



PRODUCT INFORMATION

700 Spring Mill Avenue
Conshohocken, PA 19428
TEL (215) 825-6300
TWX 510-660-8931
FAX (215) 825-6440

HALE FOAMPRO SERVICE BULLETIN 55E

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The following items are presented to keep FoamPro Installers and Users up to date on the latest information concerning the Foampro Product Line. Hale/FoamPro Manuals are updated on a regular basis to keep the customer and installer aware of the most accurate and current information on not only the Foam Systems themselves, but the truck and installation details that are so important to a properly operating system.

1. Always hold the FoamPro 2001 and 1001 Discharge Relief Valve with a wrench when installing a pipe fitting or hose onto it. Allowing the relief valve assembly to rotate will damage the assembly and will require replacement. A warning tag has been added to the relief valve to remind the installer. A replacement relief valve kit is available. Order Hale P/N 038-1430-00-0.
2. Per the Foampro Manuals and NFPA, a Foam Pump Discharge Check valve is required between the FoamPro pump unit and the waterway. A check valve with at least 2 psig cracking pressure is recommended and the valve must conform to NFPA pressure requirements as well as be constructed of corrosion resistant materials.

Some applications, with foam tanks over 4 ft. above the foam injection point, may actually have foam concentrate leak past the check valve into the waterway. A slightly higher cracking pressure will usually solve this problem (i.e. a 5 psig cracking pressure check valve will hold back over 11 ft. of water).

3. Priming the 2001 foam pump when the tank has run dry or establishing a foam feed from a 5 gallon pail while operating at pressure, can be done much quicker and easier by turning the inject/calibrate valve on the discharge of the foam pump to the calibrate position allowing the air to be pumped out of the foam lines. The foam pump is designed to pump liquid and when it becomes "air bound" it is a slow process to pump air into the waterway at 100 or 150 psig back pressure. Allowing the air to escape the pump through

the inject/calibrate valve, speeds the process while keeping the fire pump in constant operation. When foam begins to discharge from the inject/calibrate valve, simply switch back to the inject position and the foam system is fully primed.* Of course, for the foam pump to run and prime, water must be flowing from the main water pump or simulated flow mode can be used.

4. To minimize the potential for Radio Frequency Interference (RFI) when installing Hale FoamPro Systems, please follow these simple guidelines:
 - A. Use a flat ground strap instead of a battery cable to ground your Hale Foampro unit. A flat braided strap 1-3/8 inches wide by 1/16 inch thick will be much less of an RFI antenna than conventional round battery cable. Also, keep the ground strap as short as possible.
 - B. Always ensure the panel in which the Digital Display Control Module is mounted is grounded. Many stainless steel panels actually float a couple of millivolts above ground since there is paint between the frame and the panel. Vinyl coated panels should have a ground strap attached to one of the four screws that secure the Digital Display Control Module to the panel. Use a lockwasher under the head of that screw.
 - C. Always avoid mounting radio transmitter or transmitter cables in direct or close contact with FoamPro Units.
 - D. An RFI Suppression Kit is a standard addition to the 1993 Hale FoamPro Units and is available for retrofit onto existing units that require this additional RFI Suppression. Order Hale P/N 546-1500-00-0.
5. A Flowmeter Sizing Chart has been added to the latest revision of the Hale FoamPro 2001 Manual. Note that the paddlewheel flowmeters have a greatly extended range over other types of flowmeters, but they still have limits. The biggest single error in sizing flowmeters is to go too large. a 3 inch flowmeter cannot adequately measure the low flows used with 3/4 inch booster reels. There are some applications where multiple flowmeters are the only answer to cover low flows (booster reels) and high flows (deck guns, LDH).

When using a flowmeter for a foam system, do not follow ordinary piping sizes to be used. Instead look at the minimum and maximum required flows and pick the flowmeter size(s) that adequately covers the range. Keep in mind 3 inch piping can easily be reduced to 2-1/2 for the straight run to the flowmeter and increase after to avoid pressure losses in elbows or valves. The pressure loss in the smaller flowmeter section is usually insignificant. Refer to attached flowmeter drawing for flow ranges.

6. In response to requests, from many installers who do not have access to the bottom or top of their foam concentrate tanks, an optional side mount, low tank sensor is now offered to use with single and dual tank Hale FoamPro installations. This switch mounts in a 1/2" NPT threaded hole and may be used in place of the stock FoamPro switch without voiding warranty. Order Hale P/N 200-2320-02-0.
7. The calibrate/inject valve (Hale P/N 038-1420-00-0) features an adjustable seat that may be tightened if valve leakage occurs. Simply remove the fitting on the inject port of the valve and use a 3/8 size hex wrench to tighten the seat. Valves are tested and seats adjusted at the factory and under normal conditions require no additional maintenance in service. If a leak does develop however, this simple procedure may save the parts and labor cost of a valve replacement.

Joseph L. Costello
Joseph L. Costello
Service Manager

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Attachment