



Model VXT-24

# Programmable Water Feeder for Steam Boilers

24 VAC Operating Voltage

Patent Pending

## SPECIFICATIONS

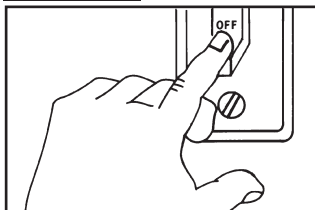
MAXIMUM FLUID TEMPERATURE:	150°F
AMBIENT TEMPERATURE:	100°F
FLOW RATE:	1 GPM
MAXIMUM FEED:	10 Gallons (2 Cycles)
ELECTRICAL:	24 VAC, 60 HZ



- **UNIVERSAL COMPATIBILITY:** The VXT feeder can be used with virtually any probe or float-type low water cut-off.
- **FEED COUNTER:** Brightly illuminated feed cycle counter displays the amount of water added to the boiler – essential in diagnosing water loss problems that can severely shorten the life of a steam boiler. Built-in memory prevents power interruptions from clearing the counter.
- **PROGRAMMABLE FEED DELAY SETTINGS:** Helps prevent flooded boilers. Allows time for condensate to return to the boiler before starting feed cycle – ensuring that additional water is needed.
- **PROGRAMMABLE FEED AMOUNT SETTINGS:** Six settings provide two ways to feed: 1-5 gallon settings feed *above* the Low Water Cut-Off to restore boiler's normal operating level. Or, select LWCO setting to end the feed cycle when the Low Water Cut-Off re-energizes the burner.
- **UNDERFEED PROTECTION:** If one feed cycle is not sufficient to restore boiler operation, the VXT will delay and feed one additional cycle.
- **LOCKOUT FLOOD PROTECTION:** The VXT locks-out to prevent steam system flooding and costly water damage if burner operation does not resume after two consecutive feed cycles.

## INSTALLATION

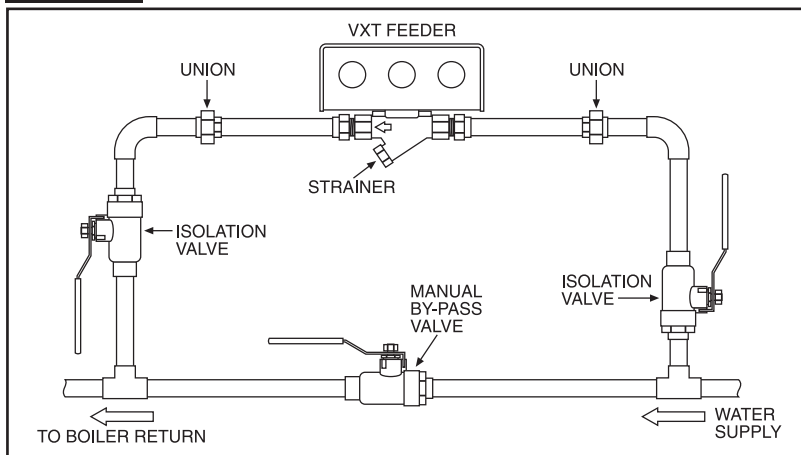
### Step 1 Warning



**WARNING** – To prevent electrical shock or equipment damage, power must be off during installation or servicing of the control. To prevent

serious burns, the boiler should be thoroughly cooled before installing or servicing control. Only qualified personnel may install or service the control in accordance with local codes and ordinances. Read instructions completely before proceeding.

### Step 2 Plumbing



Feeder must be installed with a manual by-pass. Use isolation valves and unions to allow easy removal for service or replacement. Remove and clean the feed valve strainer after the first feed cycle to remove any contaminants introduced during installation.

**Note:** Arrow on VXT valve indicates direction of water flow.

## LIMITED MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY

We warrant products manufactured by Hydrolevel Company to be free from defects in material and workmanship for a period of two years from the date of manufacture or one year from the date of installation, whichever occurs first. In the event of any claim under this warranty or otherwise with respect to our products which is made within such period, we will, at our option, repair or replace such products or refund the purchase price paid to us by you for such products. In no event shall

Hydrolevel Company be liable for any other loss or damage, whether direct, indirect, incidental or consequential. This warranty is your EXCLUSIVE remedy and shall be IN PLACE OF any other warranty or guarantee, express or implied, including, without limitation, any warranty of MERCHANTABILITY or fitness for a particular purpose. This warranty may not be assigned or transferred and any unauthorized transfer or assignment thereof shall be void and of no force or effect.

**HYDROLEVEL  
COMPANY**

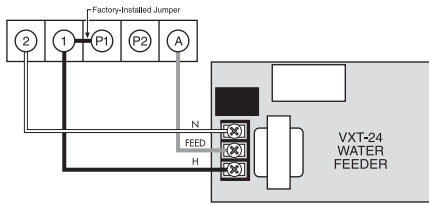
P.O. Box 1847 • New Haven, CT 06508 • Phone: (203) 776-0473 • FAX: (203) 773-1019 • [www.hydrolevel.com](http://www.hydrolevel.com)

## Step 3 Wiring

Select the wiring diagram below that corresponds to the low water cut-off installed on the boiler. Consult boiler manufacturer's instructions for proper burner terminal connections.

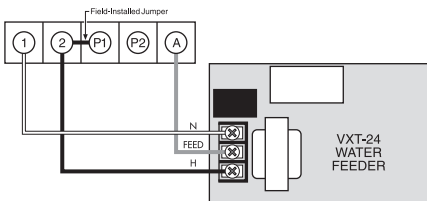
### Hydrolevel

#### Safgard Model 400 / CycleGard CG400 STANDARD WIRING



**Note:** If there is no jumper installed on the low water cut-off between 1 and P1, see **ALTERNATE WIRING** box.

#### Safgard Model OEM-24TD STANDARD WIRING

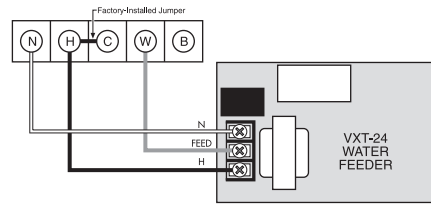


**Note:** If there is no jumper installed on the low water cut-off between 2 and P1, see **ALTERNATE WIRING** box.

**IMPORTANT**  
To prevent over-feeding and possible flooding, when used with the OEM-24TD, the VXT should be set with a Feed Delay of 10 minutes and a Feed Amount of 1 to 5 gallons (see step 5). **DO NOT USE LWCO SETTING.**

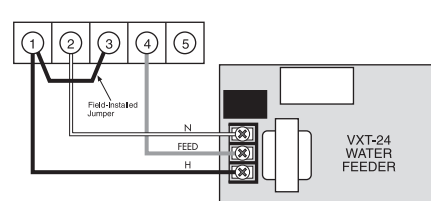
### McDonnell & Miller

#### PS-800 Series – Newer Models STANDARD WIRING



**Note:** If there is no jumper installed on the low water cut-off between H and C, see **ALTERNATE WIRING** box.

#### PS-800 Series – Older Models STANDARD WIRING



**Note:** If there is no jumper installed on the low water cut-off between 1 and 3, see **ALTERNATE WIRING** box.

### ALTERNATE WIRING

#### Safgard & CycleGard Models:

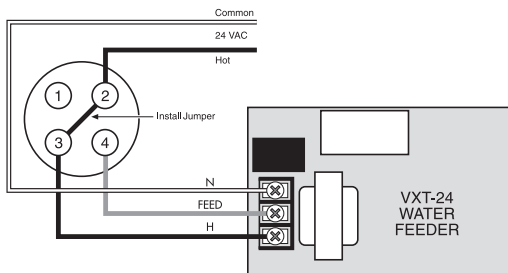
If there is no jumper installed between terminals 1 and P1 on the low cut-off (between 2 and P1 on Model OEM-24TD), then the cut-off is powered by a separate power source from the burner circuit and the following wiring must be used: ① Connect a wire from the FEED terminal on the feeder to the A terminal on the cut-off. ② Connect a wire from terminal H on the feeder to the burner circuit hot. ③ Connect a wire from terminal N on the feeder to burner circuit common.

#### PS-800 Series:

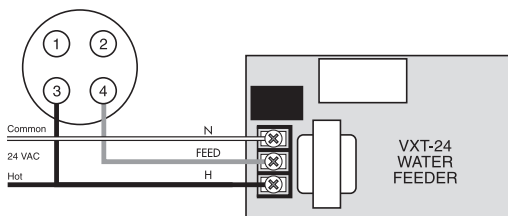
If there is no jumper installed between terminals H and C on the low water cut-off (terminals 1 and 3 on older models), then the cut-off is powered by a separate power source from the burner circuit and the following wiring must be used: ① Connect a wire from the FEED terminal on the feeder to the W (4 on older models) terminal on the cut-off. ② Connect a wire from terminal H on the feeder to the burner circuit hot. ③ Connect a wire from terminal N on the feeder to burner circuit common.

### Float Style Control

#### Using the burner circuit to power the feeder

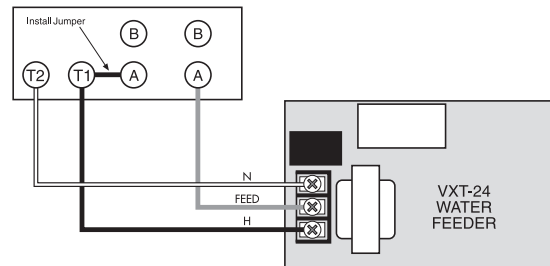


#### Using a separate power source for the feeder

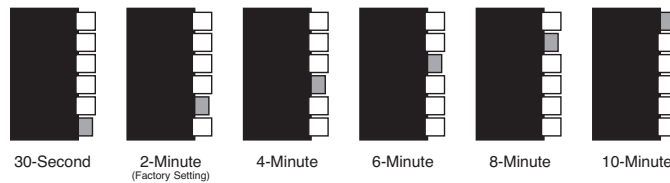


### Honeywell

#### Model RW-700 Guard Ring



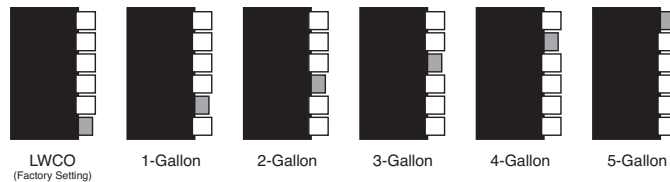
## Step 4 Set the Feed Delay



**NOTE: SELECT ONLY ONE DIPSWITCH CORRESPONDING TO THE DESIRED FEED DELAY.**

The feed delay feature is designed to prevent boiler flooding by allowing time for condensate to return to the boiler prior to feeding. If the returns and vents are in good condition, the 2-minute factory setting is usually sufficient. If for any reason condensate takes longer to return to the boiler (such as old return lines or long horizontal runs), a longer delay setting should be selected.

## Step 5 Set the Feed Amount



**NOTE: SELECT ONLY ONE DIPSWITCH CORRESPONDING TO THE DESIRED FEED AMOUNT.**

**CAUTION: BOILER FLOODING CAN OCCUR IF THE FEEDER IS NOT SET PROPERLY. UNLIKE OTHER FEEDERS, THE 1-GALLON TO 5-GALLON SETTINGS WILL FEED THE FULL CYCLE REGARDLESS OF WHEN THE WATER REACHES THE LOW WATER CUT-OFF.**

**LWCO Setting:** The VXT feeder is shipped in the LWCO feed setting. When operating in this setting, the VXT will feed only until the low water cut-off re-energizes the burner circuit (or a maximum of 5 gallons). This will restore boiler operation, but on some applications may only be enough water to satisfy the *minimum* requirements. If additional water is needed to reach the boiler's *normal* operating level, the 1-Gallon to 5-Gallon settings should be selected using the instructions below. DO NOT USE LWCO SETTING WITH SAFGARD MODEL OEM-24TD.

**1 Gallon to 5 Gallon Settings:** When the 1 to 5 Gallon settings are used, the feeder will continue to feed until the cycle is complete, regardless of when the low water cut-off is satisfied. These settings should be used only when the LWCO setting does not provide adequate water to restore the boiler to a *normal* operating level. Use the following instructions when choosing these settings:

### **Boilers with probe-type cut-offs:**

1. With power to the system on and the thermostat off, lower the water level to approximately 1/2" below the probe.
2. Press the FEED button on the water feeder and, using a watch with a second hand, time how long it takes boiler water to reach the *normal* operating level (Usually the middle of the gauge glass unless otherwise specified by the boiler manufacturer).
3. Round the time to the nearest minute and set the feeder for the corresponding number of gallons.  
*Example:* If it takes 1 minute and 15 seconds for water to rise from 1/2" below the probe to the normal operating level, round to 1 minute and set the feeder for 1-Gallon.
4. Once the Feed Amount has been set, perform a test cycle by lowering the water a second time (following procedures in Step 1 above) and allowing the feeder to replenish the water automatically.

### **Boilers with float-type cut-offs:**

1. With power to the system on and the thermostat off, lower the water level until 1/4" is visible in the gauge glass.
2. Press the FEED button on the water feeder and, using a watch with a second hand, time how long it takes boiler water to reach the *normal* operating level (Usually the middle of the gauge glass unless otherwise specified by the boiler manufacturer).
3. Round the time to the nearest minute and set the feeder for the corresponding number of gallons.  
*Example:* If it takes 2 minutes and 10 seconds for water to rise from 1/4" in the gauge glass to the normal operating level, round to 2 minutes and set the feeder for 2-Gallons.
4. Once the Feed Amount has been set, perform a test cycle by lowering the water a second time (following procedures in Step 1 above) and allowing the feeder to replenish the water automatically.

## Step 6 Attach Service Tag

Complete the information at the top of the service tag provided and attach tag near the VXT Water Feeder.

## Feed Counter

The VXT's built-in feed counter records the number of gallons that enter the boiler during automatic feed cycles **or** if the FEED button is pressed.\* To determine how much water has been added to the boiler since the last service, the counter should be checked, recorded, and reset each time the boiler is serviced. The counter reset (DISPLAY RST) button is located in the bottom right corner of the circuit board.

The addition of water to a boiler raises the oxygen level and accumulates lime and other mineral deposits over time. Excessive feed cycles, resulting from leaks in the system, can cause cast iron boilers to oxidize (rust) internally, significantly reducing the life of the boiler. Lime and sediment build-up can impede heat transfer causing damage and/or premature failure of the boiler.

### Recommended Limits on Make-Up Water

Many factors, such as the water capacity of the boiler, feed water conditions and boiler design can impact the amount of water that can safely be added to a steam boiler. As a general guideline for late model boilers, Hydrolevel recommends the monthly limits in the table at the right for boiler operation during the heating season. If feed amounts significantly exceed these levels, the system should be checked for leaks by a qualified technician. **Note:** Any feed limits provided by the boiler manufacturer supercede Hydrolevel recommendations. Please check the boiler manufacturer's instructions carefully.

\*The VXT Feeder is equipped with an orifice to regulate flow rates over a wide range of water pressures. The Feed Counter readings are designed to be accurate to  $\pm 15\%$  with water pressures between 20 to 90 PSI.

Recommended Make-Up Water Limits	
Net IBR Rating BTU/HR	Gal/month Limit
Up to 90,000	6
91,000 - 120,000	8
121,000 - 150,000	10
151,000 - 185,000	12
185,000 & Higher	15

**Note:** The above limits are based on normal boiler operation during the heating season. They do not include water added as a result of boiler and/or low water cut-off maintenance.

## Service / Maintenance

**Clean Strainer:** The Feed Valve Strainer should be removed and cleaned annually.

**Check Feeder Operation:** Feeder operation should be checked annually during boiler servicing to ensure proper operation and feed amount.

**Record and Reset Feed Counter:** The feed counter should be checked annually. If the feed amount falls within the recommendations provided in the table above, record this amount on the card provided and press the reset button (DISPLAY RST) on the bottom right corner of the circuit board. **Note:** If the feed amount significantly exceeds the recommendations above, the system should be checked for leaks by a qualified technician.

## Diagnostics / Trouble Shooting



A small indicating light in the lower right hand corner of the digital feed counter illuminates whenever the low water cut-off is calling for a feed. The light remains on for the duration of the call from the cut-off regardless of the mode the feeder is in (delay, feed or lock-out). The light turns off when the cut-off is satisfied and stops calling for a feed.



If LOC appears in the digital counter, the safety lockout feature is activated. This feature engages only when the feeder completes two consecutive feed cycles and the low water cut-off does not re-energized the burner. The feeder can be reset by briefly interrupting power to the heating system. **Important:** The following trouble shooting steps should be taken to determine the cause of the lockout condition before restoring normal operation.

1. If the boiler is **overfilled**, the low water cut-off is not functioning properly. Using the manufacturer's instructions, check the low water cut-off operation.
2. If the boiler is in **low water**:
  - a. Check boiler and return piping for leaks.
  - b. If no leaks are detected, check to determine if the flow of the feeder is restricted. Check isolation valves around feeder to ensure they are fully opened. Remove and clean the Feed Valve Strainer.
  - c. Check the feeder setting to ensure that it is set to feed adequate water in the event of a low water condition.



If ERR appears in the digital counter, more than one or no delay or feed button has been selected. See Step 4 and Step 5 for DELAY and FEED setting instructions.



If the digital counter is flashing, the meter has "rolled over" (exceeded 999) representing an excessive feed amount for most applications. Check the system thoroughly for leaks. If no leaks are found, check to determine if the make-up waterline is restricted. Check feed valve strainer for blockage or heavy build-up of debris. Reset Feed Counter (see above) once problem is resolved.