

Low-Cost Upgrade Provides Long-Term Reward

Like all valves, ball valves are rated at a lower pressure for steam service than they are for liquid or gas services. Steam is corrosive and you want to avoid the chance of any pitting or flaking of the chrome plating on the standard brass ball. Steam and steam condensate is generally more corrosive than water because of the presence of dissolved gases, carbon dioxide, and oxygen. These contaminants can result in stem and ball corrosion, unless the valve materials are properly selected. So, when using a ball valve in steam service, choose the stainless steel ball and stem option.



Because stainless is much harder than brass, stainless helps to eliminate the possibility of wear in the ball slot, which can result in “play” in the stem. This is especially evident in actuated ball valves with higher cycle requirements. Stainless steel also provides a much more robust stem and ball engagement, due to the tighter tolerances of the ball slot and the stem in relation to the harder material.



Steam is damaging to all valve parts at the moment of opening and closing, or when throttling. Resilient seat materials in other ball valves may be susceptible to damage than metal or carbon graphite seats. Milwaukee Valve improves long-term shut-off capabilities with the S3 seat, a carbon and glass fiber-reinforced PTFE seat.

These potential issues are not universal, but employing a stainless steel ball and stem eliminates doubt, and is a relatively low-cost upgrade that will guarantee a much better piping system.

Steam applications ALWAYS require extra care. For questions, contact your [Milwaukee Valve customer service representative](#) or regional manager or Milwaukee Valve sales representative today. Get complete specs and features for all Milwaukee Valve products at www.MilwaukeeValve.com.



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