

## KRWA Invests in Valve Exerciser and Vac

**K**RWA has purchased a Hurco Spin Doctor 800 Valve Exerciser and Vac. The unit is a 2011 model and has been used very little.

The lack of a valve exercise program in a water system is now being cited as “significant deficiency” in KDHE inspections.

KRWA plans to establish a nominal fee structure when a water system requests assistance in exercising valves.

The unit is powered by a 24-hp Honda engine.

The “Spin Doctor Valve Vac” also provides vacuum capacity or can function as a “pot-holer” to locate underground facilities. The unit has a 250-gallon tank.

Here is a link to a video that shows a newer but similar unit: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M\\_Umr3gSMOs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_Umr3gSMOs)

KRWA Tech Assistant Greg Metz has been a strong advocate for the Association to have this equipment available. KRWA has previously arranged for the use of a valve exerciser machine that is owned by the city of Washington.

“Aside from KDHE now making the lack of a valve exercise program a significant deficiency on sanitary inspections, the need for water systems to operate valves should be obvious to everyone,” Metz comments. “Many water system valves need to be located first; many need to be cleaned and then exercised.

We have had very good success in improving the operation of many valves. Some that would only open or close by 50 percent were brought up to 90 percent,” Metz says.

The photo at left shows operator Paul Tommer at the city of Frankfort using the valve exerciser. As a new operator, Greg Metz says that Paul will learn about the water system as a training effort also as the valves are operated.



Paul Tommer is a new operator at the city of Frankfort in Marshall County, Kansas. Paul is shown with the KRWA valve exerciser machine. Frankfort is among the numerous communities that have already requested help from KRWA in locating and exercising the valves with the machine.

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