

Gas Supply Design Guide

Benchmark[®] NX Boilers

Models 399 and 500

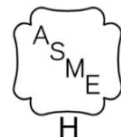
Other documents for this product include:

- OMM-0139, Edge Controller Manual
- OMM-0183 BMK NX 399-500 Installation and Operation Manual
- OMM-0184 BMK NX 399-500 Edge Reference Manual
- TAG-0120 Benchmark NX Electrical Power Guide
- TAG-0121 Benchmark NX Piping Guide
- TAG-0122 Benchmark NX Venting and Combustion Air Design Guide
- TAG-0123 BMK NX Boiler Application Guide



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1. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

AERCO Benchmark NX gas fired boilers are modulating input devices that require an adequate volume of natural gas at constant pressure for proper operation. All work should be performed only by qualified personnel familiar with applicable electrical codes and boiler equipment. The gas requirements specified in this document must be satisfied to ensure efficient combustion. Designers and installers must adhere to the AERCO specifications and those of the local authorities having jurisdiction. A thorough understanding and knowledge of these guidelines is required for the successful design and installation of Benchmark NX series boilers.

1.1 Gas Train Components

AERCO Benchmark NX gas-fired boilers are equipped with standard UL approved/FM compliant gas trains. These gas trains are factory tested and fired, with a minimum number of modular components. The unit's gas train shall be a zero-governor system to deliver precise amount of gas, controlled by the strength of the negative pressure created by the blower. The unit shall be specifically designed and calibrated for a single predetermined fuel (natural gas). The gas train shall be a ventless gas train

2. GAS PRESSURE REQUIREMENTS

AERCO Benchmark NX series boilers require a stable natural gas input pressure. A low supply gas pressure switch in each gas train prevents the boiler from operating without sufficient pressure. The allowable gas inlet pressure range when firing at maximum input is shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1: Allowable Gas Inlet Pressure		
Model	NATURAL GAS	
	Minimum	Maximum
BMK NX 399	4.0" W.C. (1.00 kPa)	14.0" W.C. (3.49 kPa)
BMK NX 500	4.0" W.C. (1.00 kPa)	14.0" W.C. (3.49 kPa)

Gas pressure must be measured when the unit is in operation (firing). Measure the gas pressure with a manometer at the inlet ball valve. In a multiple boiler installation, gas pressure must initially be set for single boiler operation, and then the remaining boilers must be staged on at full fire, to insure gas pressures never falls below the supply gas pressure when the single unit was firing.

All Benchmark NX models have a low supply gas pressure switch in the gas train to prevent operation if incoming gas pressure is insufficient.

2.1 Manual Shutoff Valves

An external manual shutoff valve must be installed at each Benchmark boiler, as shown in Figure 1, below. This valve is supplied with the boiler.

2.2 Pressure Regulators

The lock-up type pressure regulator(s) must be sized as follows:

TABLE 2: Lock-Up Regulator Sizing		
Boiler Size (MBH)	Required Volume	
	CFH	(m ³ /HR)
BMK NX 399	399 – 452	(11.3 – 12.8)
BMK NX 500	500 – 600	(14.2 – 17.0)

An external lock-up type regulator **MUST** be installed downstream of the isolation valve at all installations where gas supply pressure will exceed 14.0" W.C. (3.49 kPa).

External gas regulators are self-contained with tapped diaphragm vent ports allowing the diaphragm to change its position as required. These vents typically require piping to the outside. For details, see Section 8: *Venting of Gas Supply Regulators*, below.

CAUTION!

AERCO boilers must be turned off and isolated from the system when leak testing.

Drip legs are typically required at the gas supply of each boiler to prevent any dirt, weld slag, or debris from entering the boiler gas train inlet pipe. When multiple boilers are installed, some utilities and local codes require a full-size drip leg on the main gas supply line in addition to the drip leg at each unit. The bottom of the gas drip leg(s) should be removable without disassembling any gas piping. The weight of the gas pipe must not be supported from the bottom of the drip leg. The drip leg(s) must not be used to support any or part of the gas piping.

On all Benchmark NX models it is strongly recommended that the pressure regulator be installed a minimum distance of **10 pipe diameters** between the pressure regulator and the nearest downstream fittings (an elbow or the unit itself), and a minimum of **5 pipe diameters** between the pressure regulator and any upstream fitting, such as elbow or shutoff valve, as shown in Figure 1a, below. **This recommendation applies to all Benchmark NX models.**

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the customer to source and purchase the appropriate gas regulator as described above. However, AERCO offers an appropriate regulator for sale, which may be ordered at the time of unit purchase or separately. Contact your AERCO sales representative for more information.



Figure 1: BNX 399/500 Gas Regulator and Manual Shut-Off Valve

2.3 Massachusetts Installations Only

For Massachusetts installations, a mandatory external gas supply regulator must be positioned as shown in Figure 1a. The gas supply regulator must be properly vented to outdoors. Consult the local gas utility for detailed requirements concerning venting of the supply gas regulator.

2.4 Multiple Unit Installations

The following points apply to sites that have multiple Benchmark NX units installed:

- If inlet pressures are above 7" W.C. (1.74 kPa) a gas pressure regulator may be *highly recommended*, based on site conditions. Consult your local AERCO representative or the factory.
- If inlet pressures are above 14" W.C. (3.49 kPa) a gas pressure regulator is *mandatory*.



Figure 2: Multiple Boiler Gas Pipe Connections Guidelines

The following are AERCO's recommendations for installation of gas pressure regulator, unless superseded by state and local codes and the regulator manufacturer's specifications:

- Horizontal installation of gas pressure regulators is recommended unless stated otherwise by the manufacturer. Consult the manufacturer for additional recommendations and installation options.
- When installed horizontally the required distance between the gas pressure regulator and the nearest pipe fitting, elbow or valve is 20 inches (51 cm).
- When pipe size reduction is required, use only bell reducers.

3. GAS PIPING

All gas piping and components must comply with NFPA local codes, and utility requirements minimum. Only gas approved fittings, valves, or pipe should be utilized.

Standard industry practice for gas piping is Schedule 40 iron pipe and fittings. All high and low gas pressure piping systems must comply with local utility and building codes.

Assembled piping must be clean of all debris, pipe chips and foreign material to prevent any from entering the boiler's gas train. Piping must be tested as prescribed in NFPA 54. Equipment must be isolated before testing any piping system over the allowable pressure. **DO NOT EXCEED 14.0" W.C. (3.49 kPa) on the inlet side of the Benchmark NX boiler at any time.**

The diameter of the gas inlet pipes is as follows:

Inlet Pipe Diameter	
Boiler Model	Natural Gas
399-500	1 Inch

4. GAS SUPPLY MAIN SIZING

Gas pipe sizing, for either a single or multiple boiler installation, must be sized for a **maximum pressure drop of 0.3" W.C. (75 Pa) from the source to the final boiler**. The maximum gas flow rate required is the sum of the maximum inputs of each unit divided by the heat of combustion of the fuel supplied at the location, (approximately 1,030 BTU per cubic foot [38.35 megajoule/cubic meter] for natural gas). The fuel supplier or utility should be consulted to confirm that sufficient volume and normal pressure is provided to the building at the discharge side of the gas meter or supply pipe. For existing installations with gas equipment, gas pressure must be measured with a manometer to be certain sufficient pressure is available. Before sizing gas piping, a survey of all connected gas devices must be made. Gas piping supplying more than one gas device must be able to handle the total connected input within the allowable gas pressure drop. The allowable minimum and maximum gas pressure for each device must be considered. Whenever the minimum and maximum gas pressures vary between devices, gas pressure regulators at each unit must be installed to allow regulation at any individual unit. Gas pressure must never exceed the maximum allowable rating of any connected device.

The total length of gas piping as well as fitting pressure drop must be considered when sizing the gas piping. Total equivalent length must be calculated from the meter or source location to the last boiler connected on the header. The values in the Gas Piping Tables in Section 6: *Gas Piping Tables*, (below), which contain data extracted from NFPA 54, must be used as a *minimum guideline*. Gas pipe size must be selected on the total *equivalent* length from the appropriate pressure table. The gas volume for CFH (m³/hr.) flow will be the input divided by the calorific value of the fuel to be supplied.

5. GAS HEADER SIZING

Main supply gas pipe sizing must be developed for the total plant. Boiler gas manifold piping must be sized based on the volume requirements and lengths between boilers and the fuel main. Header sizes can be either full size or stepped in size as units are connected. A typical gas piping header diagram for a 4-module Benchmark NX Boiler Plant is illustrated in Figure 3.

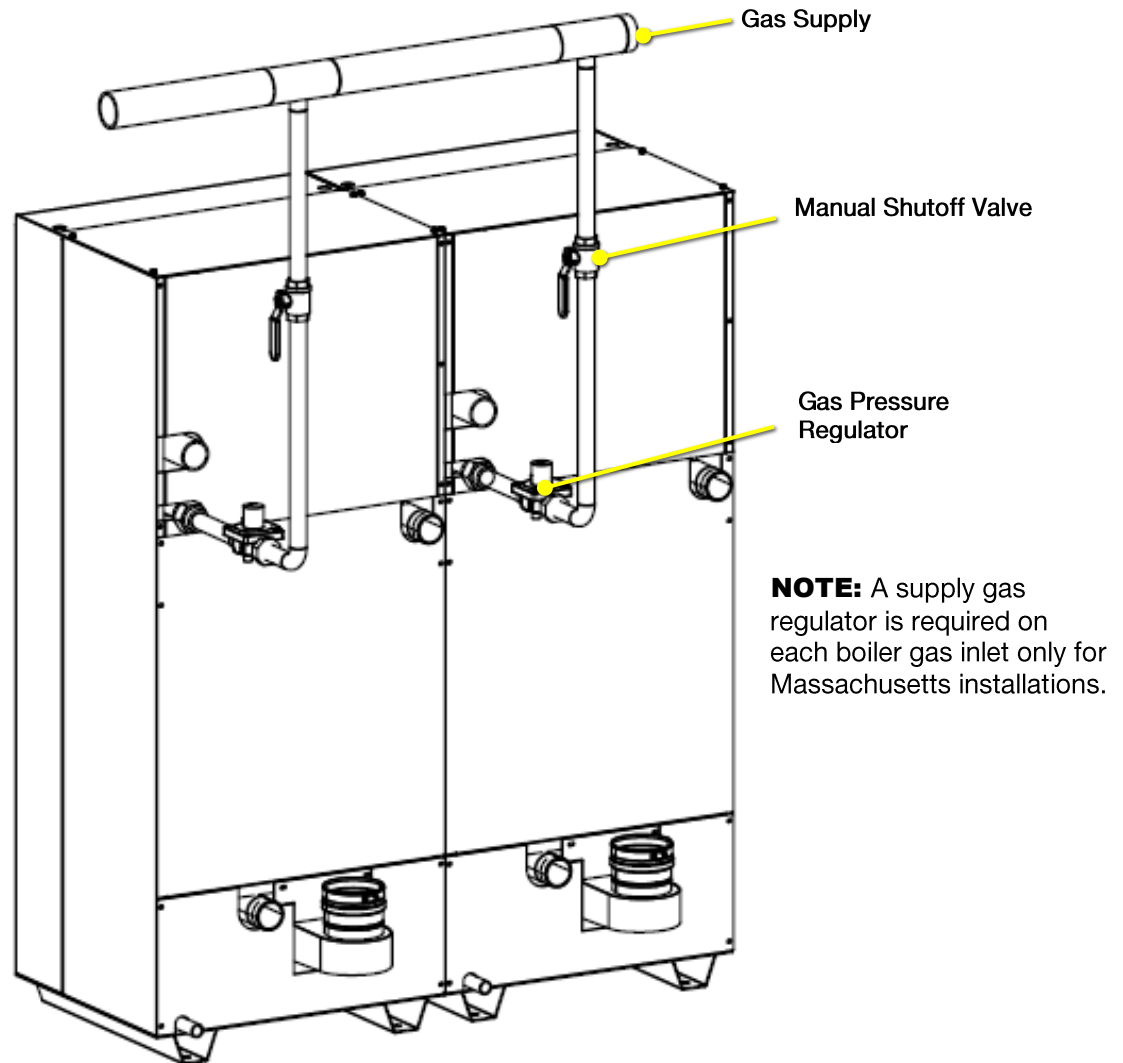


Figure 3: Typical Multiple Boiler Manifold Construction

* Based on Table 4 on the following pages for natural gas, 0.6 specific gravity, 1,000 CFH (28 m³/hr.) / unit, actual header sizes will vary with length of pipe run and fittings employed.

If supply gas pressure exceeds **14.0" W.C. (3.49 kPa)**, a single lock-up regulator in the header, or individual lock-up regulators in each unit must be used to bring the gas pressure down to **14.0" W.C. (3.49 kPa)**. The header should be located above or behind boiler. Gas piping should not be installed directly over top or front of any part of boiler. Sufficient clearances for maintenance are required.

6. GAS PIPING TABLES

The data in the following pipe and vent sizing tables have been extracted from the National Fire Protection Association Article 54 (NFPA 54).

TABLE 4: Maximum Capacity of Pipe for 0.5 PSI or Less (Imperial Units)														
In Cubic Feet of Gas per Hour For a Pressure Drop of 0.3-inch Water Column														
Nominal Iron Pipe Size in Inches	Internal Diameter in Inches	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Feet)												
		10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	125	150	175	200
2.00	2.067	3,050	2,100	1,650	1,450	1,270	1,150	1,050	990	930	780	710	650	610
2.50	2.469	4,800	3,300	2,700	2,300	2,000	1,850	1,700	1,600	1,500	1,250	1,130	1,050	980
3.00	3.068	8,500	5,900	4,700	4,100	3,600	3,250	3,000	2,800	2,600	2,200	2,000	1,850	1,700
4.00	4.026	17,500	12,000	9,700	8,300	7,400	6,800	6,200	5,800	5,400	4,500	4,100	3,800	3,500

TABLE 4: Maximum Capacity of Pipe for 3.45 kPa or Less (Metric Units)														
In Cubic Meters of Gas per Hour (m ³ /hr.) For a Pressure Drop of 75 Pa														
Nominal Iron Pipe Size in mm	Internal Diam. in mm	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Meters)												
		3.05	6.1	9.14	12.19	15.24	18.28	21.33	24.38	27.43	38.1	45.72	53.34	60.96
50.80	52.50	86.37	59.47	46.72	41.06	35.96	32.56	29.73	28.03	26.33	22.09	20.10	18.41	17.27
63.50	62.71	135.92	93.45	76.46	65.13	56.63	52.39	48.14	45.31	42.48	35.40	32.00	29.73	27.75
76.20	77.93	240.69	167.07	133.09	116.10	101.94	92.03	84.95	79.29	73.62	62.30	56.63	52.39	48.14
101.60	102.26	495.54	339.80	274.67	235.03	209.54	192.55	175.56	164.24	152.91	127.43	116.10	107.60	99.11

TABLE 5: Pipe Sizing Table for 1 Pound Pressure (Imperial Units)

Capacity of Pipes of Different Diameters and Lengths

In Cubic Feet per Hour with a 10% Pressure Drop and a Gas of 0.6 Specific Gravity

Pipe Size of Schedule 40 Standard Pipe in Inches	Internal Diameter in Inches	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Feet)							
		50	100	150	200	250	300	400	500
2.00	2.067	4245	2918	2343	2005	1777	1610	1378	1222
2.50	2.469	6766	4651	3735	3196	2833	2567	2197	1947
3.00	3.068	11962	8221	6602	5650	5008	4538	3884	3442
3.50	3.548	17514	12037	9666	8273	7332	6644	5686	5039
4.00	4.026	24398	16769	13466	11525	10214	9255	7921	7020
5.00	5.047	44140	30337	24362	20851	18479	16744	14330	12701
6.00	6.065	71473	49123	39447	33762	29923	27112	23204	20566
8.00	7.981	146849	100929	81049	69368	61479	55705	47676	42254

TABLE 5: Pipe Sizing Table for 6.89 kPa Pressure: (Metric Units)

Capacity of Pipes of Different Diameters and Lengths

In Cubic Meters per Hour with a 10% Pressure Drop and a Gas of 0.6 Specific Gravity

Pipe Size of Schedule 40 Standard Pipe in mm	Internal Diam. in mm	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Meters)							
		15.24	30.48	45.72	60.96	76.2	91.44	121.92	152.4
50.80	52.50	120.21	82.63	66.35	56.78	50.32	45.59	39.02	34.60
63.50	62.71	191.59	131.70	105.76	90.50	80.22	72.69	62.21	55.13
76.20	77.93	338.73	232.79	186.95	159.99	141.81	128.50	109.98	97.47
88.90	90.12	495.94	340.85	273.71	234.27	207.62	188.14	161.01	142.69
101.60	102.26	690.88	474.85	381.32	326.35	289.23	262.07	224.30	198.79
127.00	128.19	1249.91	859.05	689.86	590.44	523.27	474.14	405.78	359.65
152.40	154.05	2023.90	1391.02	1117.02	956.04	847.33	767.73	657.07	582.37
203.20	202.72	4158.32	2858.01	2295.06	1964.29	1740.90	1577.40	1350.04	1196.51

TABLE 6: Pipe Sizing Table for an Initial Pressure of 2.0 PSI (Imperial Units)

Capacity of Pipes of Different Diameters and Lengths

In Cubic Feet per Hour with a 10% Pressure Drop and a Gas of 0.6 Specific Gravity

Pipe Size of Schedule 40 Standard Pipe in Inches	Internal Diameter in Inches	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Feet)							
		50	100	150	200	250	300	400	500
2.00	2.067	6589	4528	3636	3112	2758	2499	2139	1896
2.50	2.469	10501	7217	5796	4961	4396	3983	3409	3022
3.00	3.068	18564	12759	10246	8769	7772	7042	6027	5342
3.50	3.548	27181	18681	15002	12840	11379	10311	8825	7821
4.00	4.026	37865	26025	20899	17887	15853	14364	12293	10895
5.00	5.047	68504	47082	37809	32359	28680	25986	22240	19711
6.00	6.065	110924	76237	61221	52397	46439	42077	36012	31917

TABLE 6: Pipe Sizing Table for an Initial Pressure of 13.79 kPa: (Metric Units)

Capacity of Pipes of Different Diameters and Lengths

In Cubic Feet per Hour with a 10% Pressure Drop and a Gas of 0.6 Specific Gravity

Pipe Size of Schedule 40 Standard Pipe in mm	Internal Diameter in mm	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Meters)							
		15.24	30.48	45.72	60.96	76.2	91.44	121.92	152.4
50.80	52.50	186.58	128.22	102.96	88.12	78.10	70.76	60.57	53.69
63.50	62.71	297.36	204.36	164.13	140.48	124.48	112.79	96.53	85.57
76.20	77.93	525.68	361.30	290.14	248.31	220.08	199.41	170.67	151.27
88.90	90.12	769.68	528.99	424.81	363.59	322.22	291.98	249.90	221.47
101.60	102.26	1072.22	736.95	591.80	506.51	448.91	406.75	348.10	308.51
127.00	128.19	1939.83	1333.22	1070.64	916.31	812.13	735.85	629.77	558.16
152.40	154.05	3141.03	2158.80	1733.60	1483.73	1315.01	1191.49	1019.75	903.79

TABLE 7: Pipe Sizing Table for an Initial Pressure of 5.0 PSI (Imperial Units)

Capacity of Pipes of Different Diameters and Lengths In Cubic Feet per Hour with a 10% Pressure Drop and a Gas of 0.6 Specific Gravity									
Pipe Size of Schedule 40 Standard Pipe in Inches	Internal Diameter in Inches	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Feet)							
		15.24	30.48	45.72	60.96	76.2	91.44	121.92	152.4
2.00	2.067	11786	8101	6505	5567	4934	4471	3827	3391
2.50	2.469	18785	12911	10368	8874	7865	7126	6099	5405
3.00	3.068	33209	22824	18329	15687	13903	12597	10782	9556
3.50	3.548	48623	33418	26836	22968	20365	18444	15786	13991
4.00	4.026	67736	46555	37385	31997	28358	25694	21991	19490
5.00	5.047	122544	84224	67635	57887	51304	46485	39785	35261
6.00	6.065	198427	136378	109516	93732	83073	75270	64421	57095

TABLE 7: Pipe Sizing Table for an Initial Pressure of 34.47 kPa: (Metric Units)

Capacity of Pipes of Different Diameters and Lengths In Cubic Feet per Hour with a 10% Pressure Drop and a Gas of 0.6 Specific Gravity									
Pipe Size of Schedule 40 Standard Pipe in mm	Internal Diameter in mm	Total Equivalent Length of Pipe (Meters)							
		15.24	30.48	45.72	60.96	76.2	91.44	121.92	152.4
50.80	52.50	333.74	229.40	184.20	157.64	139.72	126.61	108.37	96.02
63.50	62.71	531.93	365.60	293.59	251.29	222.71	201.79	172.71	153.05
76.20	77.93	940.38	646.31	519.02	444.21	393.69	356.71	305.31	270.60
88.90	90.12	1376.86	946.30	759.92	650.38	576.68	522.28	447.01	396.18
101.60	102.26	1918.08	1318.30	1058.63	906.06	803.01	727.58	622.72	551.90
127.00	128.19	3470.08	2384.97	1915.22	1639.19	1452.78	1316.32	1126.59	998.49
152.40	154.05	5618.86	3861.82	3101.16	2654.21	2352.38	2131.42	1824.21	1616.76

7. VENTING OF GAS SUPPLY REGULATORS

AERCO's general guidelines for venting of gas regulators are listed below. AERCO requires that these guidelines be followed to ensure the most reliable and proper operation of AERCO gas fired equipment. It is also required that you consult local codes and the gas regulator manufacturer for additional details. Always follow the most stringent guidelines available, including those listed below.

- When venting a gas supply regulator, the vent pipe must be no smaller than the regulator vent size.
- In a multiple unit installation, each regulator must have a separate vent line.
- Vent lines must not be manifolded together or with any other equipment at the site that also requires atmospheric vents.
- When sizing the vent, pipe diameters must be increased by one pipe diameter every 20 equivalent feet of pipe.

Each 90° elbow is equivalent to approximately:

- ⇒ 2.5 feet (0.76 m) for nominal pipe sizes of up to 3/4" (19 mm)
- ⇒ 4.5 feet (1.37 m) for nominal pipe sizes of up to 1-1/2" (38 mm)
- ⇒ 10.5 feet (3.2 m) for nominal pipe sizes of up to 4" (101 mm)

Each 45° elbow is equivalent to approximately:

- ⇒ 1 foot (0.3 m) for nominal pipe sizes of up to 3/4" (19 mm)
- ⇒ 2 feet (0.61 m) for nominal pipe sizes of up to 1-1/2" (38 mm)
- ⇒ 5 feet (1.52 m) for nominal pipe sizes of up to 4" (101 mm)



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