

Jargon Buster

THERMOSTATIC – Any shower, tap or bath shower mixer described as thermostatic has hot and cold water supplying it and has the means of keeping it's water temperature stable once set without manual adjustment. To a greater or lesser extent the valve will also have the ability to gradually stop all water flowing out of the product when either the hot or cold supply is turned off.

THERMOSCOPIC – See **THERMOSTATIC**, another way of describing the same thing.

SEQUENTIAL CONTROL – A way of controlling a tap, shower or other fitting with a single lever or knob, as you turn it the flow begins and increases up to it's limit, the more you turn it, the warmer the water gets. Flow control then temperature control one after the other, hence "sequential control".

DUAL CONTROL – A way of controlling a tap, shower or other fitting with 2 seperate control levers or knobs. One for controlling the flow, one for controlling the temperature, hence dual control.

PIEZO TECHNOLOGY – A way of activating a tap or other fitting using a little touch sensor or pad. It has no moving parts and is particularly suitable for areas where vandalism is a consideration.

INFRA RED – A way of activating a tap or other fitting without having to physically touch it. The tap sets up a little sensor field which will activate the fitting if something enters it. Note: these work on changing light levels and so are not suitable for areas where personnel use high visibility jackets or in areas which are in close proximity to reflective surfaces, such as mirrors or certain surfaces.

4 IN 1 TMV – A term originating from a particular company within the industry, it denotes that the TMV must include checks, filters, isolation ball valves and test ports. Intatec has equivalent products available on request.



TMV3 SCHEME – Generally accompanied by a logo (pictured), this denotes that the fitting is suitable for use in a healthcare environment. The TMV3 logo can only be displayed as a result of independent testing by water industry experts.



TMV2 SCHEME – Generally accompanied by a logo (pictured), this denotes that the fitting is suitable for use. The TMV2 Logo can only be displayed as a result of independent testing by water industry experts.



WRAS Approval – Water Regulations Advisory Scheme Approval denotes that a product has been independently tested and found to be compliant with the Water Supply (Water Fittings) Regulations and the Scottish Byelaws.

HTM 64 – A standard for how to install plumbing products in a Healthcare environment. This standard includes a referencing system for different kinds of tap (for example TBH 2a is a thermostatic Sequential Wall Mounted Tap), most suppliers should be familiar with this coding system in the absence of any other information.

G3 – A part of the building regulations which talks about prevention of excessive temperatures. This is more widely advertised at the moment because it has recently been amended to ensure that on any new build or building conversion to domestic purposes includes a TMV2 approved Thermostatic Mixing Valve (TMV) on any baths present on the property.

BREEAM – Stands for BRE Environmental Assessment Method, it is a system for evaluating the impact of a building on it's environment. Water consumption is only a part of this. For further information please visit www.breeam.org

MINIMUM OPERATING PRESSURE – Denotes only the amount of pressure required to get water coming out of the shower head, this does not take account of any particular flow rate (which is normally very low in systems operating close to this threshold), it is simply the minimum pressure required to have the valve physically operating.



L PATTERN TMV – Denotes the arrangements of the pipes which go into and out of a Thermostatic Mixing Valve (TMV) (See Illustration).



T PATTERN TMV - Denotes the arrangements of the pipes which go into and out of a Thermostatic Mixing Valve (TMV) (See Illustration).

STATIC PRESSURE – Denotes the pressure in a system when no outlets are open and drawing water.

DYNAMIC PRESSURE – Denotes the pressure in a system when a given outlet is open and drawing water.

FLOW RESTRICTOR – An accessory or included fitting which provides a fixed amount of obstruction in a water supply. This has the effect of causing less water to flow from it than would otherwise flow from a fully open outlet.

FLOW REGULATOR – An accessory or included fitting which not only provides an obstruction in a water supply, but also has a limited ability to compensate for changing pressures within that supply to help provide a consistent reduction in flow to particular value (e.g. 6 Litres/minute).

PRESSURE DROP, DELTA P, ΔP – The amount of resistance to pressure created by a bend, pipe length, accessory, valve. The amount changes with the amount of water running through it and is usually measured in Bar.