

spirax/sarco®

Steam Sizing Chart

Determining the Value C_v

C_v calculation is an interactive process requiring knowledge of valve dynamics, piping geometry factors, and outlet velocities. In practice, this sizing chart is based on empirical values and will cater for most applications.

This chart is for example only. A complete chart for sizing is overleaf.

How To Use the Chart

Example 1. To find C_v value for critical flow application.

Steam Demand	1500 lb/hr
Upstream Pressure	55 psi gauge 70 psi absolute

Refer to Selection Chart Opposite.

- 1) Draw 1500 lb/hr flow line (A-B)
- 2) Draw a horizontal line from 70 psi absolute to critical pressure drop line (C-D). At this

intersection drop a vertical line.

- 3) At the crossing point of these two lines, read off the C_v value required, i.e. C_v 13
- 4) Select valve size required from the appropriate valve type technical information sheet.

Example 2. To find C_v value for non critical flow application.

Steam Demand	500 lb/hr
Upstream Pressure	85 psi gauge 100 psi absolute
Downstream Pressure	65 psi gauge 85 psi absolute

- 1) Draw 500 lb/hr flow line.
- 2) Draw a horizontal line from 100 psi absolute
At the intersection with 20 psi pressure drop, draw a vertical line.
- 3) At the crossing point with the 500 lb/hr horizontal line read off the C_v value required, i.e. C_v 3.8
- 4) Select valve size required from the appropriate valve type technical information sheet.

How to Use Formula

Proceed by calculating the required C_v from given flow data, having prior determined whether the flow is critical or sub-critical. The following equations have been adapted from the ISA S75.01 standard to allow for practical everyday use without significant sacrifice in accuracy.

For Steam Service

Subcritical Flow
When ΔP is less than
.81 ($P_1/2$)

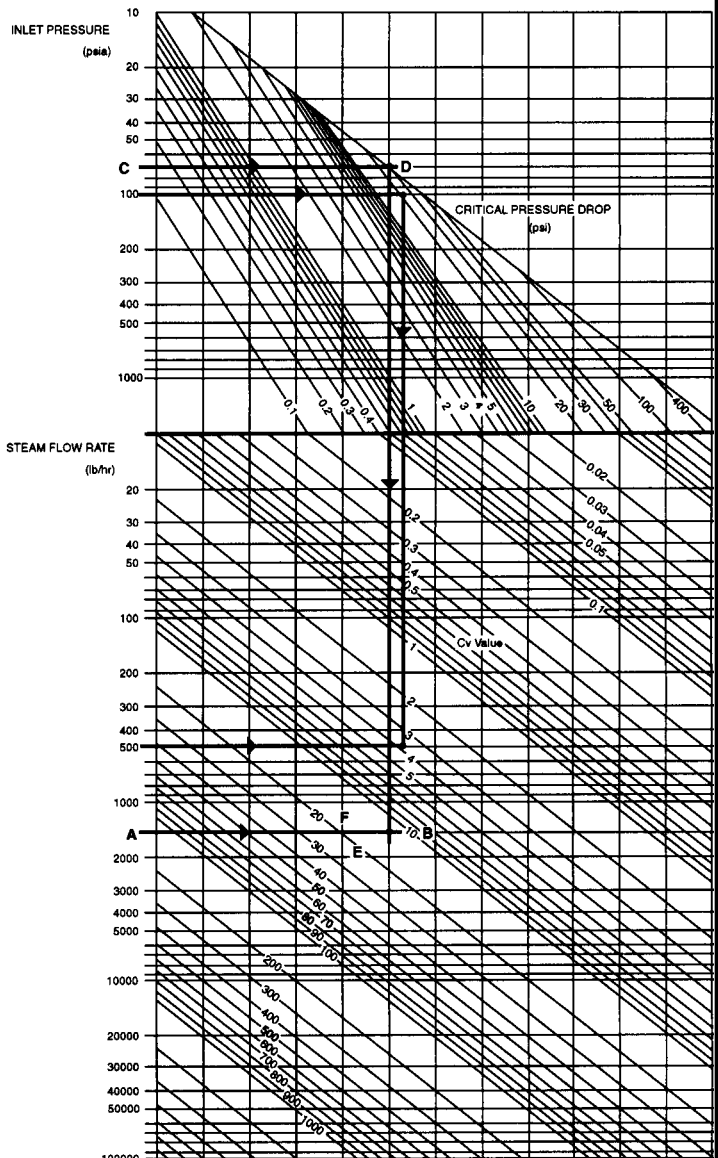
Critical Flow
When ΔP is greater than
.81 ($P_1/2$)

For Saturated Steam

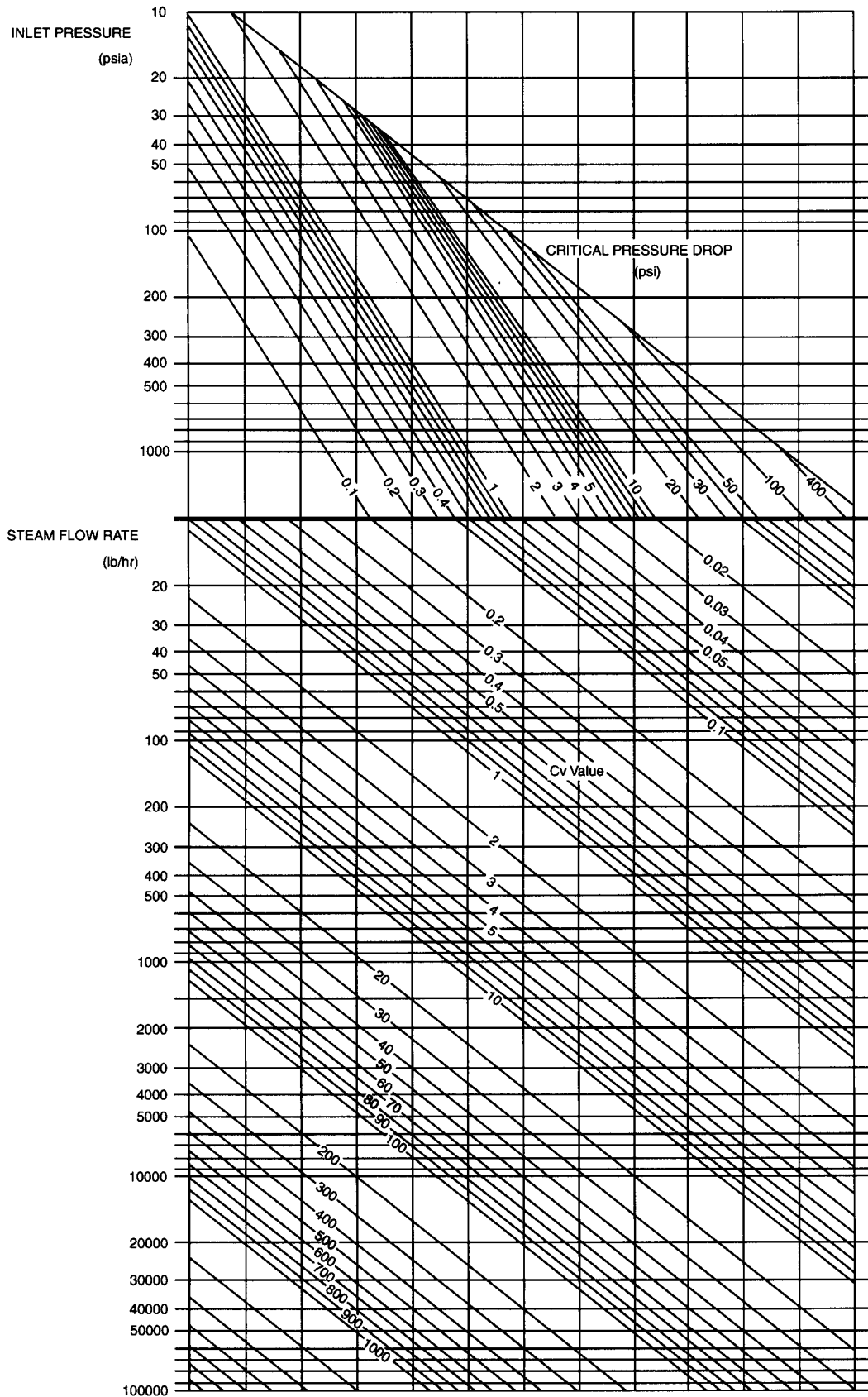
$$C_v = \frac{w}{2.1 \sqrt{\Delta P (P_1 + P_2)}}$$

$$C_v = \frac{w}{1.647 (P_1)}$$

C_v = Valve Coefficient
 P_1 = Upstream Pressure, psia
 P_2 = Downstream Pressure, psia
 ΔP = Pressure drop $P_1 - P_2$, psia
 w = Flow Rate, lb/hr



Steam Capacity Chart



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