

4600 (incl. Hot Water) and 5600 series valves

For some time now we have been selling the FAST REGEN versions of these valves. The **Fast Regen** version is suitable for resin volumes up to 35 litres and covers the vast majority of small softener applications, particularly residential units.

Those of you involved in residential & HW softener servicing may well encounter units that have the standard regeneration configuration - the old Permutit softener units with the Fleck 5600 valve are but one example - and care needs to be taken to match spare parts correctly. Unless someone had "been at it" before you, the piston end plug on the FAST REGEN valve should be blue - indicating a FAST REGEN piston assembly (the standard LWU end plug is white).

We have recently been asked about the consequences of fitting the wrong type piston assemblies to 4600 and 5600 series valves. You face two possible combinations:

⇒ **Standard** series fitted with FAST REGEN piston assembly

Instead of the correct 55 min. effective brine / slow rinse phase you will get a 100 min. phase. However, 45 min. of that phase will see a wastage of water as there will be a flow of water to drain, via the injector nozzle, equal to the slow rinse flow. Hence, you retain the correct 55 min. brine / slow rinse time but you cause a waste of water to drain.

⇒ Fast Regen series fitted with STANDARD LWU piston assembly

Instead of the correct 55 min. effective brine / slow rinse phase you will still get a 55 min. phase. However, 28 min. of that phase will be dead with no flow to drain. Hence, you will only have a 27min. effective brine / slow rinse phase which is unlikely to allow sufficient brine draw and slow rinse, possibly causing high residual chlorides in the treated water to service with possible corrosion and taste consequences.

The easiest quick way to identify a **FAST REGEN** valve is by the plastic bracket located behind the 24 hour gear wheel on the front of the timer housing. The bracket is located approximately at the 11.00 o'clock position as you face the timer. Alternatively, check the drive motor. Fast regen valves use a 1/15th. rpm motor. The standard valves use a 1/30th. rpm motor.

