

The More You Know



December 10, 2025

D-I-Y Repairs... The Details Matter.

On occasion, end-users will request repair parts for some Milwaukee Valve products. Specifically, these are often homeowners who have a Milwaukee Valve or Hammond Valve gate valve installed as the main shut-off to their residence. Whether the valve has a leaking stem or simply won't shut off entirely, the homeowner tries the D-I-Y approach because, well, plumbers don't work for free. Often, the valves are soldered into copper piping and/or have limited accessibility.



*Milwaukee Valve's 667 valve is a threaded-bonnet gate. It is **NOT** field repairable.*



*The 1141 gate is a union-bonnet gate. This valve **CAN BE** repaired in the field.*

Due to their low cost, the bulk of these valves are brass or low-lead brass alloys today. Milwaukee Valve does not stock or provide spare parts for these valves. Especially when the valve is soldered into place, the next question becomes, can the customer buy another complete valve and swap the "guts"? since there's a threaded joint at the body/bonnet. The simple answer is an emphatic "NO!"

To be clear, the threaded body/bonnet joint is simply how the valve is assembled. Nothing more. So if a homeowner insists on swapping parts from new to old valves as their Plan A, they better have their local plumber on speed dial as

Plan B. The threaded joint is NOT the equivalent of a Union joint.

One of our sales representatives and distributors became entangled in one of these scenarios. The customer was appropriately warned, and the rep agency and the distributor could not have handled the scenario any better.

"... this is kind of a weird return in the first place. This valve was never installed, the customer purchased it because the one they had one at home started to leak. Instead of installing the new valve and getting the bad one warrantied, they (the homeowner) decided it would be easier to gut a new valve and replace just the gate, stem, and cap with the parts from the new valve. They were warned that would most likely void any potential warranty, but they proceeded to attempt it anyway. They could not disassemble the new valve and returned it to us with wrench marks on the top and were adamant that we try to get a warranty for it not coming apart. We told them we would submit a warranty request to diffuse the situation."

Union bonnet valves are designed for this specific purpose. Unlike threaded bonnets, union bonnet styles are made to be serviceable. But please note, removing a union bonnet is no easy task.

For more information on servicing, repair or replacement of Milwaukee Valve products, 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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