



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

PERMIT AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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P-1X

Domestic Water Heater and Boiler Relief Valve Terminations

INTRODUCTION

Domestic *water heaters* and *boilers* are required to have a supplemental *temperature and pressure relief valve*. This relief valve provides an added measure of safety for these type of appliances. To limit personal and property damage the valve drain must be run to the exterior. The termination point should be in an area visible to the occupants to alert them of any problems.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Relief valves located inside a building shall have a drain to the exterior that is not smaller than the valve outlet. It may not be trapped and the end may not be threaded. It can be constructed of any of the following materials:

1. Galvanized steel
2. Hard drawn copper pipe and fittings
3. CPVC
4. Listed relief valve tube and fittings

The drain must run to the exterior of the building. It may terminate between 6" and 24" above the ground. The end must be pointed downward in a visible location.

GLOSSARY

Boiler - a closed vessel used for heating water or liquid, or for generating steam or vapor by direct application of heat from combustible fuels or electricity

Pressure relief valve - a pressure-activated valve held closed by a spring or other means and designed to automatically relieve pressure in excess of setting; also called safety valve.

Water heater - an appliance designed to supply hot water and is equipped with automatic controls limited water temperature to a maximum of 210 degrees.

REFERENCES

1998 California Plumbing Code, Section 506.2 608

1998 California Mechanical Code, Section 1004

Sonoma County Residential Construction Handbook, Section 14
