

A.Y. McDonald



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The A.Y. McDonald Way of Bringing Innovation to You

by Scott Knapp



For a company now 161 years young, continuing to find ways to ‘wow’ our customers is an ongoing process. We work hard every single day to make sure you are both satisfied with the products and services we provide while ensuring that we are continuing to bring you the value you expect from a vendor.

While in the business of manufacturing pumps and valves for use with natural gas and potable water, finding ways to innovate can definitely be a challenge. For instance, to this day, we make two types of valves; plug valves invented in 500 B.C. and ball valves, which were introduced in the 1950’s. Amazingly both products still have their place in today’s market.

When A. Y. McDonald decided to go down the path to dedicate resources to focus on innovation, the assumption was that the results would be all about new products. The reality of the innovation process, otherwise known as listening to our customers needs, is that innovation can come in many different forms. Through the result of numerous Innovation Summits held in recent years, the tremendous feedback received has now led to great product innovations as well as some very exciting new tools. This is why we are proud to introduce A.Y. McDonald University (AYU) and our online customer portal in 2017.

Education. With so much knowledge and experience that comes with the industry, you requested a way to organize and channel all this information through educational opportunities. From there, the idea of AYU was born. AYU is an e-learning website with courses that cover anything from industry wide topics to product specific knowledge.

Easy to use and packed full of functionality – this is how we want our customers to think of the upcoming portal. In a nutshell, the portal is the same great customer service you expect from us over the phone or in-person, only in a digital form. It should give more transparency and make it easier to do business.

With these new customer-driven projects on the horizon, as well as several new product introductions, we can’t wait for you to see what A.Y. McDonald has in store for 2017. While innovation may be bringing these ideas to life, none of it would have been possible without your input. Keep telling us what you want and we’ll continue to go above and beyond to surpass your expectations! After all, we live by our core values, “The Customer is the Boss,” and, “None of us is as smart as all of us!”

Have Your Ideas Heard

With A.Y. McDonald’s Innovation Center reaching its one year anniversary this April, the innovation team is just as focused on listening to our customers, identifying challenges, and delivering solutions that provide value as the day we first opened our doors – but we need your help along the way. Allow your ideas to be heard and brought to life by submitting them to our innovation team at innovations@aymcdonald.com. We assure you that all suggestions are funneled through our process and will be reviewed, ranked, and prioritized!



Come see us in person at an upcoming show

A.Y. McDonald may be coming to a town near you. Below is a list of upcoming conferences our experts will be attending from all over the country. Visit the trade shows section of our website to view a frequently updated list of events. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/Events.html>

New England Water Well Trade Show - Marlborough, MA	Mar. 10 - 11	Maryland Rural Water Assn. Expo - Ocean City, MD	May 1 - 4
ARWA Annual Conference	Mar. 12 - 14	AGA Operations Conference & Biennial Exhibition-Orlando, FL	May 2 - 5
SGA (Southern Gas Association)	Mar. 13 - 15	So. Atlantic Jubilee Expo - Myrtle Beach, SC	June 10 - 12
Watercon 2017-Springfield, IL	Mar. 20 - 23	AWWA ACE 17 - Philadelphia, PA	June 11 - 14
PA Rural Water Show - Bellefonte, PA	Mar. 28 - 31	MANGO (Missouri Association of Natural Gas Operators)	June 28 - 30
Texas Water Expo - Austin, TX	April 10 - 13	MEA (Midwest Energy Association) Gas Operations Technical & Leadership Summit	Aug. 8 - 10
Rural Water Assn. Tech Conf. (RWAA) - Phoenix, AZ	April 11 - 13		



Industry News

Beyond Smart Meters: Utilities in a Connected Future

Smart meters are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the technology coming to utilities and municipalities across the country. Learn how to become a smart utility and what that means for the industry. http://www.elp.com/articles/powergrid_international/print/volume-22/issue-1/features/beyond-smart-meters-utilities-in-a-connected-future.html

New Products



Telescoping Curb Box

Do more with less. A.Y. McDonald's new telescoping curb box allows a 36" adjustability range, leading to a decrease in inventory, easy installation, and flexibility in the field. This innovative curb box is also adaptable as it comes with a small arch and 1 1/2" or 2" NPT threads for 3/4" - 2" Minneapolis style curb stop threads. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/TelescopingCurbBox.html>

Adjustable Height Meter Setter

A.Y. McDonald has yet another new product to add to our water works line: the adjustable height meter setter. Available for 5/8", 5/8" x 3/4", or 3/4" water meters, it also comes with standard inlet/outlet valves and meter nut options. Height can be field adjusted from 9" to 12" on one model and 18" to 30" on another model. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/No-lead-Adjustable-Setter.html>



Pro Meter Box – 79 Series

Keep any 1 1/2" and 2" oval flanged water meter protected with the new pro meter box – 79 series from A.Y. McDonald. Made of cast iron and for bury depths of approximately 13", this meter box provides all the safety and security you could ask for. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/ProMeterBox.html>

1 1/2" & 2" Straight Single and Dual Check Valves

Get the most out of A.Y. McDonald's new 1 1/2" and 2" single and dual check valves, which provide top access for removal and replacement of check cartridges on 1 1/2" or 2" meter settings. These valves are typically placed on the outlet side of an oval flanged meter to incorporate backflow protection into 1 1/2" and 2" service lines. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/no-lead-straight-and-dual-check-valves.html>



Blog

Taking the Guessing Game Out of Water Meter Sizes



When it comes to recording water usage within a structure, there are multiple water meter size options available – and they're not always labeled as so. Knowing this, regular maintenance to meter change-out jobs can easily become a guessing game for municipalities if they don't know what to look for. Thankfully, we do. Visit <http://myaym.com/taking-the-guessing-game-out-of-water-meter-sizes/> to find out which water meter you're dealing with, based off of its unique features.



Industry News

UNICEF Publishes a Guidance Note on Professional Water Well Drilling

UNICEF is the main agency in charge of the creation and support of the Sustainable Development Goals drinking water target in rural and peri-urban areas. Read all about the newly approved UNICEF published document that provides practical guidance on professional water well drilling. <https://www.engineeringforchange.org/unicef-publishes-a-guidance-note-on-professional-water-well-drilling/>

Small Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems Receive Funding from EPA

The EPA has selected four grantees to receive more than \$12 million in funds for improving small drinking and wastewater systems. Find out how the money is being distributed amongst organizations. <https://eponline.com/articles/2017/01/17/small-drinking-water-and-wastewater-systems-receive-funding-from-epa.aspx>

New Products



Voltage Alarm Light

DuraMAC™ Booster Pump Voltage Alarm Light

A.Y. McDonald has advanced the technology of our DuraMAC™ residential and light commercial booster pumps to monitor the voltage supplied to the booster pump. By updating the light indicator to reflect this change, we look forward to how much this will enhance the customer experience and the product itself. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/Duramac-booster-pumps-001.html>

Upcoming Products

8300 E-Series Jet Pump

Available later this spring, A.Y. McDonald is happy to announce the addition of the e-series jet pump to our already existing line of high quality jet pumps. With A.Y. McDonald's longstanding history and experience in the pump industry, you can rest assured in this product's ability to perform, while also meeting and even exceeding your expectations. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/Jet-pumps.html>



Blog



How Pumps Provide Food to Your Table

Without water, there would be no food. And without pumps, the process of food production wouldn't be as efficient as it is today. Whether a restaurant is looking to minimize costs in the production process or in need of water transference from point A to point B, pumps are the answer. Read about real-life examples of how pumps save the food and drink industry every day by visiting <http://myaym.com/how-pumps-provide-food-to-your-table/>.



Industry News

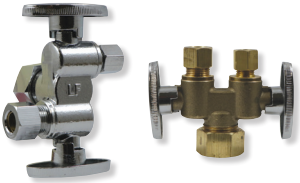
The Common Ground Between Utility Locating and Plumbing

As a plumber, you work on water, gas, and sewer service lines. This means, sooner or later, you'll have to dig. Read about the most current utility locating methods and the consequences of not performing the job correctly. http://www.plumbermag.com/how-to-articles/subsite_locating_electronics/know_whats_below

New Products

Stainless Steel Supply Hoses

As a new addition to our plumbing line, A.Y. McDonald's new stainless steel supply hoses are the perfect choice for connecting the faucet, toilet, or appliance to the supply stop. These quality braided, stainless steel, water flex lines are not only made out of a durable material but they also contain nylon-reinforced vinyl tubing on the inside. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/stainlesssteelhoses.1.html>



Dual Handle - Dual Outlet Supply Stops

A.Y. McDonald is now offering dual handle - dual outlet chrome plated and brass finish supply stops with a 5/8" compression inlet. These dual handle - dual outlet supply stops are a great addition to our extensive line of chrome supply stops. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/No-lead-quarter-turn-supply-stops.html>

No-Lead Copper Push-Fittings

A.Y. McDonald has expanded our copper push fittings selection by adding sizes up to 2" on our couplings, elbows, male and female adapters, end caps, reducing tees, tees, and release tools. All of our push-fit fittings are certified to NSF/ANSI 61-G (AB 193), NSF/ANS-14 for ASTM F877, CSA B137.5, ASSE 1061, IGC 188 and U.P. Code. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/No-lead-copper-push-fittings.html>



Blog



Fit to Break Tradition

A big portion of plumbing is the act of cutting, bending, and connecting pipe. The traditional methods of pipe joining generally include brazing, soldering, and welding. But traditions were meant to be broken. Read up on how press fit fittings compare to soldering when you visit <http://myaym.com/fit-to-break-tradition/>.

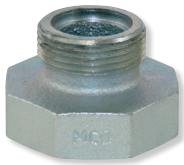


Industry News

Canadian Utility Goes Real Time with Mobile GIS

Utilities are always looking for ways to improve the gas services they provide. Recently, a Canadian utility achieved this and more by transforming their process from paper to mobile, thanks to the Workforce for ArcGIS app. <http://www.esri.com/esri-news/arcnews/winter17/articles/canadian-utility-goes-real-time-with-mobile-gis>

Featured Products



Meter Adapters

When standardizing to a specific meter connection size, new construction is easy as it allows freedom of installing the meter with a new meter set that has correct meter connection size. However, it's a whole different story when working with existing meter sets in your system.

If you are converting meter sizes within your system, consider A.Y. McDonald's gas meter adapters for a cost effective approach. This product option comes with multiple sizes, a flat gasket seal, and a zinc plated finish for corrosion protection. Look to A.Y. McDonald if you want to standardize your meter connection sizes. <http://www.aymcdonald.com/en-US/Meter-adapters.html>

Featured Video

Bubble Point Pressure Test

Pounds per square inch (PSI) and inches of water column are common terms in the high pressure gas industry. By understanding where both of these measurements came from and why, you can better grasp how natural gas distribution products provide the right amount of this resource to a structure. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=91t3kx7zc&t=19s>

Blog

Redefining the 'Natural' in 'Natural Gas'

From waste to natural gas, more and more facilities are finding the loophole to energy efficiency as of recent years. Thanks to machines called 'digesters', we are able to transform organic materials such as plants or animal wastes into biogas. Whether it's from expired yogurt or hog manure, read up on a few examples of how biogas works, along with how it compares to natural gas: <http://myaym.com/redefining-the-natural-in-natural-gas/>

