

LPU - Large Purge Unit

Instruction Booklet



Application

This purge unit is designed for the direct purging of pipework from 100 mm to 250 mm bore from air to natural gas with pressures up to 100 mbar.

It can also be used for natural gas to air purging but an air mover must be used. Smaller Purge Units for up to 100 and 150 mm bore pipework are also available, contact Duomo sales department for information sales@duomo.co.uk.

All Soundness Testing and Purging must be carried out as set down in Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers publication UP/1.

The unit is mounted in a Vinyl covered box that should be stable under reasonable conditions on a firm base.

Where fitted with castors these are for use on hard surfaces and damage will occur if dragged over mud and soft surfaces. The box should be stored in the dry. When handling the unit do not forget that turbine meters are delicate instruments!

A valved test point is included for the connection of a Gas Analyser such as a Gascoseeker and for monitoring the gas pressures or, if needed, for testing the hose assembly for tightness. The flow meter measures the gas velocity as a flow as given in UP/1. **Press the panel on the meter index to change from flow to flow rate readings.**

Large purging operations should be accompanied by a Risk Assessment to ensure that all safety issues have been considered. It is also recommended that a working methodology/procedure is prepared for larger operations.

Note: A flame arrestor is not supplied with is unit as it complies with UP/1 clause 6.4.3 Note.

Hazards



It is recommended that fire extinguishers are accessible and the area is cordoned off to keep people more than 5 metres away from the flare unit, especially when purging. A no smoking sign is attached to the box and a Danger sign is also provided for the installation Pipework purge connection.



Pipework must not be left with open ends.



Lift only by the two side handles using the correct manual handling/lifting proceedures.



Never attempt to light the purge gases on the Flame Trap.



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Assembly

Place the unit on firm level ground and open the door to give the box stability. Remove the vent stacks and attach to the top of the 2" valve above the pitcher tee.



The assembled stack is now over 2.5m above ground level. As this purge system guarantees meeting the velocity requirements of UP/1 there is no need for a flame trap. If the velocity falls below that in UP/1; STOP the purge and investigate.

An integral open ended top hat filter is installed to the inlet side of the gas meter to protect the meter from internal damage. Ensure this end is always kept clean and free from debris.

Remove the 2" plastic plug from the inlet Tee piece.



There is a single 10m length of 63mm bore hose supplied separately with the box that has ABS 2" bsp quick release connections one of which is fitted to the inlet tee piece which connects to the filter inlet within the lower left hand end of the box.

There are also quick release connections for connecting to the installation pipework. Do not over-tighten the gas connections as they achieve gas tightness quite easily if not damaged.

Additional lengths of hose are available but it may be advisable to fit an extra manual valve on the inlet to the hose to prevent gas escaping when the hose is disconnected. Quick Release fitting and Turbine Meter spares can be obtained from Duomo.

Operation

The direct gas to air or air to gas purge operation is detailed in IGE UP/1.

Verify that the pipe tapping and size to the purge connection is large enough to provide the purge flow rate without excess pressure drops. Any valve supplying the unit should be of the full-bore type e.g. ball valve. If the primary meter and pipework sizes are correct and the purge rate cannot be obtained, the tapping or pipe to the purge point is probably too small. If possible move the purge connection to a larger section of pipe and purge to that point before finishing the purge on the original smaller pipe. If this is not practicable, a slug or full purge with nitrogen according to UP/1 must be carried out. Contact GEA Ltd for their nitrogen purge kit.

For pipe sizes at 100mm [4"] bore and above the flow rate can be easily set by the 2" full bore manual valve on the inlet to the Purge Unit.

Press the panel 'C' on the meter index to change from flow to flow rate reading.

If the desired flow rate is not immediately achieved, ABORT the purge and turn off the valves.

Always make sure that the primary meter is capable of passing these flow rates. If not, use the meter bypass. The Shipper must be notified if the bypass seal is broken.

During the purge to gas, the flow rate may change. This is normal and is caused by the change in specific gravity as the flow of air is replaced by the lighter gas. This flow is above that necessary but speeds the purge operation. Conversely when purging from gas to air, the flow will drop slightly and must be adjusted upwards to maintain the ideal minimum velocity.



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It should not be necessary with this design of unit to monitor the gas pressure during purging since the indication of gas flow on the meter shows that pressure exists. Please note that if an electronic gauge is used it must be intrinsically safe if used in flammable environments. Do not forget to have any test instrumentation checked and calibrated as required.

Never attempt to light the purge gases on the top of the vent stack! Duomo provide a special unit where flaring is necessary

On completion of a successful purge to gas you should have achieved approximately 90% methane measured at valved point 'D'. Higher levels may not be possible due to the constituents of the gas itself.

When removing redundant pipework and gas meters it is essential to purge to air and to get less than 40% LFL or more than 20.5% oxygen. An optional air mover is available for gas to air purges from GEA Ltd. If 'hot working' is to take place, attempt to purge down below 5% LEL.

All removed components must be capped or sealed correctly. Open ended pipework must not be left.

Finally, replace the parts in the in the box. Tip the box up slightly to see if any debris falls out of the meter inlet strainer 'A'. Refit the plug to the open end at the bottom of the box. Expose the disconnected Purge Hoses to the open air for about ten minutes to vent out the gas or blow through with air or plug all open ends.

Duomo Purge Unit Guide				
Flow Settings	10m length Pipe Volumes			
Below 2" BSP - 2.5m ³	1" = 0.0064 m³			
2" - 4.5 m³ /h, 3" - 11 m³ /h	11/4" = 0.011 m ³			
4" - 20 m³ /h, 5" - 30 m³ /h	1½" = 0.015 m³ & 2" = 0.024 m³			
6" set at 10 for 38 m ³ /h	3" = 0.054 m ³			
8" - 79 m³ /h	4" = 0.09 m ³ & 6" = 0.2 m ³			
10" - 141 m³ /h	8" = 0.35 m ³ & 10" = 0.53 m ³			



Engineer Notes:			

