

July 14, 1998

To All Dairy Equipment Installers:

I want to thank all of you who attended the Dairy Equipment Installer's Meeting held during the month of June around the state. We had a total of 67 attendees at the six meetings. We received some good feedback and certainly a lot of good questions. Several items came up that I said that I would clarify, plus some that I need to clarify.

1. Michigan will deviate slightly from 3A Standards and not make any immediate change from accepting rolled on fittings until we give you at least 6 months or more notice. Our concern is that poor welds on fittings may be a worse problem than poorly crimped rolled on fittings. I would like your feedback on this topic. My phone number is 517-373-9743 and you can leave a message if I am not in at the time you call.
2. Grey water **can** be used to flush parlor floors and walls, but not the milking equipment. Potable water must be provided in the parlor for the purpose of washing the outside of equipment, including the udders. Of course, in the case of udders, an udderwash solution should be used.
3. Filter sock storage is permissible in the parlor if it is in an area that will not be subject to manure splatters, waterhose sprays, or dirt and dust. A breezeway area is an example of an area that may be suitable. Parlor pits are not suitable.
4. It is considered acceptable for a milk hauler to pass through one door (not two) to reach a handwash sink from the milkroom where the bulk tank is located.
5. All swing lines that deliver cooled or chilled milk to the bulk tank must have an umbrella type drip shield or deflector shield (rubber, plastic, stainless steel, etc.) that slips on the pipe and overlaps the raised edges on the bulk tank. The drip deflector must be tight enough on the swing line to divert condensation water from the outside of the swing line and away from the opening to the bulk tank. A rubber plug type stopper that slips over the drop pipe and is fitted into the bulk tank opening does not meet drip deflector criteria.
6. All swing line openings to the bulk tank shall be covered to prevent entrance of flies, dirt, or water such as hose sprays. In other words, a 1 1/2" swingline entering a 3" opening is not satisfactory without some type of protection to close the open area around the swingline. A rubber plug type stopper is acceptable for this purpose.
7. Any milk transfer hoses in the milkhouse (with the exception the old Chore-Boy swing line or milk veyors) must be needed for functional purposes (hard piping will not work), be as short as practical, wash in a CIP system, and have manufactured ends that are CIP-able. Reusable hose ends are available that are 3A accepted, and I will include an example as an attachment.

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8. There is no change in the requirement for two unencumbered wash vats, especially if large handwash equipment or an abnormal milker pail is present. If there is not any large equipment requiring handwashing, a vertical sink may be accepted as one compartment

if there is a stainless basket or stainless chain to hold small parts in the vertical vat during CIP.

9. Regarding the issue of separation between a holding area and the parlor where milking equipment is stored between milkings. If cattle are not housed in the holding area, and if there is an open area in the holding area wall, from floor to ceiling, before it attaches to the housing area and that area is permanently open without curtains or panels attached, the requirement for doors or roll up curtains may be waived. It was suggested that an eight feet long opening would be minimal.
10. All milk pipelines must have an inspection port (coupling) that allows visual access to each straight section of pipeline. The only exception would be if the system is CIP-ed by pressure wash (not vacuum), and a CIP temperature recording chart is installed at the CIP discharge outlet.
11. Any butterfly valves used in a milking or milk transfer system must be 3A approved design. They are not considered CIP-able, so they must be removable for daily cleaning. We recommend that they be of a design that can be split in half with the removal of a thumb screw clamp. The design that requires removal of bolts or screws to split the valve in half also requires that tools be provided in the milkhouse for disassembly.
12. In using the Installer Manual section on calculating hot water needs, consider washing machine requirements if used to laundry udder cloths.
13. When calculating vacuum pump capacity, 35 CFM is used as the base plus 3 per unit, plus extra uses as described. If there are multiple receiver groups in the parlor, 35 CFM is still used as the base, unless there is a separate vacuum pump for each group. In that case, each would be calculated as a separate system. The one unit falloff test (two unit falloff test if over 32 units) is the key test and it overrides the initial vacuum pump sizing calculation if vacuum is not adequate to meet the performance standards.

I am including a flier that I sent out last December that should have been included in the reprinting of the Installer Manual, but was not.

If you have any questions or comments, especially concerning rolled on fittings, contact me at 517-373-9743 or 373-1086.

Sincerely,

Jon Lauer, Resource Specialist  
Dairy Section  
Food and Dairy Division

Attachments: Advertisement for reusable milkhose couplers  
Update sheet from December 1997