h our line of work, we field questions from contractors and technicians concerning repairs, installations, and general backflow prevention practices. We'd like to share some questions that we receive as well as our answers. Everyone has different opinions on these subjects and we would like to hear yours. Contact us with questions and ideas via email at: imark@backflowparts.com or mail us at American Backflow Products Co., PO Box 37025, Tallahassee, Florida 32315.

-- Mark Inman and Jason Gregg

Question:

In the preceding two articles we discussed some of the physical differences between each Modification of the ³/₄ inch through the 2 inch Watts 009 series Reduced Pressure Assemblies (RPA). We did this to help in identifying each model if the data plate was missing or damaged. This month we will continue with an identification of the ³/₄ to 1 inch Watts 007 series of the Double Check Assemblies.

Mark:

The Watts ³/₄ to 1 inch 007 series assemblies have been updated or modified a few times over the years. Like the 009 series, the modifications made to the 007 series are dependent on the size of the assembly and should be indicated on the data plate (i.e. M1, M2, or M3). Let's start with the original ³/₄ and 1 inch 007.

The original can be identified

quickly by its outward appearance. This assembly has a round access cover that is threaded and screws into the body (No Bolts). Because Watts typically uses bolted access covers on their assemblies, it makes identifying the original 007 very easy.

Jason:

Both the ³/₄ and the 1 inch sizes of the 007 were first modified to the 007M1. This modification is also easy to identify from the others by outward appearance. The access cover on this M1 modification is square and has (4) cover bolts to secure it to the body. The body on this assembly was modified to utilize the same check valve module for both the first and second. For identification purposes, the access cover is the best feature to use.

Mark:

Identify the Watts 34 inch thru 1 inch 007

The next modification was to the ³/₄ inch size only of the 007. This modification was labeled the 007M2. This model is simple to distinguish from the 007 or 007M1 by its outward



007M1

appearance. This model is smaller in length, but also sports a small football shaped access cover, which only requires two (2) bolts to secure it to the body. However there is another modification, which looks exactly the same as the M2 on the outside, so we'll have to take a look inside at the check valve modules. This M2 model uses check valve modules, which resemble a barrel or canister in shape. The #1 module is solid white in color and the #2 module is two-toned black and white. Looking at these check valve features should help in distinguishing this M2 modification from the 007M3.



007M3



Jason:

The next modification was also to the ³/₄ inch size only. The ³/₄ inch M2 was now modified to the ³/₄ inch 007M3. The 007M3 model and the 007M2 are almost identical by their outward appearance. The 007M3 also uses a football shaped access cover, which only requires (2) bolts to secure it to the body. Because these models look alike from the outside, we'll have to take a look inside the assembly at the check modules to distinguish the M3 model from the M2. The 007M3 model uses check valve modules, which resemble cages. Both the M1 and M2 modules are black in color.

