Pilot-Operated Relief Valves

SUMMARY

Introduction	1
P.E.D. Categories and Fluid Group	2
Characteristics	2
Labelling	2
Overpressure Protection	3
Transport and Handling	3
Atex Requirements	3
Pilots	4
Operation	4
Dimensions and Weights	5
Installation	5
Startup	6
Pilot Adjustment	6
Shutdown	7
Periodical Checks	7
Relief Valve Maintenance	7
Type PRX/182 Pilot Maintenance	8
Spare Parts	9
Troubleshooting	9
Parts Lists	10
Schematic Assemblies	11

INTRODUCTION

Scope of Manual

This manual provides instructions for installation, startup, maintenance and spare parts ordering for the VS-FL Series pilot operated relief valves and for PRX/182 pilot.



Figure 1. Relief Valve Type VS-FL with PRX/182 Pilot

Product Description

The VS-FL Series relief valves are axial flow type with a single seat and counterbalanced shutter.

They are used in reduction, distribution and conveying stations using suitably filtered natural gas.

They can also be used for air, propane, butane, LPG, city gas, nitrogen, carbon dioxide and hydrogen.

The following versions are available:

VS-FL-BP: For low and mid pressure applications Pilot PRX/182

VS-FL : For mid and high pressure applications Pilot PRX/182 or PRX-AP/182

Also available version with type SR silencer.

All standard gas pressure devices (relief valves) used in assemblies will comply to EN 12186 and EN 12279 standards.

Any accessories (e.g. pilots) used on the Emerson Process Management range of relief valves, must be manufactured by one of the Emerson Process Management companies and bear that manual.

If this is not respected, Emerson Process Management will not be responsible in the case of any inefficiency.





P.E.D. CATEGORIES AND FLUID GROUP

The VS-FL/ Pilot-Operated Series relief valves are designed as functional equipments and they are typically used in gas pressure reducing stations for overpressure protection by releasing small amounts of gas in the event of not perfect pressure relief valve closing.

Table 1. P.E.D. Category for VS-FL Series Relief Valves

PRODUCT SIZE	CATEGORY	FLUID GROUP
DN 25 - 40 - 50 - 65 - 80 - 100 - 150 - 200	IV	1

If VS-FL/ series relief valve is used as full-capacity relief device (according clause 8.3.2 EN 12186), downstream equipments protected by this products shall have technical features such as not to be category higher than following category (according Directive 97/23/EC "PED").

Possible built-in pressure accessories (e.g. pilots PRX/ series or filters SA/2, FU/ and FD-GPL/) conform to Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) 97/23/EC Article 3 section 3 and were designed and manufactured in accordance with sound engineering practice (SEP).

Per Article 3 section 3, these "SEP" products must not bear the CE marking.

CHARACTERISTICS

Body Sizes and End Connection Styles

VS-FL-BP

DN 25 - 40 - 50 - 65 - 80 - 100 - 150

PN 16

ANSI 150 flanged

VS-FL

DN 25 - 40 - 50 - 65 - 80 - 100 - 150 - 200

ANSI 300 - 600 flanged

WARNING

The pressure/temperature limits indicated in this instruction manual or any applicable standard or code limitation should not be exceeded.

Maximum Operating Inlet Pressure

PN 16 : 16 bar ANSI 150: 20 bar ANSI 300: 50 bar ANSI 600: 100 bar

At average ambient temperature.

Outlet Set Pressure Ranges

VS-FL-BP PN 16 ANSI 150 DN 25-40-50: 0.5 ÷ 8 bar
VS-FL-BP PN 16 DN 65-80-100-150 : 0.5 ÷ 16 bar
VS-FL-BP ANSI 150 DN 65-80-100-150 : 0.5 ÷ 19.3 bar
VS-FL ANSI 300 all sizes : 1 ÷ 50 bar
VS-FL ANSI 600 all sizes : 1 ÷ 80 bar

Minimum/Maximum Allowable Temperature (TS)

See label.

Temperature

Standard Version : Working -10° to 60°C Low Temperature Version: Working -20° to 60°C

Materials

Flanges and covers: Steel

Diaphragms : Fabric Nitrile (NBR) + PVC

Nitrile (NBR) rubber

Pads : Nitrile (NBR) rubber

(FKM available on request)

LABELLING

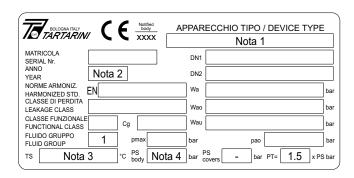


Figure 2. Label for VS-FL Series Relief Valves

Note 1: See "Characteristics"

Note 2: Year of manufacture

Note 3: Class 1: -10°/60°C

Class 2: -20°/60°C

Note 4: PN 16 PS : 16 bar

ANSI 150 PS: 19.3 bar ANSI 300 PS: 50 bar ANSI 600 PS: 100 bar

OVERPRESSURE PROTECTION

The recommended safety pressure limitations are stamped on the valve label.

Downstream overpressure protection shall be also provided if the inlet pressure can be greater than the PS (see label).

Equipment's operation below the maximum pressure limitations does not preclude the possibility of damage from external sources or debris in the line.

The relief valve should be inspected for damage after any overpressure condition.

TRANSPORT AND HANDLING

Established transport and handling procedures shall be followed to avoid any damage on the pressure containing parts by shocks or anomalous stresses.

Ringbolts are designed just for handling of equipment weight.

Built-up sensing lines and pressure accessories (e.g. pilots) shall to be protected by shocks or anomalous stresses.

ATEX REQUIREMENTS

If the provisions of EN 12186 & EN 12279, national regulations, if any, and specific manufacturer recommendations are not put into practice before installation and if purge by inert gas is not carried out before equipment's start-up and shut-down operations, a potential external and internal explosive atmosphere can be present in equipment & gas pressure regulating/measuring stations/installations.

If a presence of foreign material in the pipelines is foreseen and purge by inert gas is not carried out, the following procedure is recommended to avoid any possible external ignition source inside the equipment due to mechanical generated sparks: drainage to safe area via drain lines of foreign materials, if any, by inflow of fuel gas with low velocity in the pipe-work (5m/sec)

In any case,

- provisions of Directive 1999/92/EC and 89/655/EC shall be enforced by gas pressure regulating/measuring station/ installation's end user
- with a view to preventing and providing protection against explosions, technical and/or organizational measures appropriate to the nature of the operation shall be taken (e.g.: filling/exhausting of fuel gas of internal volume of the isolated part/entire installation with vent lines to safe area 7.5.2 of EN 12186 & 7.4 of EN 12279; monitoring of settings with further exhaust of fuel gas to safe area; connection of isolated part/entire installation to downstream pipeline;)
- provision in 9.3 of EN 12186 & 12279 shall be enforced by pressure regulating/measuring station/installation's end user
- external tightness test shall be carried out after each reassembly at installation site using testing pressure in accordance with national rules
- periodical check/maintenance for surveillance shall be carried out complying with national regulations, if any, and specific manufacturer recommendations.

PILOTS

VS-FL relief valves are equipped with the PRX/ series pilots.

Table 2. Pilots Type PRX/182 and PRX-AP/182 Characteristics

Model	Allowable Pressure PS (bar)	Set Range Wd (bar)	Body and Covers Material	
PRX/182	100	0.5 - 40	Steel	
PRX-AP/182	100	30 - 80		
N.B.: 1/4" NPT female threaded connections				

OPERATION

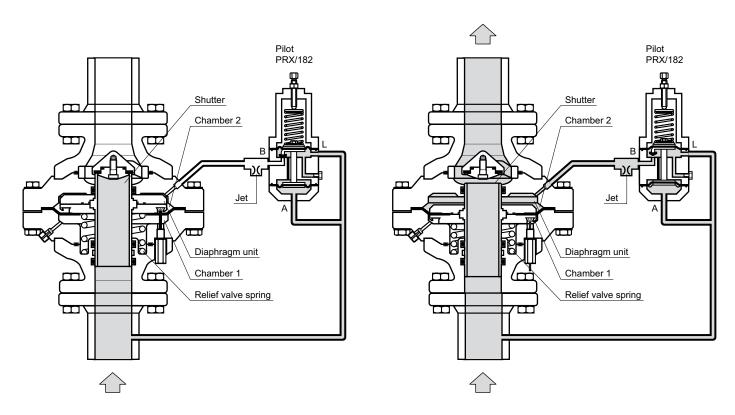


Figure 3. Closed VS-FL Relief Valve

Figure 4. Opened VS-FL Relief Valve

The diaphragm unit (permanently connected to the shutter) divides the relief valve actuator into two chambers.

The chamber 1 is connected to the atmospheric pressure, chamber 2 is connected to the pilot.

In normal working conditions the two chambers are not containing pressure and the relief valve spring acts on the diaphragm unit and closes the shutter.

If the line pressure exceeds the pilot set point, the pilot allows the gas to flow from the line to chamber 2.

The shutter moves to its open position when the force produced by gas pressure acting on the diaphragm unit becomes greater than the load of the relief valve spring.

Once the excess gas is released and line pressure returns to normal working conditions, the pilot stops the pressure flow, Chamber 2 is no longer being fed, it is emptied through the jet.

The diaphragm unit is pushed upward by the relief valve spring and the shutter moves to its closed position.

DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHTS

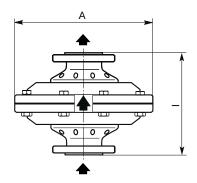


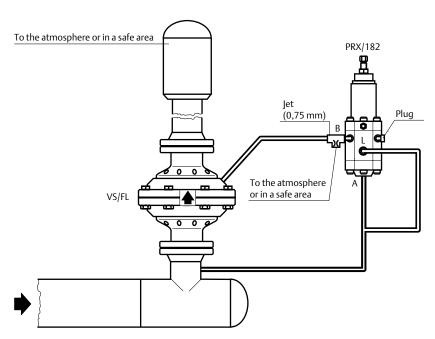
Figure 5. VS-FL Series Dimensions

Table 3. VS-FL Series Dimensions

	DIMENSIONS (mm)				WEIGHTS (Kg)	TO (IX-)
DN	FACE TO	FACE - I		A	WEIGH	15 (Kg)
DN	PN 16 - ANSI 150	ANSI 300 - ANSI 600	PN 16 - ANSI 150	ANSI 300 - ANSI 600	PN 16 - ANSI 150	ANSI 300 - ANSI 600
	VS-FL-BP	VS-FL	VS-FL-BP	VS-FL	VS-FL-BP	VS-FL
25	184	210	285	225	24	31
40	222	251	306	265	37	47
50	254	286	335	287	48	60
65	276	311	370	355	68	88
80	298	337	400	400	83	148
100	352	394	450	480	105	201
150	451	508	590	610	255	480
200*	-	610	-	653	-	620

N.B.: (*) ANSI 300 I = 568 - 1/4" NPT female threaded connections

INSTALLATION



NOTE: RECOMMENDED PIPING IS STAINLESS STEEL WITH 10 MM DIAMETER.

Figure 6. VS-FL Series Connection/Installation Schematic

INSTALLATION (CONTINUED)

- Ensure that the data found on the valve label are compatible with usage requirements.
- Ensure that the valve is mounted in accordance with the direction of flow indicated by the arrow.
- · Make the connections as indicated in figure 6.

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WARNING

Only qualified personnel should install or service a relief valve.

Relief valves should be installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with international and applicable codes and regulations.

Failure to take the relief valve out of service immediately may create a hazardous condition.

Personal injury, equipment damage, or leakage due to escaping fluid or bursting of pressure-containing parts may result if this relief valve is over-pressured or is installed where service conditions could exceed the limits given in the Specifications section, or where conditions exceed any ratings of the adjacent piping or piping connections.

To avoid such injury or damage, provide pressure-limiting devices (as required by the appropriate code, regulation, or standard) to prevent service conditions from exceeding

Additionally, physical damage to the relief valve could result in personal injury and property damage due to escaping fluid.

To avoid such injury and damage, install the relief valve in a safe location.

Before installation, check shall be done if service conditions are consistent with use limitations.

All means for draining must be provided in the equipment installed before relief valves (ENs 12186 & 12279).

If using a VS-FL/ series relief valve on hazardous or flammable gas service, personal injury and property damage could occur due to fire or explosion of vented gas that may have accumulated.

To prevent such injury or damage, provide piping or tubing to vent the gas to a safe, well-ventilated area in accordance also with international and applicable codes and regulations.

In particular, when venting a hazardous gas, the piping or tubing should be located far enough away from any buildings or windows so to not create a further hazard, and the vent opening should be protected against anything that could clog it.

If installing the relief valve at an outside location, adequate protection, such as rain caps or elbow piping, must be attached to the outlet to keep the relief valve from getting plugged or from collecting moisture, corrosive chemicals, or other foreign materials.

For outdoor installations, the relief valve should be located away from vehicular traffic.

Further the ENs 12186 & 12279, where this product is used:

- provide the cathodic protection and electrical isolation to avoid any corrosion and
- in accordance with clause 7.3/7.2 of aforesaid standards, the gas shall be cleaned by proper filters/ separators/scrubbers to avoid any technical & reasonable hazard of erosion or abrasion for pressure containing parts

Pressure equipment in subject shall be installed in nonseismic area and hasn't to undergo fire and thunderbolt action.

Clean out all pipelines before installation of the relief valve and check to be sure it has not been damaged or has collected foreign material during shipping.

For flanged bodies, use suitable line gaskets and approved piping and bolting practices. Install the relief valve in any position desired, unless otherwise specified, but be sure flow through the body is in the direction indicated by the arrow on the body.

Installation must to be done avoiding anomalous stresses on the body and using suitable joint means (bolts, flanges, ...) according equipment dimensions and service conditions.

Note: It is important that the relief valve and relief valve be installed so that the pilots vent holes are unobstructed at all times

For outdoor installations, the relief valve should be located away from vehicular traffic and positioned so that water, ice, and other foreign materials cannot enter through the valve pilot.

Avoid placing the equipment beneath eaves or downspouts, and be sure it is above the probable snow level.

START-UP

The relief valve's pilot is factory set at approximately the midpoint of the spring range or at the pressure requested, so an initial adjustment may be required to give the desired results

With proper installation completed and relief valves properly adjusted, slowly open the upstream and downstream line valves.

PILOT ADJUSTMENT

Mount upstream of the relief valve a unit capable of generating the pressure at which the valve is to release gas (a pressure regulator, a compressed air or gas cylinder or the like) and a pressure gauge with appropriate scale.

Adjust the load of spring by means of adjusting screw proceeding as follows:

- Fully tighten adjusting screw.
- · Bring pressure upstream of relief valve up to set point.
- Slowly loosen adjusting screw until relief valve opens.
 This is revealed by the escape of gas through vent.
- Decrease and subsequently increase pressure a few times to check for proper valve operation and make any adjustment in setting, if necessary.

SHUTDOWN



WARNING

To avoid personal injury resulting from sudden release of pressure, isolate the relief valve from all pressure before attempting disassembly and release trapped pressure from the equipment and pressure line.

In case of disassembly of main pressure retaining parts for checks and maintenance procedures, external and internal tightness tests have to be done according applicable codes.

PERIODICAL CHECKS



CAUTION

It is recommended that relief valve and pilot are checked periodically.

In order to check the efficiency of the relief valve, line pressure increase must be simulated using the same procedure as described in previous "Pilot Adjustment" paragraph.

Valve is in proper working order if gas release is noticed upon pressure increase. Gas release must cease immediately as pressure is brought back to its normal working value.

It is also recommended that both pilot's and relief valve's seal pads are checked periodically as described in the following paragraphs.

RELIEF VALVE MAINTENANCE (SEE FIGURES 7 TO 11)



WARNING

All maintenance procedures must be carried out only by qualified personnel.

If necessary, contact our technical support representatives or our authorized dealers.

VS-FL Series Relief valve and its pressure accessories are subject to normal wear and must be inspected periodically and replaced as necessary.

The frequency of inspection/checks and replacement depends upon the severity of service conditions and upon applicable National or Industry codes, standards and regulations/recommendations.

In accordance with applicable National or Industry codes, standards and regulations/recommendations, all hazards covered by specific tests after final assembling before applying the CE marking, shall be covered also after every subsequent reassembly at installation site, in order to ensure that the equipment will be safe throughout its intended life.

Before proceeding with any maintenance work, shutoff the gas upstream and downstream from the valve, also ensure that there is no gas under pressure inside the body by loosening the upstream and downstream connections.

Replacing Seal Pad

- a. Disconnect all fittings preventing removal of outlet stub pipe and take the latter off.
- b. Loosen screws (key 5) and slide out outlet flange (key 22), replace O-ring (key 18).
- c. Remove pad holder (key 19) from the outlet cover (key 13). Only for the DN 200 size the pad holder remain attached to the outlet flange and it is not necessary dismount it.
- d. Loosen screw (key 25), pad retainer (key 21), remove and replace pad unit (key 20).
- e. Check that the part of sleeve (key 16) that touches pad unit (key 20) is intact. If not, carry out general maintenance and replace sleeve.
- f. Reassemble by reversing the above sequence, being careful not to damage O-ring (key 18). To facilitate fitting of pad holder (key 19), use an air pump that, when connected to fitting (key 17), causes sleeve (key 16) to open fully.

Relief Valve General Maintenance

- Disconnect all fittings, remove regulator from the line and place it in upward vertical position.
- b. Mark the position of inlet and outlet flanges (key 1 and 22) and cover (key 11 and 13) to keep the correct alignment during the following reassembly phase.
- c. Separate covers (key 11 and 13) by removing screws (key 9).



WARNING

Spring (key 6) is compressed between covers (key 11 and 13); its sudden release could cause them to fly apart dangerously.

To prevent this, replace the two screws (key 9) with threaded rods and their nuts, remove the remaining screws and use nuts to slowly release spring tension.

- d. Slide sleeve-diaphragm assembly (key 16 and 10) out of inlet cover (key 11) and remove indicator (key 34).
- e. Loosen screws (key 27), axially slide out of sleeve (key 16) plates (key 8 and 12) and diaphragm (key 10).
 Replace O-rings (key 26 and 28).
- f. Loosen screws (key 5 or 64 for DN 150 and DN 200 sizes) and dismount inlet flange (key 1). Replace antifriction rings (key 2) and O-ring (key 3).
- g. Unscrew travel indicator support (key 36) from inlet cover (key 11), dismount parts, replace O-rings (key 35 and 37) and O-ring (key 4) on the inlet cover (key 11).
- h. Loosen screws (key 5) and axially slide out outlet flange (key 22). Replace O-ring (key 18), anti-friction rings (key 2) and O-ring (key 3).
- Remove pad holder (key 19) from the outlet cover (key 13). Only for the DN 200 size the pad holder remain attached to the outlet flange and it is not necessary dismount it.
- Loosen screw (key 25), pad retainer (key 21), remove and replace pad unit (key 20).
- k. Check that the part of sleeve (key 16) that touches pad unit (key 20) is intact. If not replace sleeve.
- Check all moving parts, paying special attention to nickel plated surfaces. Replace any that are worn or damaged.
- m. Clean all stripped-down parts with petrol and dry with compressed air.

Reassembly

Lubricate all seals with MOLYKOTE 55 M, being very careful not to damage them when reassembling. Reassemble the parts by reversing the above steps.

As you proceed, make sure that parts move freely and without friction.

In addition:

- a. Before fitting sleeve-diaphragm assembly (key 16 and 10), recompose indicator group (key 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 and 40) and mount it on inlet cover (key 11).
 Attach spring collet (key 33) to plate (key 8) upon completion of reassembly. Don't execute this assembly for the DN 200 size.
- Complete reassembly and make sure to tighten all screws uniformly.
- c. Remove cap (key 40) and tap with a rubber or wooden hammer indicator (key 34) so as to couple spring collet (key 33) and plate (key 8).

Only for DN 200 size insert indicator (key 34) and hook it to plate (key 8), recompose indicator group (key 35, 36, 37, 38 and 40) and mount it on inlet cover (key 11).

- d. Use an air pump connected to fitting (key 7) to check proper regulator working order.
- After the reassembly completion, check the proper functioning of all parts. Check the regulator with soapy water, making sure there are no leaks.
- Remount regulator on the line and reestablish all connections.

TYPE PRX/182 PILOT MAINTENANCE (SEE FIGURE 12)

Installation

- Make sure that specifications on the pilot plate comply with the intended use.
- b. Make sure that all connections are correctly made.

Startup

Refer to the relief valve startup instructions.

Periodical Checks

Pilot tightness should be tested regularly by referring to the following procedure:

- a. Supply fitting A with normal operating pressure.
- b. Make sure there is no gas outflow from fitting B.

Maintenance



CAUTION

Maintenance should be carried out by skilled personnel to ensure good servicing results. Contact our technical support representatives or our authorized dealers for any information. Let gas under pressure flow out of the relevant part of the system before servicing.

General Maintenance

- a. Disconnect and remove the pilot from the line.
- b. Fully unscrew the adjusting screw (key 1).
- c. Unscrew the cap (key 3), for the AP version also the extension (key 35), remove the spring holder (key 6) and the spring (key 7). Replace the O-rings (key 4 and 5).
- d. Loosen screws (key 10), remove the upper cover (key 8) and the lower cover (key 21). Replace the O-ring (key 18).
- e. Lock the stem (key 23) by inserting a key into the notches and unscrew nuts (key 20 and 26).
- f. Disassemble the parts and replace the diaphragm (key 14) and the pad (key 22).
- g. Unscrew the seat (key 19) and replace the O-ring (key 17).
- h. Use petrol to cleanse the pilot body and all metal parts. Blow them thoroughly with compressed air and check for clear holes along the gas conduits. Replace any worn parts.

Reassembly

Reassemble all parts by following in reverse order the assembly as described above (see General Maintenance section).

As parts are assembled, make sure they move freely causing no friction.

Make sure to:

a. O-rings and diaphragms should be lubricated by applying a thin layer of 'Molykote 55 M' grease.

Pay attention not to damage them during reassembly. All other pilot parts require no lubrication.

- b. The cover clamping screws (key 10) should be tightened evenly to ensure proper tightness.
- Pilot operation, calibration and tightness should be tested as described in the Periodical Checks paragraph.
- d. Previously disassembled fittings must be connected.
 Check for leaks by using suds.

Calibration

See the paragraph Pilot Adjustment on page 6.

SPARE PARTS

Spare parts storage shall be done by proper procedures according to national standard/rules to avoid over aging or any damage.

TROUBLESHOOTING

Table 4. General Troubleshooting for VS-FL Series Relief Valves

SYMPTOMS	CAUSE	ACTIONS
	Lack of incoming gas	Check the station feeding
The valve does not open	Pilot is not being supplied	Check pilot connections
The valve does not open	Valve diaphragm is broken	To be replaced
	Pilot setting is higher than required	Check pilot setting
The valve is not sealed properly	Tight shutoff gaskets are worn	To be replaced
	Deposits of grime on the tight shutoff pad are obstructing proper positioning of the shutter	Clean or replace it
	Pilot setting is lower than required	Check pilot setting

Type VS-FL

PARTS LISTS

VS-FL Relief Valve (See Figures 7 to 11)

Key	Description
1	Inlet flange
2*	Anti-friction ring
3*	O-ring
4*	O-ring
5	Screw
6	Spring
7	Fitting
8	Inlet plate
9	Screw
10	Diaphragm
11	Inlet Cover
12	Outlet plate
13	Outlet cover
14	Washer
15	Nut
16	Sleeve
17	Fitting
18*	O-ring
19	Pad holder
20*	Pad unit
21	Pad retainer
22	Outlet flange
25	Screw
26*	O-ring
27	Screw
28*	O-ring
29	Label support
30	Label
31	Rivet
32	Label
33	Spring collet
34	Indicator
35*	O-ring
36	Support
37*	O-ring
38	Bush
39	Indicator label
40	Сар
43	SR silencer
46*	O-ring
47*	O-ring
48	Washer
59	Eyebolt
61	Special screw
62	Screw
63	Elastic washer
64	Screw
64	Screw
65	Elastic pin
400	Plate
401	Rush

Key	Description
402*	O-ring
403	Support
404*	O-ring
405	Spring collet
406	Indicator
407	Nut
408	Bracket
409	Support
410	Proximity switch
411	Fitting

Type PRX/182 Pilot (See Figure 12)

Key	Description
1	Adjusting screw
2	Nut
3	Сар
4*	O-ring
5*	O-ring
6	Spring carrier plate
7	Spring
8	Upper cover
9	Spring carrier plate
10	Screw
11	Washer
12	Filter
13	Plate
14*	Diaphragm
15	Plate
16	Body
17*	O-ring
18*	O-ring
19	Seat
20	Nut
21	Lower cover
22*	Pad holder unit
23	Stem
24	Plate
25*	O-ring
26	Nut
28*	O-ring
29	Plate
31	Screw
33	Plug
34	Plug
35	Extension

Rubber parts marked with (*) are supplied in the "spare parts kit", recommended as stock.

To order the kit it is necessary to communicate to us the type of the relief valve or pilot and its serial number.

401

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SCHEMATIC ASSEMBLIES

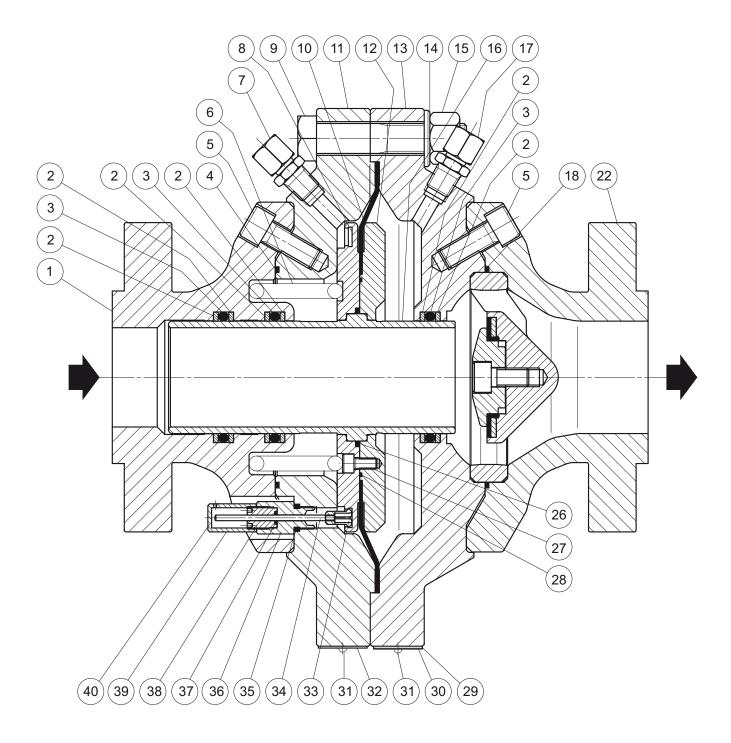
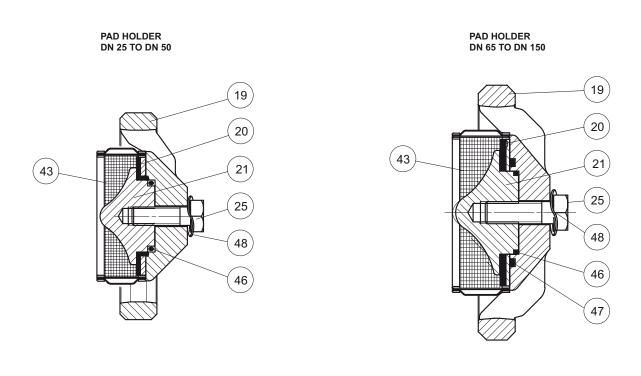
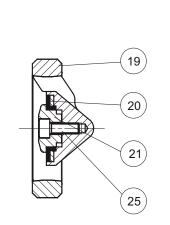


Figure 7. VS-FL Relief Valve DN 25 to DN 150

SILENCED VS-FL



NOT SILENCED VS-FL



PAD HOLDER DN 25 TO DN 50

PAD HOLDER DN 65 TO DN 150

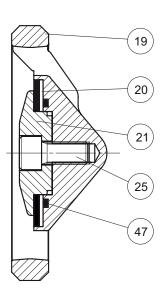


Figure 8. Pad Holder for VS-FL Relief Valve DN 25 to DN 150

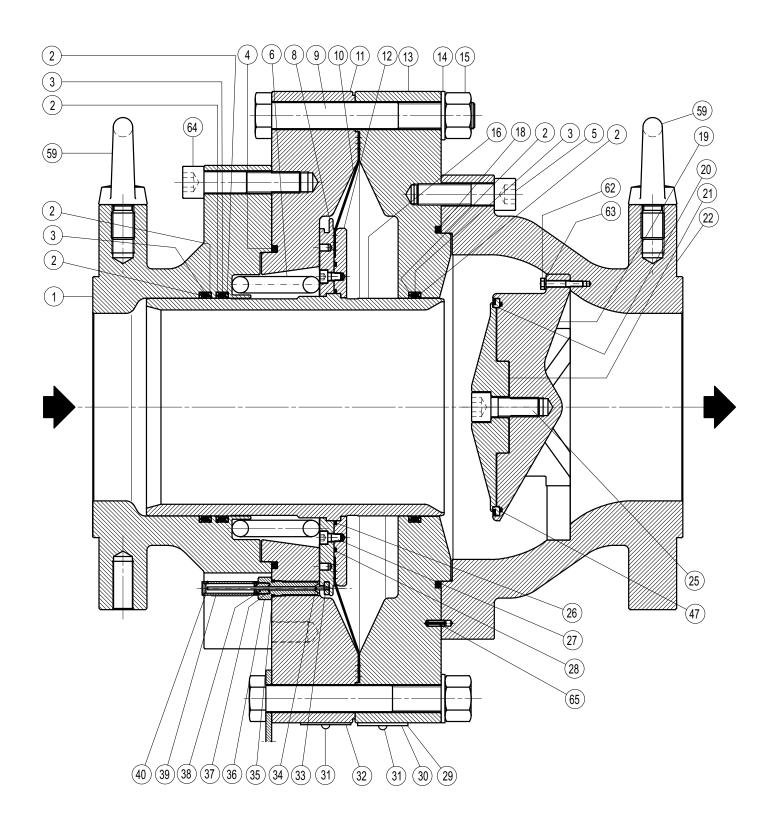


Figure 9. VS-FL Relief Valve DN 200

61

VS-FL-BP/150 ANSI 300-600 DETAIL VS-FL-BP/150 DETAIL VS-FL-BP/150 DETAIL VS-FL-BP/150 DETAIL Specific control of the contr

Figure 10. VS-FL Relief Valve DN 150 Various Versions

VS-FL/ AND VS-FL-BP/ WITH PROXIMITY SWITCH VERSION

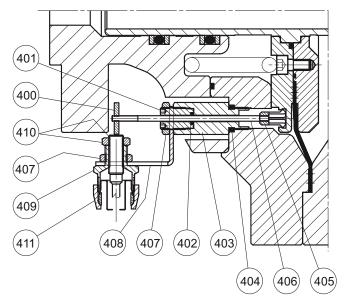
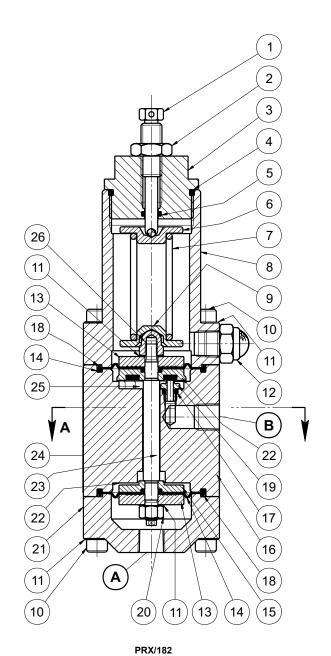


Figure 11. VS-FL Relief Valve DN 25 to DN 150 with Proximity



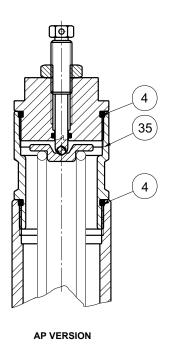


Table 5. Type PRX/182 and PRX-AP/182 Connections

A	В	L
To the controlled pressure	To Chamber 2 of the relief valve	To the controlled pressure



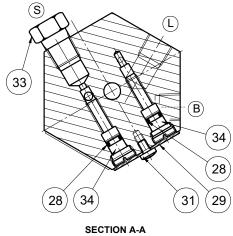


Figure 12. Type PRX/182 and PRX-AP/182 Pilots

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