



## PRIMARY ELEMENT SELECTION GUIDE

Primary elements allow to cover a very wide range of applications. The below table will help you select the most suitable solution for your installation.

## REYNOLDS NUMBER $Re_D$

$$Re_D = \frac{V_1 D}{\nu_1} = \frac{4 q_m}{\pi \mu_1 D}$$

$V_1$  fluid velocity in m/s  
 $D$  pipe internal diameter in m  
 $\nu_1$  kinematic fluid viscosity in m<sup>2</sup>/s  
 $q_m$  mass flow rate in kg/s  
 $\mu_1$  dynamic fluid viscosity in Pa.s

The Reynolds number ( $Re_D$ ) is a dimensionless parameter which expresses the relationship between the inertia and viscosity forces in a pipe. It qualifies the type of flow (laminar, transient or turbulent).

The below table provides the Reynolds number limitations and the recommended pipe diameter as per the standards. It is possible to extend these values by performing a calibration of the device concerned.

✓ recommended  
 ✓ adapted

		GAS		LIQUID				STEAM
		CLEAN	DIRTY	CLEAN	DIRTY	VISCOUS	AGRESSIVE	
ORIFICE PLATE	SHARP EDGE <sup>(1)</sup>	✓		✓			✓ <sup>(2)</sup>	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>
	CONICAL ENTRANCE <sup>(1)</sup>	✓				✓	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>
	QUARTER CIRCLE <sup>(1)</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>
	ECCENTRIC <sup>(1)</sup>		✓		✓		✓ <sup>(2)</sup>	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>
	SEGMENTAL <sup>(1)</sup>		✓		✓		✓ <sup>(2)</sup>	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>
	CONDITIONING <sup>(1)</sup>	SHORT STRAIGHT LENGTH	✓		✓			✓ <sup>(2)</sup>
	VENTURI TUBE	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
	NOZZLE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>	✓ <sup>(2)</sup>
	VENTURI-NOZZLE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	METER RUN <sup>(3)</sup>	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	PITOT TUBE	✓		✓		✓		
	CONE METER	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
	WEDGE METER		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

<sup>(1)</sup> All of these primary elements can be integrated in a compact flowmeter version - see page 25.  
<sup>(2)</sup> For a very corrosive / abrasive fluid, provide a resistant material and / or a coating protection on the edge of the restriction : stellite coating, ceramic projection.  
<sup>(3)</sup> The meter run is a complete solution including the primary element, gaskets, flanges, pressure taps, upstream and downstream straight lengths... see page 23.  
 Special meter run :  
 - Integrated orifice for diameters up to 40 mm - see page 22.  
 - High precision measurement tube with differential pressure transmitter and temperature sensor if needed for the most accurate measure of the market - see page 24.

STANDARDIZED VALUES ACCORDING ISO 5167 & ISO/TR 15377: - Reynolds number $Re_D$ - Internal diameter of the pipe $D$ , in mm								MAIN ADVANTAGE	PAGE
		5 000		25 ≤ D ≤ 1 000			10 <sup>8</sup>	Economical and reliable	10
80		25 ≤ D ≤ 500		6.10 <sup>4</sup>				Low flowrate and/or viscous fluid	11
	250	25 ≤ D ≤ 500		6.10 <sup>4</sup>				Viscous fluid	12
			42 000	100 ≤ D ≤ 1 000	8.4.10 <sup>5</sup>			Dirty, charged or two-phase fluid	13
		10 <sup>4</sup>		50 ≤ D ≤ 500	10 <sup>6</sup>		<sup>(4)</sup>	Dirty, charged or two-phase fluid	14
		5 000		25 ≤ D ≤ 1 000			10 <sup>8</sup> <sup>(5)</sup>	Short straight length (2D/2D)	15
				2.10 <sup>5</sup>	50 ≤ D ≤ 1 200	2.10 <sup>6</sup>		Short straight length and low permanent pressure drop	16 à 18
			10 <sup>4</sup>	50 ≤ D ≤ 630		10 <sup>7</sup>		Large flowrate	19 - 20
				1.5.10 <sup>5</sup>	65 ≤ D ≤ 500	2.10 <sup>6</sup>		Large flowrate and low permanent pressure drop	21
80				6 ≤ D ≤ 300			10 <sup>8</sup> <sup>(6)</sup>	High accuracy	22 à 24
		1.2.10 <sup>4</sup>		100 ≤ D ≤ 5 000			10 <sup>8</sup> <sup>(7)</sup>	Wide pipe and very low pressure drop	26
			8.10 <sup>4</sup>	50 ≤ D ≤ 500		1.2.10 <sup>7</sup>		Short straight length	27
		10 <sup>4</sup>		50 ≤ D ≤ 600		9.10 <sup>8</sup>		Fluid charged with impurities	28

<sup>(4)</sup> Standardized element according to DIN VDI/VDE 2614  
<sup>(5)</sup> Non standardized element, recommended  $Re_D$  and D ranges  
<sup>(6)</sup> From 6 to 40 mm, standardized element according to ASME MFC-14M  
<sup>(7)</sup> Standardized element according to ASME MFC-12M