detecting device can be used to check for leaks. Consult the manufacturer's instructions for applications and hazards associated with the gas to be used in the system.
  - 6.3 If neither method above can be utilized, re-close the cylinder valve for a minimum of five minutes and observe the high pressure gauge (if supplied) for a drop in pressure.
  - 6.4 If a leak is indicated, by any of the methods listed above, recheck the CGA connection to the cylinder and all other high pressure connections.
  - 6.5 If all of the connections indicate no leak and the regulator and outlet valve or low pressure isolation valve are still closed, and the pressure continues to fall on the inlet side, reduce pressure in the system as outlined in the "SHUTDOWN and DISASSEMBLY" section. Return the regulator for replacement (if new) or repair (if out of warranty) by following the procedure in the "LIMITED WARRANTY" section.

7. If the system has been leak checked as in step 6 and is found to be acceptable, open the cylinder valve completely in order to form a good seal within the cylinder valve. Keep the hand wheel or wrench (if required for this particular cylinder valve type) available at all times to allow for prompt shut-off in emergency situations.
8. Adjust the hand knob to raise the delivery pressure to the desired working pressure while observing the delivery pressure gauge. **Do not exceed the maximum delivery pressure indicated by the model number or any additional labels.**
  - 8.1 Observe all low pressure connections in the pressurized system for leaks.
  - 8.2 Check connections for leaks with an approved soap solution, if compatible with materials and applications in use.
  - 8.3 An approved leak detecting device can be used to check for leaks. Consult the manufacturer's instructions for applications and hazards associated with the gas to be used in the system.
  - 8.4 If neither method above can be utilized, re-close the cylinder valve or isolate the system source pressure for a minimum of five minutes and observe the low pressure gauge for a drop in pressure.
9. Again set the delivery pressure and open the outlet valve or low pressure isolation valve on the regulator or in the system. **Check the rest of the system for leaks as described above for low pressure check.**
10. Upon completion of the leak check, open the inlet gas valve on the equipment to be supplied gas and begin use.
  - 10.1 With the gas flowing through the system, some adjustment to delivery pressure may be needed. Make adjustments in accordance with the final equipment manufacturer's instructions.
  - 10.2 **Two Stage** regulators will usually require no further adjustment.
  - 10.3 **Single Stage** regulators will require adjustment as the cylinder or source pressure decreases. Periodically check the regulator for a change in the delivery pressure.
  - 10.4 **As a general rule**, the cylinder should be considered empty when the cylinder pressure falls to twice (2x) the usable delivery pressure.

**NOTE: The outlet valve on the regulator (if supplied) is meant to be used as a temporary shut off valve only. It is not intended to throttle or control pressure or flow in any way whatsoever.**

## VIII. SHUTDOWN and DISASSEMBLY

As indicated in the "INSTRUCTIONS" section, a cylinder is considered empty when the cylinder pressure has dropped to twice (2x) the delivery pressure or less.

### 1. TEMPORARY SHUTDOWN (Less Than 30 Minute Duration)

Simply close the outlet valve of the regulator or the low pressure system isolation valve.

### 2. EXTENDED SHUTDOWN (Beyond 30 Minute Duration)

**The following procedure is to be used with normally open systems or for complete system disassembly. This procedure is to be used only when there is no concern for intrusion of ambient air into the system.**

2.1 Shut off the gas cylinder valve or source valve completely.

2.2 Shut down any additional gas supplies that may be supplying gas to the system.

2.3 Open the regulator and the outlet valve to drain the contents of the regulator through the system in use. Both regulator gauges should descend to zero.

2.4 When using a toxic or other hazardous gas, run an inert gas through the regulator and system as a means to purge the toxic or hazardous gas out of the system before breaking any of the system connections.

2.5 After venting (and purging when necessary), close the regulator and the outlet valve or low pressure isolation valve of the system.

2.6 Disconnect the regulator from the system or downstream equipment.

2.7 Disassemble the regulator from the cylinder or system by loosening the connection. Listen for gas seepage. If leaking is evident, re-tighten the connection immediately and check the cylinder or source valve for proper closure. If the cylinder or source valve is in the closed position, and the regulator has been drained of all gases, contact the **Gas Supplier** immediately and notify them of the situation.

2.8 Replace plug into cylinder valve outlet (where applicable). Replace the cap on the cylinder over the valve (if supplied). Remove the cylinder from the work place and put the cylinder into a safe storage area. Replace the empty cylinder with a new one and follow the procedures in the "INSTALLATION" section of this manual.

2.9 When the regulator is removed from the system, make sure both the regulator and the outlet valve are closed. Cap the inlet and the outlet of the regulator with plastic caps and store in a plastic bag until needed again.

### 3. EXTENDED SHUTDOWN (Beyond 30 Minute Duration)

**The following procedure is to be used with normally closed systems. This procedure is to be used only when there is concern for intrusion of ambient air into the system.**

Following the procedures above, there are three methods of sealing the system for extended shutdown for long periods.



- 3.1 Seal the usage gas in the system

**WARNING: This should not be done with toxic, pyrophoric, or corrosive gases.**

- 3.2 Exert a vacuum on the system after shut down. Cap and seal accordingly.

**NOTE: This requires the system to be leak tight. Impurities will leak into the system. Refer to the applicable inserts packaged with the equipment to determine if the regulator can withstand a vacuum.**

- 3.3 Replace the gas used in the system with an inert gas using approved purging methods.

**NOTE: This method pressurizes the system reducing the probability of impurities entering the system.**

- 3.4 **Cylinder or Source Change for Isolated Gas Systems.** For cylinder or source change of isolated gas systems, an approved valve must be placed upstream of the regulator.
- 3.4.1 Shut off the gas cylinder or source valve completely.
  - 3.4.2 Shut off the isolation valve upstream of the regulator and downstream of the cylinder valve.
  - 3.4.3 When using hazardous gases, effectively purge the cylinder valve cavity and intervening section with a purge gas as described in the specific manual received for the purge device.
  - 3.4.4 Disassemble the regulator from the cylinder or source by slowly loosening the connection. Listen for gas seepage. If leaking is evident, re-tighten the connection immediately and check the cylinder or source valve for proper closure. If the cylinder or source valve is in the closed position, and the regulator has been drained of all gases, contact the **Gas Supplier** immediately and notify them of the situation.
  - 3.4.5 Replace plug into cylinder valve outlet (where applicable). Replace the cap on the cylinder over the valve. Remove the cylinder from the work place and put the cylinder into a safe storage area. Replace the empty cylinder with a new one and follow the procedures in the "INSTALLATION" section of this manual.

## Notes

## Notes



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