

The More You Know



May 6, 2026

Straight From Data Center World, Remember, Butterfly Valve Flanges... There's A Difference?

As Milwaukee Valve's Data Center Team returns from the 2026 Data Center World exposition, a quick reminder...

As data centers and related facilities grow ever larger, their cooling requirements are also growing, resulting in larger valves being installed to accommodate these systems. Milwaukee Valve's activity in 30" through 48" butterfly valves remains strong.



Protecting Critical Operations.
It's what we do.

When installing valves in these sizes, contractors may note on the Milwaukee Valve Installation, Operation and Maintenance Manual (IOM) that ASME B16.47 Series A flanges are **required**. This is a departure from the recommendation for 24" and smaller that flanges conforming to ASME B16.1 (iron) or ASME B16.5 (steel) are to be used. Why the change?

For the most part, steel flanges conforming to B16.5 are, by far, the most common choice. But B16.5 only covers flanges to 24". ASME B16.47 picks up where B16.5 leaves off and goes all the way to 60".

Since **Series A** is specifically called out, is there a **Series B**? Yes, there is. A customer recently requested a large diameter butterfly valve that could be used with **Series B** flanges. Not knowing the



difference between Series A and B, we looked it up. Series B flanges have VERY different dimensions than Series A. They are thinner, utilize more bolt holes, with smaller bolt diameters. Series B can be significantly less expensive but are typically found in non-critical and refurbishment situations. Perhaps someone was trying to save some money by using Series B.

Below are some comparisons between the two, in Class 150. As you can see, Series A are almost twice as thick as Series B. Again, we only make these larger butterfly valves for installation between ASME B16.47 Series A flanges. **Series A flanges are REQUIRED for Milwaukee Valve products.**

| SIZE | FLANGE THICKNESS | | # BOLT HOLES | | BOLT DIAMETER | |
|------|------------------|----------|--------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| | Series A | Series B | Series A | Series B | Series A | Series B |
| 30" | 2 7/8 | 1 11/16 | 28 | 44 | 1 3/8 | 7/8 |
| 36" | 3 1/2 | 2 | 32 | 44 | 1 5/8 | 1 |
| 42" | 3 3/4 | 2 1/4 | 36 | 48 | 1 5/8 | 1 1/8 |
| 48" | 4 3/16 | 2 1/2 | 44 | 44 | 1 5/8 | 1 1/4 |

For more information on Milwaukee Valve butterfly valves, visit www.MilwaukeeValve.com or contact your Milwaukee Valve customer service rep today. A complete listing, by territory, can be searched at our website, at www.MilwaukeeValve.com/Find-Sales-Rep/.



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