

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Michael Hopsicker, President & CEO

Punxsutawney Phil was on his game this year and in our business we were happy take six more weeks of cold weather after the last few warmer than usual winters. As we move into warmer summer weather we look forward to backyard grilling, propane tank sets and summer improvement projects.



The challenges facing our industry are numerous and well documented: regulation and the electrification movement, the ever swinging pendulum of politics and on-again off-again tariffs, challenges in finding reliable labor, ever changing consumer preferences and buying habits, and I could go on...

However, I remain bullish on our industry and believe that there are some positive winds at our back. The regulatory landscape is more favorable than it's been in many years, the housing market is showing positive signs and we've had a more normal winter. This year there really are no excuses not to grow. Internally, we are arming our team with a new business intelligence (BI) system that allows us to analyze and make improvements to our business operations. I am also excited that my son Jeff is now fully involved in the business and helping to drive positive change and improvement in what we do for you everyday.

Lastly, I'm thrilled to welcome Teeco Products, Inc. to the RMI family of brands. By integrating Teeco's strong Western U.S. presence with RMI's robust East and Central U.S. operations, the combined company will offer enhanced geographic coverage and product offerings—positioning RMI as a truly nationwide distributor in the propane, compressed gas, heating, hearth & outdoor living industries.

*Thank you for your business and I look forward to a great year together!*



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### UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6/22 - 6/24: IWDC Convention
- 8/5 - 8/6: MWHBPA Annual Meeting

## >>> KOHLER Generators NEW & In-Stock now!



KOHLER  
GENERATORS

RMI is now a stocking distributor for KOHLER stand-by generators. KOHLER generators utilize premium components and engineering to deliver more power & better reliability than the competition.

- Most popular generator sizes (14kW, 20kW, 26kW) are in-stock at RMI

**Contact your RMI rep or our office for more information**



### NEW RMI Catalogs



Edition 12, Propane Equip.



2025 Outdoor Living

**PDF catalogs are available at**  
**[www.raymurray.com](http://www.raymurray.com)**





## TECHNICIAN'S CORNER

by Eben Waugh, RMI Technical Support

### DIELECTRIC PROTECTION 101

A metal tank and a metal gas line underground are subject to corrosion due to exposure to the earth and the natural transfer of electrons between different metals known as galvanic corrosion. There is a hierarchy of metals that corrode faster than other metals in a gas system. This can cause a steel tank to corrode faster than copper or brass in the gas system. The isolation of the different types of metal in the piping from the tank or appliance will reduce the speed at which each metal in the system will corrode. This is achieved by dielectric protection.

**NFPA 58 (2024) 6.11.3.17** states, "underground metallic piping shall be provided with a dielectric fitting installed at building penetrations." **NFPA 58 (2024) 6.11.3.18** also states, "dielectric fittings shall not be installed underground." In many areas, building codes and jurisdictional systems codes will mandate the use of dielectric isolation when connecting dissimilar metals in underground gas systems.

#### METHODS FOR DIELECTRIC PROTECTION

- **Schedule 40 Insulating unions** can be used when piping with schedule 40 black iron for tank pressure or liquid propane service.
- **MEC 690 Space Saver** dielectric unions are typically installed at the ASME tank directly downstream of the first stage regulator prior to underground piping.
- **MEC Sentinel** dielectric 2nd stage regulators can be installed at the entrance of the gas line into the building to satisfy NFPA 58 without the need for installation of additional fittings or connections.
- **Dielectric Pigtaills** can achieve insulation at the service valve of the tank without additional fittings in the gas system.
- **Jomar dielectric ball valves** can replace a shutoff on the incoming line to meet NFPA 58.

#### ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

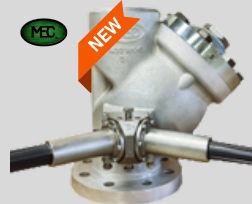
- **Potential leak point:** The plastic insulating ring within the union on a pigtail or on a regulator can degrade over time, creating a potential leak point if not properly maintained.
- **Installation:** Caution is needed in tightening the fittings to prevent crushing or moving the insulating ring.
- **Increased installation complexity:** Adding a dielectric union to a gas system requires an extra fitting, which can slightly complicate the installation process and present an additional potential leak point.



### ME910P Pilot Relief Valve

**The MEC Pilot Relief Valve Manifold** is designed for large LPG and NH<sub>3</sub> storage storage container applications with 4" - 300# ANSI flanged openings.

The dual pilot valve design allows for the change of either pilot valve without taking the storage container out of service, significantly reducing cost of future service and replacement.



Tank Size (Gal)	Relief Valves Required	
	ME910P	Quadport
30,000	1	1
45,000	1	2
60,000	1	2
90,000	2	2
120,000	2	3

At 44,278 CFM, the relief capacity of the ME910P Series Relief Valve Manifold is 60% greater than traditional Quadport valves meaning fewer relief valves are needed in many installation applications, saving money and time in materials & labor.



### NEW FACES AT RMI



Rian Carlton



Jeff Hopsicker

#### RMI WELCOMES RIAN CARLTON

We are thrilled to welcome Rian Carlton as our new Regional Sales Manager for RMI's Hearth & Outdoor channel in IN, IL, Western MI & WI.



413-478-0216



rcarlton@raymurray.com

#### RMI WELCOMES JEFF HOPSICKER

Jeff recently joined RMI as Vice President and minority owner after a decade of investment banking experience. He has served as a member of the RMI's board of directors since November 2019.

Prior to this appointment, Hopsicker was a director at SMBC Nikko Americas, where he was a founding member of SMBC's leveraged finance sales and trading franchise in Charlotte, North Carolina.



jhopsicker@raymurray.com





## NOVO OUTDOOR KITCHEN CABINETS

The popularity and growth of outdoor kitchens continues to increase year after year. And tastes and styles have changed and evolved over time too. One of the biggest trends that we have seen in recent years is the rising popularity of outdoor kitchen cabinet systems. While traditional masonry and stone designs will always have a place, consumers are increasingly opting for a clean design aesthetic similar to their indoor kitchens. RMI can fill that need.

We are thrilled to introduce our new NOVO Modular Outdoor Kitchen Cabinet Collection for 2025! *What's unique about our product?*

- 1 Priced Right and Ready to Ship.** Get the grill and cabinets as soon as the next day. A 6' island with an ALTA grill starts at \$6,499!
- 2 Built-to-Last.** Made-in-USA from all 304 stainless steel and aluminum components inside and out, our cabinets are built for the great outdoors.
- 3 Easy to Assemble.** Easily assemble with no trades required. Lightweight components make transporting to the jobsite a breeze.



Contact your RMI rep for more information today.

## NEW IGNITE ULTRA & ASPIRE FIREPLACES NOW AVAILABLE

**Dimplex®** Ignite Ultra and Aspire series features:

- **Dynamic-Fire Flame Effect.** Witness a brand new, remarkably realistic flame effect, patented by Dimplex on Ignite Ultra & Aspire fireplaces.
- **Rhythmic Inner Glow Logs.** All new magnetic, moveable logs enhanced with inner glow technology that pulse in rhythm with the dancing flames.
- **Crackling Sound Effects.** Enhance your sensory journey with the soothing sound of a crackling natural wood fire.
- **Total Control.** Control your fireplace with the Dimplex Flame Connect App. Wall-mount remote or 3-button touch display also available.

NEW



Ignite Ultra Series available in 50", 60", 74", 88", 100"

DC Dimplex

NEW



Aspire Series available in 30", 36", 42", 48"



NEW DYNAMIC-FIRE flame effect & RHYTHMIC INNER GLOW logs



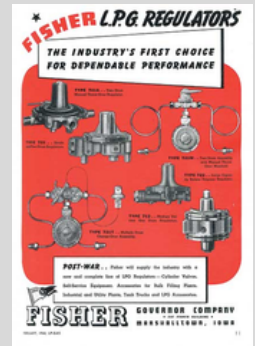
## FISHER CONTROLS

**Founded in 1880 by William Fisher,** Fisher is one of the oldest and largest global designers, manufacturers, and suppliers of control valves and pressure regulators.

**William Fisher moved to the US** from England when he was 14, settling in Iowa. His first job was in a small engine shop, where he became well-versed in steam power.

As a raging fire in Marshalltown, Iowa, threatened to engulf the city, William and a few others spent hours throttling the city's steam-driven pumps by hand, to provide steady and constant water pressure. This fire inspired Fisher to create a device to control pumps and maintain them at constant pressure. After months of experimentation, Fisher built the Fisher Type 1 constant pressure pump governor. This invention became the basis for the pressure regulators that we still use today.

**Fisher Governor Company** enjoyed substantial growth from the development of steel, petroleum, power, and gas in the 1920's industrial boom. Their valves and regulators becoming indispensable to industry.



Now a part of Emerson, **Fisher continues to be an industry leader** in flow

control technology. Throughout the world, Emerson supplies the LPG industry with the Fisher line of commercial & residential service regulators, valves and bulk storage and transport equipment. Renowned as the propane industry standard for reliable pressure regulation, Fisher provides high value, field proven and dependable control solutions.



## SOLID FUEL LINER KITS

NEW PRODUCT



**Save Time And Money!**

KITS IN-STOCK in 6" x 25' or 35'



- Titanium stabilized 316Ti Triple Lock core provides excellent resistance to corrosive effects of flue gases
- Durable over extended periods at elevated temperatures without compromising corrosion resistance
- Pre-Insulated Available

Z-FLEX







## IMPORTANT RMI CONTACTS

### Customer Service

For product info, to place orders, check order status, file warranty claims and other general inquires.

- 7am – 5pm EST, M-F
- 1-800-628-5044**
- Orders: [orders@raymurray.com](mailto:orders@raymurray.com)
- Warranty: [warranty@raymurray.com](mailto:warranty@raymurray.com)

### Technical Support

RMI's Technical Support is available as a value added resource for our customers.

- 8am – 5pm EST, M-F
- 1-800-628-5044**
- [technical@raymurray.com](mailto:technical@raymurray.com)

## www.raymurray.com

Conveniently check inventory & place orders 24/7 @ [www.raymurray.com](http://www.raymurray.com)

- Click "Sign In" on top right of homepage to begin shopping.
  - To register for access follow prompts to "Register" for new account.
  - You must have an RMI account number to register for access.



## WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

by Chris Wolfe, Manager of Technical Support & Training



**Q** Would you have this hearth stove venting installed at your house?

**A** I would hope not! One of the first considerations in installing a stove is, how to vent it. Location of the hearth appliance in the home is important, just about as important as the venting. You need to exhaust the byproducts of combustion to the outdoors as well as create a draft in the venting system for proper operation. As we look at the photo:

- Did they need to block off the glass to create an opening for the venting system? Although we've seen this occasionally, will the AHJ approve it?
- Is this the correct UL approved venting material for the appliance? A wall thimble should have been used for the penetration of the structure.
- Will this pipe outdoors create enough draft to vent the combustion gases and draw in combustion air properly? Is there sufficient "rise to run?"
- It does not appear that they used the 10-2-3 rule of venting. Per NFPA# 54, NFPA# 211 and the IFGC, a chimney must extend at least 3 feet above the highest point where it passes thru a roof of a building and at least 2 feet higher than any portion of a building within a horizontal distance of 10 feet.
- The venting must also be supported in a manner that will not stress the venting material. Securing of the pipe must be done in accordance with the manufacturer or code. If installing the chimney next to the soffit or roof overhang, know what the clearance to combustibles are for the pipe and keep that clearance. A better solution may have been to notch out the overhang in accordance with manufacturer's instructions or code.



**Have you seen a funky installation that doesn't look quite right?**  
Email a picture to [cwolfe@raymurray.com](mailto:cwolfe@raymurray.com) and if we use it in a future newsletter you'll get a \$150 credit to your account.

