

Press Release

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Innovative cartridge technology for self-closing fittings

A touch of luxury in Public toilets

The new generation of self-closing fittings, recently introduced on the market by Franke, shows at first sight two design aspects. Firstly there is a choice of models between the Classic designs with their clean flowing lines which is in contrast to the ergonomic and sloping design of the Style models. Secondly the values of this new generation of fittings features a newly developed self-closing functional cartridge.

Innovative technology

The piston-free and thus frictionless self-closing principle remains particularly wear-resistant and guarantees a long service life for the fittings. However a detailed look shows that Franke's innovative self-closing functional cartridge can no longer be compared with its predecessors. To improve functional reliability, this advanced development is now well-protected, embedded in the cartridge element. The functional part provides features for setting individual, temperature-controlled and accurate to the second timer-closing, and is thus well suited for application in public and commercial sanitary facilities. The new cartridge element provides the operator with functional reliability as well as effective maintenance and repair possibilities. A newly designed mixing function in the AQUAMIX-S and C self-closing

mixer valves provides an improved mixture quality during the entire operation of the tap

Optional anti-blocking system

Optionally, Franke's new generation of self-closing fittings can be provided with the innovative anti-blocking system (ABS) integrated in the functional cartridge. With the ABS Watersave function, an additional piston control stops water flow even when the fittings are intentionally pressed continuously. An upgrade cartridge is also available for subsequent conversion of existing fittings. Equipped with this ABS technology, fittings are always ready for service and at the same time prevent an unnecessary and uncontrolled waste of water.

The piston-free self-closing principle

In principle, self-closing fittings open by the push of a button and close automatically after hand-washing has been completed. The water control system functions on the principle of a dual-chamber technique that utilises the pressure provided by the water supply itself. Instead of employing a piston, Franke's piston-free self-closing functional element uses a low-wear rubber body (membrane) to separate the back-pressure chamber from the main pressure chamber. Two telescopic parts take over the function of the piston. Lightly pressing the fitting cap opens the adjacent auxiliary valve and depressurises the back-pressure chamber. The static pressure moves the valve body into the now depressurised back-pressure chamber. Here the control needle cleans the pressure balance channel. The main valve is opened and the water flow starts. After releasing the button, the push cap spring closes the auxiliary valve. When the main pressure chamber fills the back-pressure chamber via the pressure balance channel, the main valve closes. The time

needed for filling the back-pressure chamber corresponds to the fitting's flow time. By turning the control needle it is possible to set the flow time individually from 1 to 15 seconds.

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Franke's new generation of self-closing fittings implements a newly developed innovative self-closing functional cartridge, optionally with the integrated ABS Watersave function.

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