

M-8000

MODULAR™ Manifold Series

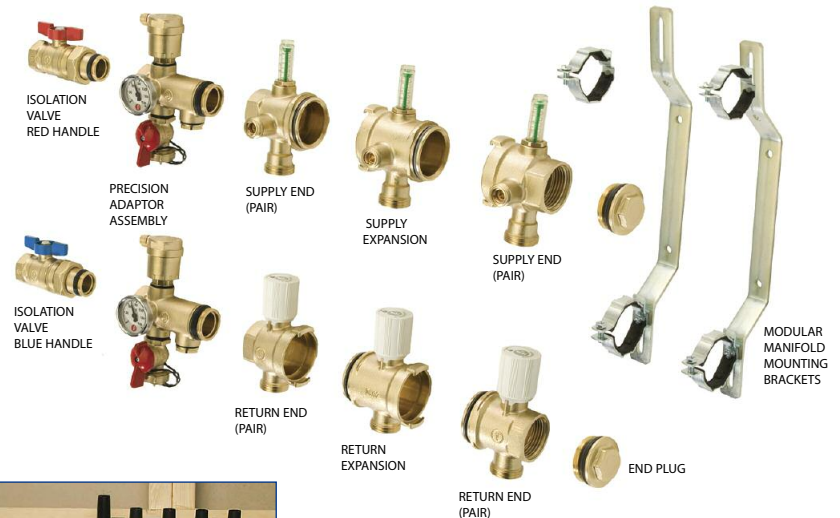
Installation Guide

Introduction

The M-8000 Modular Manifolds are designed for use in Hydronic radiant panel heating and cooling applications. They are available in various sizes, configurations, and options with many accessories. Consult your local Representative for project specific requirements. These instructions are applicable to both 1" and 1-1/4" manifold sizes.

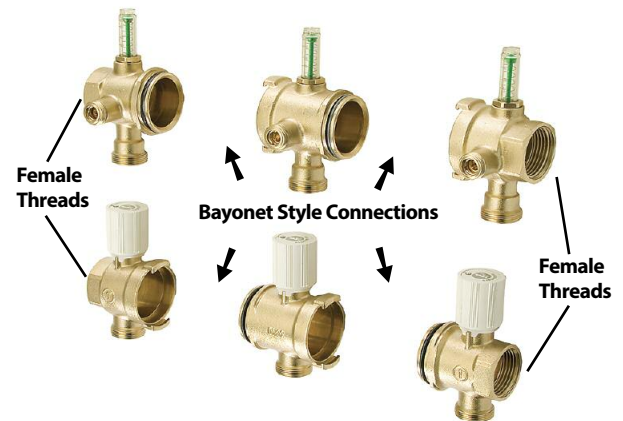
The modular nature of the M-8000 dictates assembly of the components. In most cases (if ordered as a kit) the components will be individually boxed or packaged and shipped together in a master carton (photo). The following sequence is recommended for complete installation of the manifold:

- A. Assemble Manifold Components
- B. Mount Manifold
- C. Connect the Radiant Tubing
- D. Pressure Test
- E. Fill & Purge the System
- F. Balance the Manifold

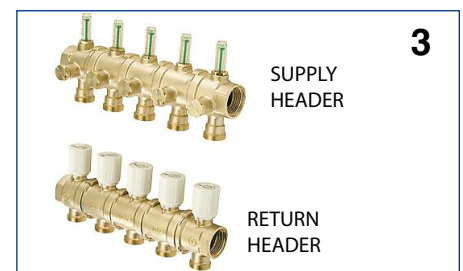
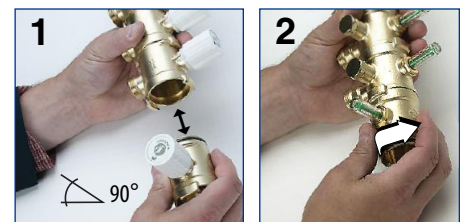


A) Assemble Manifold Components

1. A complete manifold consists of both a supply and return header. The M-8000 Modular Manifold headers consist of **End pairs** and **Expansion pieces**, for both supply and return. Each piece of the End pair has one side female threads for connecting to the other manifold components (see steps 2 through 5 below) and one side bayonet style connection for attachment to another End piece (for a two station manifold) or an Expansion piece (more than two station manifolds) (photo). End pairs and Expansion pieces should connect supply to supply or return to return, only, however; all connections are made in the same way as described below (a through c).



- a) Align the male end (with EPDM o-ring, remove the protective, clear, plastic cover) of one piece with the female end of the second piece, with bayonet style connection so that the male end grooves are 90 degrees off center from the female end slots (1).
- b) Insert the male end into the female end and twist the pieces into alignment making sure that the male end grooves and female end slots engage (2).
- c) Repeat steps a. & b. above for all pieces of each manifold header (supply and return). Each header must have 1 End pair and from 0 to as many Expansion pieces as required for the project (10 maximum for 1" manifolds & 12 maximum for 1-1/4" manifolds), connected in between the End pairs (3).



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A. Assemble Manifold Components (continued)

2. **The Precision Adapter Assembly** (included with M-8000P manifold kits) consists of the Adapter, an Automatic Air Vent, Thermometer with Thermowell, Fill/Purge Valve and 1/2" plug (4). Do not install any components onto the Adapter until it is tightened¹ in its final position and orientation. The Precision Adapter Assembly is normally sold in pairs; one for the supply manifold header and one for return manifold header. They are identical so they can be installed on either header and assembled following the procedures below (a through f).

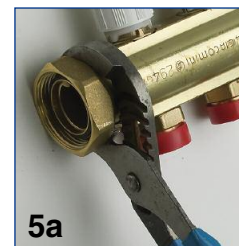
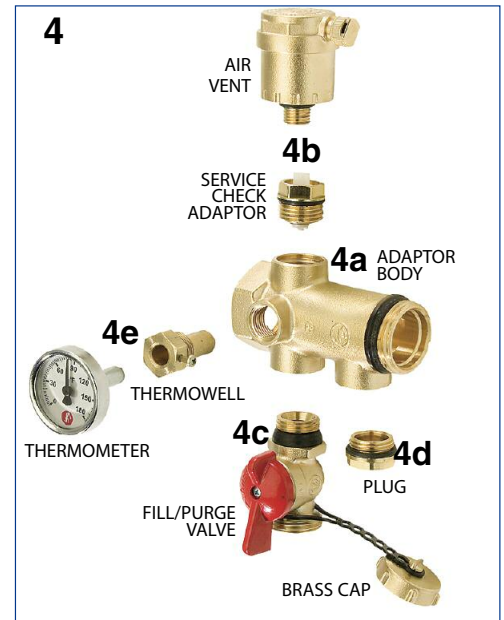
- a) **Precision Adaptor Body.** Thread the male end (1" or 1-1/4" threads) of the Adapter until tight¹, into the end of the manifold header that is to receive the system supply/return distribution piping to/from the mechanical room (4f). The Adapter should be properly aligned (oriented) so that the Air Vent port is facing up (vertical position).
- b) **Automatic Air Vent. (4b)** The Air Vent should always be installed onto the Adapter with the 1/4" x 1/2" **Service Check Adaptor** (included with the Automatic Air Vent) in a vertical position. Thread the male end of the Service Check Adaptor into an upper 1/2" port on the Precision Adapter until tight¹. Thread the 1/4" male threads of the Air Vent into the Service Check Adaptor hand tight only.
- c) **Fill/Purge Valve. (4c)** Thread the male end of the Fill/Purge Valve into a lower 1/2" port of the Adapter until tight¹. Orient the Fill/Purge Valve so that the handle can be operated comfortably once the manifold is mounted. The opposite end of the Fill/Purge Valve has a 3/4" male garden hose thread (GHT) port and includes a **brass cap** with **plastic tether**. The plastic tether should slide over the end of the GHT port end of the Fill / Purge Valve. The brass cap, with EPDM gasket included, should be threaded on to the GHT port of Fill / Purge Valve until ready to use.
- d) **Port Plug. (4d)** The Adapter has three (3) 1/2" ports. Thread the 1/2" Plug into the remaining open 1/2" port on the Adapter until tight¹.
- e) **Thermometer. (4e)** Install the thermometer into the thermowell on the side of the adapter and lock into position with the set screw (newer models may use friction fit instead of set screw).
- f) Repeat steps a) through e) above for both the upper (supply) and lower (return) manifold.

3. To mount the **Manifold Isolation Valves**, Thread the male end (1" or 1-1/4" threads) of the **Tail Piece Nipple** until tight¹, into the end of the manifold headers (5) (or into the Precision Adapter Assembly, if used) that is to receive the system supply / return distribution piping to / from the mechanical room. The Tail Piece Nipple can be tightened with a standard channel wrench (5a) or a spud (radiator) wrench using the spuds inside the Tail Piece Nipple (5b). The valve body is then threaded on to the other end of the Tail Piece Nipple with the union nut, until tight.

Orient the valve body so that the handle can be operated comfortably once the manifold is mounted. The Manifold Isolation Valves are normally sold in pairs, the red-handle valve is for the supply manifold header and the blue-handle valve is for the return manifold header; both are installed the same way (5c).

4. Thread the male end (1" or 1-1/4" threads) of the **End Plug** until tight¹, into the end of the manifold header opposite the Manifold Isolation Valve (and the Precision Adapter Assembly, if used) (5d). Repeat for both the supply (upper) and return (lower) manifold.

¹**Note:** The Precision Adapter Assembly, Manifold Isolation Valves and/or End Plugs seal together and to the manifold with an EPDM gasket (o-ring). One quarter (1/4) turn beyond "hand-tight" is normally sufficient to seal properly. If turning beyond 1/4 turn is required to align gauges and handles then do so, up to one (1) full turn beyond "hand-tight".



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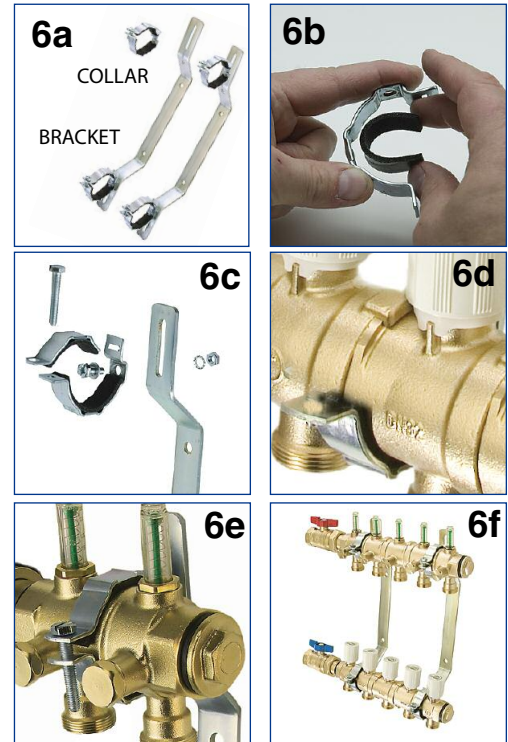
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A. Assemble Manifold Components (continued)

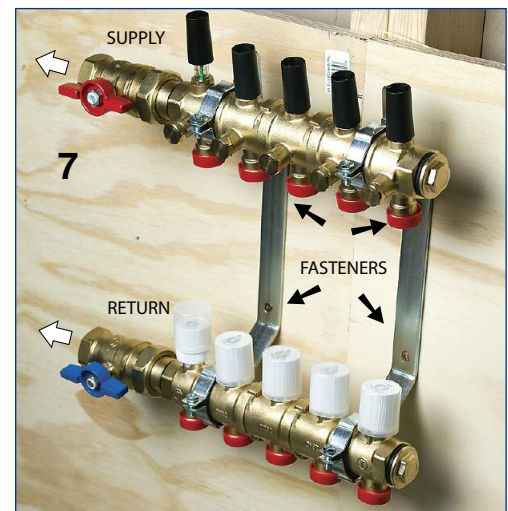
5. Install the assembled manifold headers into the **Manifold Mounting Brackets** before mounting the brackets. Each Mounting Bracket includes two (2) sets of collars, for both the supply (upper) and return (lower) manifold headers (**6a**). The Mounting Brackets are sold in pairs and every manifold should use both brackets for proper stabilization. The steel brackets are provided for secure mounting, proper alignment and isolation of vibration and noise. Do not install the manifold without these brackets.

- Peel off the backing of the rubber isolation pads (included) to expose the sticky surface and attach them to the inside of the Mounting Bracket collars. Each half of the collar set (lower and upper) should have its own rubber isolation pad (**6b**).
- Attach one of the bottom halves of the collar assembly to the bracket with the hardware provided (short screw, washer, and lock washer) as shown (**6c**).
- Set the manifold header into the bottom half of the collar assembly (**6d**). The collar should be positioned around the manifold header between ports, at a distance from the end of the header sufficient to properly support the manifold when fully mounted in its operating position (**6f**). Typically this is between the two circuits at either end of the header. On longer manifolds (10 to 12 circuits) this may be between the 2nd and 3rd circuits at either end of the header.
- Attach the upper half of the collar around the manifold header to the bottom half of the collar assembly by hooking one end into the slot on the bottom half of the collar, closest to the bracket, and threading the long screw down through the bottom collar into the threaded hole on the upper collar (**6e**).
- Repeat steps a. through d. above for both sets of collars upper (supply) and lower (return) on each bracket until the manifold is completely attached to the Manifold Mounting Brackets (**6f**).



B. Mount the Manifold

- The manifold location is normally determined during project design prior to installation. If the location was not previously selected or the selected location is no longer suitable due to project changes; a new location can be chosen based upon the following criteria: It should be located near the area (radiant panel) where the tubing is to be installed in order to avoid long circuit tails. It should be located so that it is accessible during and after project construction for initial start up procedures (Sections D through F) and periodic system maintenance and/or troubleshooting.
- The manifold may be mounted in any orientation: vertical, horizontal, or even inverted; the only exception being that the header with the flow gauges must always be the supply header; receiving flow from the mechanical room and distributing it into the radiant panel (floor, ceiling, etc. . .). The best orientation for installation access and later maintenance and/or troubleshooting is in a vertical position on a wall.
- The manifold should be installed using appropriate fasteners for the mounting surface and sized to fit the mounting holes in the steel brackets (**7**). The manifold should be mounted in its permanent location prior to installing the radiant tubing; adjustments after the tubing is connected, concrete is poured or floor coverings are installed, are very difficult. A temporary support may be built if the walls are not yet in place. Ensure that the manifold is level and has adequate clearance on the sides for the distribution piping connections to/from the mechanical room. The minimum clearance is 20" (51 cm) between the bottom of the manifold and the top of the finished floor (**8**). Ideally, the manifold will be mounted with the upper (supply) header 40" (1.0 m) above the floor.
- The manifold should never be mounted without the proper steel brackets. The brackets may need to be purchased separately for the M-8000 Modular Manifold Series (M-8000 kits include brackets). The steel brackets are provided for secure mounting, proper alignment and isolation of vibration and noise. Do not install the manifold without these brackets.



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C. Connect the Radiant Tubing

1. Slide the end of the tubing through the appropriately sized Tube Bend Support (800-305 for 5/16", 3/8" & 1/2" tubing or 800-304 for 5/8" & 3/4" tubing) before attaching the manifold connector (9). Position the 90° bend support on the tubing as it turns out of the floor, up into the manifold, typically 3 to 4 feet below the mounted manifold (photo). At this approximate location, the bend support should extend several inches vertically above the finished floor height. Tubing Bend Supports protect the tubing as it transitions to and from the thermal mass (radiant floor) and help align the convergence of several tubing loop ends at the manifold location for a neat, professional appearance.

2. Manifold tube connectors (11) are not included with the manifold; they are sold separately. Use the appropriate tube connectors for the type and size (below a through g/h) of radiant tubing. Tube Connectors (800-140, -142, -143, -144, -145) are for PEX or PE-RT tubing manufactured in compliance with ASTM F 876 (PEX) or ASTM F 2623 (PE-RT). Composite Tube Connectors (800-143C, -144C, -145C) are for PEX-AL-PEX tubing manufactured in compliance with ASTM F 1281.

Note: The Legend, M-8300 Stainless Steel series manifold tube connectors (and all other manufacturers' tube connectors) are not compatible with the M-8000 Modular Brass or M-8200 Precision Brass Manifold

3. After the manifold is securely mounted in its final position, begin to connect the radiant tubing. The tubing should be connected to the manifold as it is being installed. For the best results, start each loop by attaching the tubing to the upper (supply) header (12).

4. Try to avoid crossing loops by attaching the end of the loop to the header port on the side (end) of the manifold closest to the area to be covered by that loop. It is very important to attach both ends of each loop to corresponding supply and return header ports on the manifold. For example, port 1 (to the far left as facing the manifold) on both the supply and return header must be attached the beginning and end of the same loop (13).

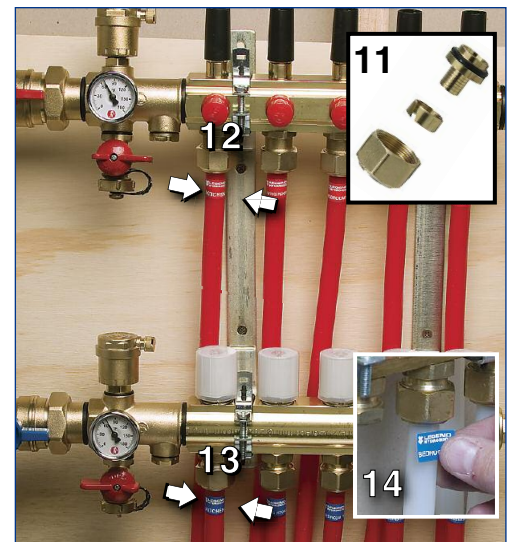
5. Each loop on the manifold should be labeled according to the area or room it covers on the project for future trouble shooting purposes. The installed length of each loop should also be noted on the manifold and recorded on the project plans for output and balancing calculations (see Section F; Balance the Manifold). Sticker labels are provided with the M-8000 Modular Manifold Kits (14).

6. For 5/16", 3/8", 1/2" & 5/8" radiant tubing (Tube & Composite Tube Connectors) connections (15):

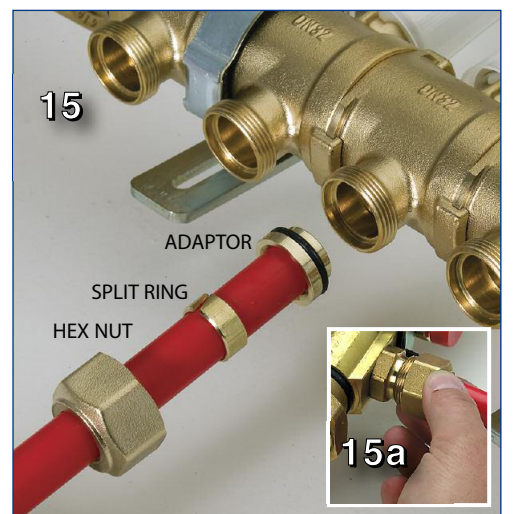
- Remove the protective red plastic cover from the manifold tube port.
- Ensure that the tubing is cut squarely using a proper tube cutter.
- Slide the hex nut (with the threads towards the manifold) onto the tubing.
- Slide the split ring washer onto the tubing.
- Insert the barbed end adapter into the tubing until flush with the end of the tubing.
- Place the end adapter into the selected port ensuring that the o-ring is seated properly into the manifold port.
- Hand-tighten the hex nut onto the male threads of the manifold port while supporting the tube and keeping the end adapter square in the port. It should turn on smoothly as the fitting is aligned (15a).
- Once the hex nut is hand tight, use a 1-1/8" (29 mm) wrench and turn it no more than 1/2 turn. Do not over tighten, as this may destroy the integral o-ring.



Tubing Supports



M-8200P Pictured



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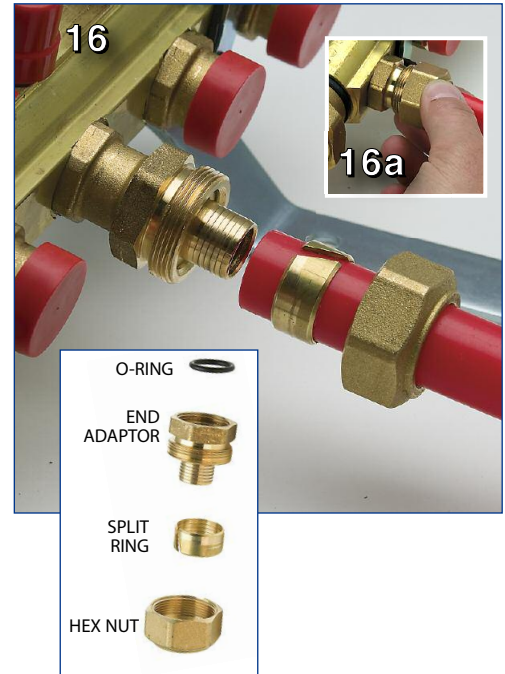
C. Connect the Radiant Tubing *continued*

Note: The Legend, M-8300 Stainless Steel Manifold tube connectors (and all other manufacturers' tube connectors) are not compatible with the M-8000 Modular Brass or M-8200 Precision Brass series manifolds

7. For 3/4" radiant tubing (Tube & Composite Tube Connectors) connections (16):

- a) Remove the protective red plastic cover from the manifold tube port.
- b) Ensure that the tubing is cut squarely using a proper tube cutter.
- c) Install the o-ring in the manifold bushing. Attach the manifold bushing to the selected manifold port (the hex end of the bushing closest to the header) ensuring that the o-ring is seated properly into the manifold port. Thread the bushing onto the port by hand until it stops.
- d) Slide the hex nut (with the threads towards the manifold) onto the tubing.
- e) Slide the split ring washer onto the tubing.
- f) Insert the barbed end adapter into the tubing until flush with the end of the tubing.
- g) Place the end adapter into the manifold bushing.
- h) Hand-tighten the hex nut onto the male threads of the manifold bushing while supporting the tube and keeping the end adapter square in the manifold bushing. It should turn on smoothly as the fitting is aligned (16a).
- i) Once the hex nut is hand tight, use a 1-1/2" (38 mm) wrench and turn it no more than 1/2 turn. Do not over tighten, as this may destroy the integral o-ring.

CAUTION: Do not use thread sealant tape or paste on these threads. These are parallel threads; sealing is achieved by the tapered brass threading and integral o-rings.



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D. Pressure Test

1. After the radiant tubing has been installed, but before it is covered, a pressure test should be performed on the manifold with all Circuit Isolation and Balancing Valves (both supply and return header) open so that the tubing and manifold connections can be checked for leaks. This pressure test can be performed with either air or water depending upon availability and/or local code requirements and is typically done prior to connecting the system supply/return distribution piping to from the mechanical room.

2. Air Pressure Test

a) Thread the male end (1" threads) of the Air Pressure Tester (T-820; sold separately) **(17)** into the female end of the installed supply Manifold Isolation Valve (red handle) **(17a)**. The use of thread sealant (Teflon tape or paste) will help ensure that this connection is air tight. Make sure the supply Manifold Isolation Valve is open and the return Manifold Isolation Valve is closed so that the manifold and radiant tubing system is sealed closed. If using Precision Adapters with Fill/Purge Valves (included with M-8000P manifold kits), make sure these valves (both supply and return) are also in the closed position (photo).

b) Fill the system with air through the Schrader valve on the Air Pressure Tester (T-820) to the required test pressure (continue to step 3 below for recommended test pressures) **(17b)**.

OR

2. Water Pressure Test (Manifolds utilizing Precision Adapter with Fill/Purge Valve; included with M-8000P manifold kits)

CAUTION: *When pressure testing with water, ensure that all precaution is taken to prevent the water from freezing.*

a) Follow steps 3 through 10 in the "Fill & Purge the System" section of these instructions to purge the air out of the system.

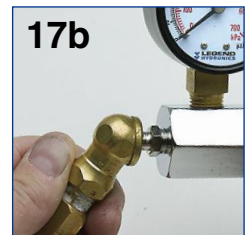
b) Once all of the air has been purged, fill the system with water to the required test pressure (continue to step 3 below for recommended test pressures).

3. Initially fill the system to a pressure the greater of 1.5 times the maximum operating pressure or 100 psi for 30 minutes. Check for leaks, especially at the connections. As the radiant tubing expands, restore pressure, first at 10 minutes into the test and again at 20 minutes. At the end of 30 minutes, a pressure drop of more than 7 psi indicates there is a leak in the system.

4. After 30 minutes, restore the system to test pressure (if necessary), and then maintain pressure for a minimum of 2 hours. At the end of 2 hours, a pressure drop of more than 5 psi indicates there is a leak in the system.

5. After 2 hours, reduce the system pressure to 30 – 40 psi, and then maintain this pressure during the remainder of building construction up to the time at which the system is filled. The system should be monitored during installation of the thermal mass, floor coverings and/or any time where floor penetrations may be necessary.

6. If a leak is present as determined by any step above (3 through 5), visually inspect the system to identify the location and then perform the necessary repairs. A soap and water mix solution can be poured onto the outside of the tubing and connections at potential leak areas to help identify leaks in systems under air pressure test. Upon completion of repairs, repeat the pressure test procedures from the beginning.



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E. Fill & Purge the System

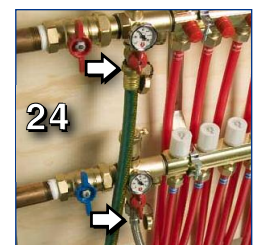
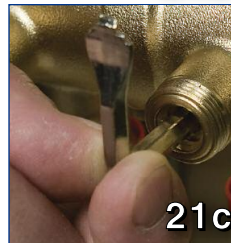
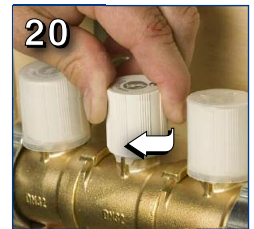
(Manifolds utilizing Precision Adapter with Fill/Purge Valve; included with M-8000P manifold kits)

- Before the system is ready for operation³ it must be filled with the proper fluid media and purged of air. The proper fluid is determined during design of the system, typically clean, de-ionized water or a water/glycol mixture depending upon the required level of freeze protection and/or corrosion inhibitors. If using a water / glycol solution, mix the glycol into the water thoroughly prior to filling the system. Follow the glycol manufacturer's instructions for proper usage and installation.
- A complete system fill/purge procedure normally starts in the mechanical room with the boiler and near boiler piping, followed by the distribution (zone) piping to / from the radiant manifolds (18). In smaller systems the manifolds and radiant tubing can be filled and purged with the distribution piping from the mechanical room. Larger systems, especially those with zones on upper levels, require that the manifold and radiant tubing is filled and purged at the manifold one loop at a time. These instructions are for operation of the manifold during the fill and purge of the manifold and radiant tubing.
- Make sure the Manifold Isolation Valves (both supply and return) are closed so that the manifold and radiant tubing is isolated from the rest of the system (19).
- Close all Circuit Isolation Valves on each loop of the return header, by turning the large white handle clockwise until it stops (20). Remove the protective clear plastic cover before operating the valve
- Verify that all Balancing Valves on each loop of the supply header are fully open (they are normally shipped in the open position). To open the Balancing Valves: remove the protective brass cap (21a); loosen the Memory Stop and position it at the outer most setting by un-threading it counter-clockwise with the 10 mm flat head tool provided or a flat tip screw driver, until it stops (21b); turn the valve head with the 5 mm hex key provided, counter-clockwise until it is un-threaded to its outer most position (21c).
- Make sure the Fill/Purge Valves on the Precision Adapters (both supply and return) are closed (22). Un-thread (counter-clockwise) the brass cap from the GHT ports (23).
- Attach a fill hose from the water supply source to the GHT port on the Fill/Purge Valve of the supply header. Attach a drain hose to the same port on the Fill/Purge Valve of the return header (23). Place the Drain hose in a bucket of water or filling media (24).
- Turn on the water supply (or filling pump) and open the Fill/Purge Valve on the supply header and then open the Fill/Purge Valve on the return header.
- Purge the air out of each loop in a logical order, one at a time, closing each loop after it has been purged, before opening the next. Open the Circuit Isolation Valve for the first loop, by turning the large white handle counter-clockwise until it stops (26). Air should start to "sputter" out of the drain hose. When the sputtering stops and a steady stream of water flows out of the drain hose; close the Circuit Isolation Valve of the first loop.
- Repeat step 9, for each of the remaining loops. After the last loop has been purged, open the Circuit Isolation Valve for all of the loops and let any residual air purge out of the manifold.
- Close the Fill/Purge Valve of the return header and let the system fill to operating pressure (typically 12 to 15 psi); then close the Fill/Purge Valve on the supply header. Turn off the water supply source or filling pump.
- Make sure also, that the Automatic Air Vents (if used) on the Precision Adapters are open so that any small pockets of air remaining in the system are vented during normal operation. The Automatic Air vents can be opened by turning the cap counter-clockwise (27).
- Disconnect the fill and drain hoses and cover the GHT ports on the Fill / Purge Valves (both supply and return) with the brass cap by threading it on (clockwise) (28). The Manifold Isolation Valves can now be opened and the system is ready for operation and/or balancing.

³Note: Manifold Actuators (800-200, sold separately) should not be mounted on the manifold until after the system has been filled, purged and balanced. They should be mounted as the very last step before system operation. Their installation requires the removal of the Circuit Isolation Valve handles on the return header. Follow the installation instructions provided with the Actuators.



M-8200P Pictured



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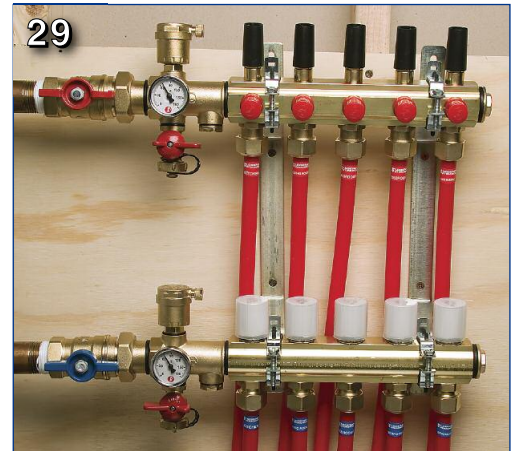
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F. Balance the Manifold

1. The required flow rate for each loop is calculated during system design directly from the heat output (Btu/hr) and ΔT (delta T; temperature difference beginning to end) requirements of that loop. In order for the system to function properly (to be "balanced"), the fluid flow rates in each loop must be set to match the system design flow rates. The design flow rates of a given manifold may or may not be the same on each loop, therefore, "balancing the manifold" does not necessarily mean that the gauges on each loop should be set to the same reading (flow rate), as often construed.
2. To set the flow rate for each loop, follow steps 3 through 9, below. The system must be filled, purged and generally ready for operation, with the exception of manifold actuators³, if required. All pumps for all zones in the system must be operational for these procedures, but it is not necessary to have heated or chilled fluid in the system.
3. Turn the entire system on and set the controls (thermostats, zone controls, relays, etc. . .) so that all zones are calling (all pumps are running and/or all zone valves are open) to simulate full design conditions.
4. Make sure the Manifold Isolation Valves (both supply and return) are open and that the manifold and radiant tubing are receiving full flow (29).
5. Make sure all Circuit Isolation Valves on each loop of the return header are open. They can be opened by turning the large white handle counter-clockwise until it stops (30). Remove the protective, clear, plastic cover before operating the valve.
6. Verify that all Balancing Valves on each loop of the supply header are fully open (they are normally shipped in the open position). To open the Balancing Valves: remove the protective brass cap (31a); loosen the Memory Stop and position it at the outer most setting by un-threading it counter-clockwise with the 10 mm flat head tool provided or a flat tip screw driver, until it stops (31b); turn the valve head with a 5 mm hex key (provided), counter-clockwise until it is un-threaded to its outer most position (31c).
7. The flow rate of each loop is indicated on its corresponding flow gauge, located on the top of the supply header. Remove the protective, black, plastic covers on each gauge. The scale on each gauge reads from 0 to 2 gpm with 0 gpm at the top of the gauge. The colored indicator rests at the top of the gauge with no flow and lowers down the scale as the flow increases (32).
8. Adjust the flow rate of each loop by closing (clockwise, to reduce flow) and opening (counter-clockwise, to increase flow) the Balancing Valve with the 5 mm hex key provided (33). The total range of the Balancing Valve from fully open to fully closed, is 2-1/2 to 3 turns. Be careful to not over tighten the valve when closing.
9. Start with the loop that requires the lowest flow rate and set that loop to the required flow plus 50%. Proceed to the loop with the next highest flow requirement and set that loop as close as possible to the required flow rate. Continue to the next loop in similar fashion until all loops have been set to their required flow rates. Note that after each loop is adjusted, the flow rates previously set for other loops may change. It is common for each loop to require multiple adjustments before all loops on the manifold are properly balanced.
10. Once all of the Balancing Valves on the manifold have been set for their required flow rates, the built in Memory Stops can be set to mark the position of the Balancing Valve. This step is for convenience, should the position of the Balancing Valve change (maintenance, tampering, etc. . .), it can easily be returned to the original set up position marked by the Memory Stop. It is not necessary to set the Memory Stop for the manifold to perform properly. The Memory Stop can be adjusted with the 10 mm flat head tool provided or a flat tip screw driver, by rotating it clockwise to close it against the valve head or counter-clockwise to open it (34).
11. Repeat the balancing procedures as outlined in steps 3 through 9 above for all manifolds in the system. The manifold is now ready for operation and/or installation of zone actuators³, as required.

³**Note:** Manifold Actuators (800-200, sold separately) should not be mounted on the manifold until after the system has been filled, purged and balanced. They should be mounted as the very last step before system operation. Their installation requires the removal of the Circuit Isolation Valve handles on the return header. Follow the installation instructions provided with the Actuators.



M-8200P Pictured

