

**Plastics piping systems —  
Thermoplastics valves —  
Test method for the integrity  
of a valve after temperature  
cycling under bending**

The European Standard EN 1704 : 1997 has the status of a  
British Standard

ICS 23.060.01

# Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee PRI/61, Plastics piping systems and components, upon which the following bodies were represented:

British Gas Plc  
 British Plastics Federation  
 British Plumbing Fittings Manufacturers' Association  
 British Valve and Actuator Manufacturers' Association  
 Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management  
 Department of the Environment (British Board of Agrèment)  
 Department of the Environment (Building Research Establishment)  
 Department of Transport  
 Electricity Association  
 Health and Safety Executive  
 Institute of Building Control  
 Institute of Materials  
 Institution of Civil Engineers  
 Institution of Gas Engineers  
 National Association of Plumbing, Heating and Mechanical Services Contractors  
 Pipeline Industries Guild  
 Plastics Land Drainage Manufacturers' Association  
 Society of British Gas Industries  
 Society of British Water Industries  
 Water Companies Association  
 Water Services Association of England and Wales

The following bodies were represented in the drafting of this standard, through subcommittees and panels:

ERA Technology Ltd.  
 Engineering Equipment and Materials Users' Association  
 RAPRA Technology Ltd.

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Sector Board for Materials and Chemicals, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 June 1997

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The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:  
 Committee reference PRI/61  
 Draft for comment 95/120948 DC

## Amendments issued since publication

| Amd. No. | Date | Text affected |
|----------|------|---------------|
|          |      |               |
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# National foreword

This British Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee PRI/61 and is the English language version of EN 1704 : 1996 *Plastics piping systems — Thermoplastics valves — Test method for the integrity of a valve after temperature cycling under bending*, published by the European Committee for Standardization (CEN).

It is incorporated into BS 2782 *Methods of testing plastics: Part 11: Thermoplastics pipes, fittings and valves*, as Method 1133B : 1997, for association with related test methods for plastics materials and plastics piping components.

This test method has been prepared for reference by other standards under preparation by CEN for specification of plastics piping and ducting systems and components. It has been implemented to enable experience of the method to be gained and for use for other fresh applications.

It is also for use for the revision or amendment of other national standards as practicable, but it should not be presumed to apply to any existing standard or specification which contains or makes reference to a different test method until that standard/specification has been amended or revised to make reference to this method and adjust any requirements as appropriate.

## Cross-references

| Publication referred to | Corresponding British Standard  |
|-------------------------|---|
| EN 837-1 : 1996         | BS EN 837 : 1997 <i>Pressure gauge — Part 1: Bourdon tube pressure gauges — Dimensions, metrology, requirements and tests</i> |
| EN 28233                | BS EN 28233 : 1992<br><i>Thermoplastics valves — Torque — Test method</i><br>[BS 2782 : Part 11 : Method 1131 : 1992]         |
| EN 45501 : 1993         | BS EN 45501 : 1994<br><i>Specification for metrological aspects of non-automatic weighing instruments</i>                     |

NOTE 1. In the descriptors, the term 'cocks' should be read as 'valves'.

NOTE 2. In 4.1, the specification of the bending frame given in the first paragraph corresponds to that for testing a length of pipe under bending, for which a constant bending radius can be achieved. This cannot be achieved for a test piece in which a significant portion comprises a relatively stiff valve body. It is necessary therefore to interpret figure 1 as requiring displacement of the valve body by the specified radial distance from its position between two straight pipes before bending is applied. Depending on the relative lengths and stiffness of the valve body and the two adjacent pipes which complete the span shown in figure 1, the radius of bending of the actual pipes may differ from and cannot be expected or required to conform to a constant radius of  $25d_n$ .

NOTE 3. In 4.1, reference has been introduced to a specific classification in accordance with EN 45501, which should therefore have been listed as a dated reference in clause 2.

NOTE 4. In 5.1.1, reference has been introduced to the 'MRS-class' of the materials of the pipes and the valve, without reference to the basis thereof. The Technical Committee considers this to be a reference to the classification number according to EN ISO 12162 : 1995 ( $\equiv$  BS EN ISO 12162 : 1996 and BS 2782 : Part 11 : Method 1121 : 1996)

**Warning note.** This British Standard, which is identical with EN 1704 : 1997, does not necessarily detail all the precautions necessary to meet the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. Attention should be paid to any appropriate safety precautions and the method should be operated only by trained personnel.

In particular, it is the opinion of UK Technical Committee PRI/61 that the method as written gives test conditions known to be appropriate and required for some applications, including polyethylene valves for gas distribution. For testing of valves of more brittle materials and/or intended for other applications, the test conditions may be inappropriate, e.g. conditioning to  $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  as required for 6.3 and 6.6. The Technical Committee therefore draws particular attention to clause 3 and the note thereto, including item c), and to the note which follows 6.9.

**Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.**

## Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i and ii, the EN title page, pages 2 to 6, an inside back cover and a back cover.

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ICS 23.060.00

Descriptors: Plastic tubes, cocks, thermoplastic resins, leak tests, bend tests, thermal cycling tests, verification

English version

## Plastics piping systems — Thermoplastics valves — Test method for the integrity of a valve after temperature cycling under bending

Systèmes de canalisations en plastique — Robinets  
thermoplastiques — Méthode d'essai pour la  
vérification d'un robinet après des cycles  
thermiques sous flexion

Kunststoff-Rohrleitungssysteme —  
Thermoplast-Armaturen — Prüfverfahren der  
Unversehrtheit einer Armatur nach  
Temperaturwechseln unter Beugung

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 1996-10-27. CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration.

Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Central Secretariat or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Central Secretariat has the same status as the official versions.

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**CEN**

European Committee for Standardization  
Comité Européen de Normalisation  
Europäisches Komitee für Normung

**Central Secretariat: rue de Stassart 36, B-1050 Brussels**

## **Foreword**

This European Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 155, Plastics piping systems and ducting systems, the secretariat of which is held by NNI.

The material-dependent parameters and/or performance requirements are incorporated in the System Standard(s) concerned.

This standard is one of a series of standards on test methods which support System Standards for plastics piping systems and ducting systems.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by July 1997, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by July 1997.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

## 1 Scope

This standard specifies a method for determining the leaktightness and ease of operation of a valve under bending following the application of temperature cycling.

This standard is applicable to thermoplastics valves with DN 63 or smaller.

## 2 Normative references

This standard incorporates by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate places in the text and the publications are listed hereafter. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications apply to this standard only when incorporated in it by amendment or revision. For undated references the latest edition of the publication referred to applies.

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| EN 837-1 | <i>Pressure gauges — Part 1: Bourdon tube pressure gauges — Dimensions, metrology, requirements and testing</i> |
| EN 28233 | <i>Thermoplastics valves — Torque — Test method</i>   |

## 3 Principle

A valve assembly is exposed to a continuous temperature cycling between a low and a high temperature for a specified number of cycles. Unless otherwise specified in the referring standard, the lower and upper test temperatures are  $-20\text{ °C}$  and  $+40\text{ °C}$  respectively. During the test the assembly is held at a fixed bend radius. Following temperature cycling the valve is tested for ease of operation and leaktightness.

NOTE. It is assumed that the following test parameters are set by the standard making reference to this standard:

- the bending radius if other than  $25 d_n$  (see 5.1.2);
- the number of test pieces to be tested in each configuration (see clause 5);
- the lower and/or upper cycle temperatures, if not as given in 6.3;
- the number of cycles (see 6.4).

## 4 Apparatus

**4.1** A bending frame, capable of producing a constant bending radius of  $25 d_n$ , using a three point bending load over a span of  $10 d_n$  as shown in figure 1.

The stationary frame of the machine shall include two supports, S, with a 5 mm radius of curvature, having parallel axes and adjustable spacing (see figure 1).

Depending upon the type of valve, the moving part of the machine shall make contact via a tool having a 5 mm radius or a semi-cylindrical face or a yoke, the axis of which is parallel to that of the supports. The tool and the supports shall be made of hardened steel. The apparatus shall include force and deflection measuring indicators conforming to accuracy class 2 in accordance with EN 45501.

**4.2** A temperature-controlled water bath, maintained at  $(20 \pm 1)\text{ °C}$  and capable of receiving the bending frame.

**4.3** A temperature-controlled environment, capable of receiving the bending frame and being cycled between two temperatures as specified (see 6.3).

**4.4** Other equipment, as follows:

- a device for measuring the operating torque of the valve;
- a compressed air supply, variable up to at least 6 bar (see 6.9);
- a manometer, with a range of 0 mbar to 50 mbar (class 0,6 or better conforming to EN 837-1);
- a thermometer capable of checking conformity to the temperature(s) specified in 4.2 and/or 6.3, as appropriate;
- end closures connected to the ends of the valve, allowing, by means of an appropriate system, sealing and connecting to the pressurising equipment. By means of an appropriate system, both end closures shall allow sealing, connection to pressurising equipment and venting (see 6.10 and 6.12).

## 5 Test pieces

### 5.1 Preparation

**5.1.1** Two test pieces shall be prepared as assemblies as follows. The valve shall be assembled between two pipes of the same  $d_n$  as the valve and of sufficient length to provide a span of at least  $10 d_n$  when the applicable bending radius is achieved (see 5.1.2), as shown in figure 1.

The free ends of the pipes shall be fitted with closures conforming to e) of 4.4. If a pipe is to be connected to the valve by fusion, the material of the pipe shall conform to the same MRS-class as the material of the valve.

**5.1.2** One test piece, with the valve fully closed, shall be held in a bending frame (4.1), with the valve spindle in the plane of bending and the operating cap in the outer circumference as shown in figure 1.

The assembly shall be put into the bending frame in such a way that a constant bending radius is assured. Unless otherwise specified in the referring standard, the radius shall be  $25 d_n$ .

The other test piece, with the valve in the half open position, shall be held in a bending frame (4.1) with the valve spindle perpendicular to the plane of bending.

### 5.2 Number of test pieces

The number of test pieces to be tested in each configuration shall be as specified in the referring standard.

## 6 Procedure

**6.1** Apply the procedures given in **6.2** to **6.12** inclusive to each test piece in each configuration (see clause 5).

**6.2** Measure and record the opening and closing torques of the valve in accordance with EN 28233. Restore the valve to its initial position, i.e. closed or half open (see 5.1).

**6.3** [See c) in the note to clause 3]. Place the fixture in a temperature-controlled environment at  $(-20 \pm 2)^\circ\text{C}$  for 10 h. Then raise the temperature of the environment to  $(40 \pm 2)^\circ\text{C}$  and maintain that temperature for 10 h.

**6.4** Repeat the temperature cycle given in **6.3** to complete the total number of cycles specified in the referring standard.

**6.5** With the bending radius still applied, and without any prior operating, measure and record the opening and closing torques of the valve at  $(40 \pm 1)^\circ\text{C}$ , in accordance with EN 28233. Restore the valve to its initial position.

**6.6** With the bending radius still applied, condition the valve at  $(-20 \pm 2)^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 h and measure and record the opening and closing torques of the valve, in accordance with EN 28233. Set the valve to its half-open position.

**6.7** With the bending radius still applied, connect the assembly to a pneumatic pressure source and place the assembly in a water bath maintained at  $(20 \pm 1)^\circ\text{C}$ . Condition the assembly in that bath for a minimum of 12 h.

**6.8** Pressurise the test piece pneumatically to at least 25 mbar greater than the maximum hydrostatic head produced by the water, i.e. that at the lowest point of the outside of the valve.

Maintain this pressure for at least 5 h and monitor the test piece for, and record, any external leakage.

**6.9** Increase the pressure pneumatically in the test piece to at least 6 bar. Maintain that pressure for at least 5 h and monitor for, and record, any external leakage.

NOTE. Attention is drawn to the need to contain the possible effects of failure of components subjected to impact testing or destructive testing.

**6.10** Close the valve, vent the downstream end of the test piece and remove the non-pressurised end closure from that end of the test piece.

**6.11** Repeat once the procedures given in **6.8** and **6.9** and monitor the valves for, and record, any internal leakage.

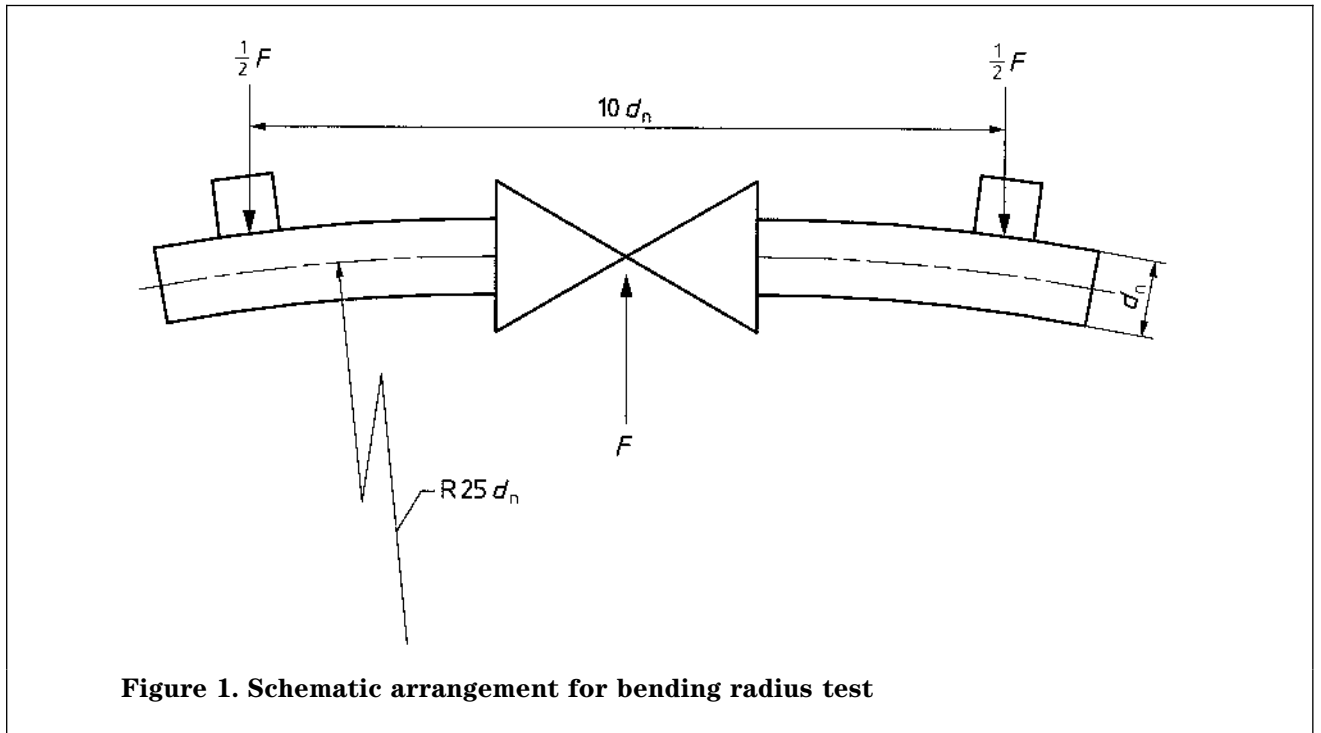
**6.12** Repeat once the procedures given in **6.9** and **6.10** to test the internal leaktightness of the other side of the valve.

## 7 Test report

The test report shall include the following:

- a) a reference to this standard and the referring standard;
- b) full identification of the product, including manufacturer and production date;
- c) the upper and lower test temperatures;
- d) the values of the opening and closing torques measured prior to, and following, temperature cycling at both  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  and  $+40^\circ\text{C}$ ;
- e) result of the leaktightness tests (see **6.8**, **6.9**, **6.11** and **6.12**);
- f) any factors which may have affected the results, such as any incidents or any operating details not specified in this standard;
- g) the date of test.







## List of references

See national foreword.

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