

URINAL FLUSHING & WATER SAVING

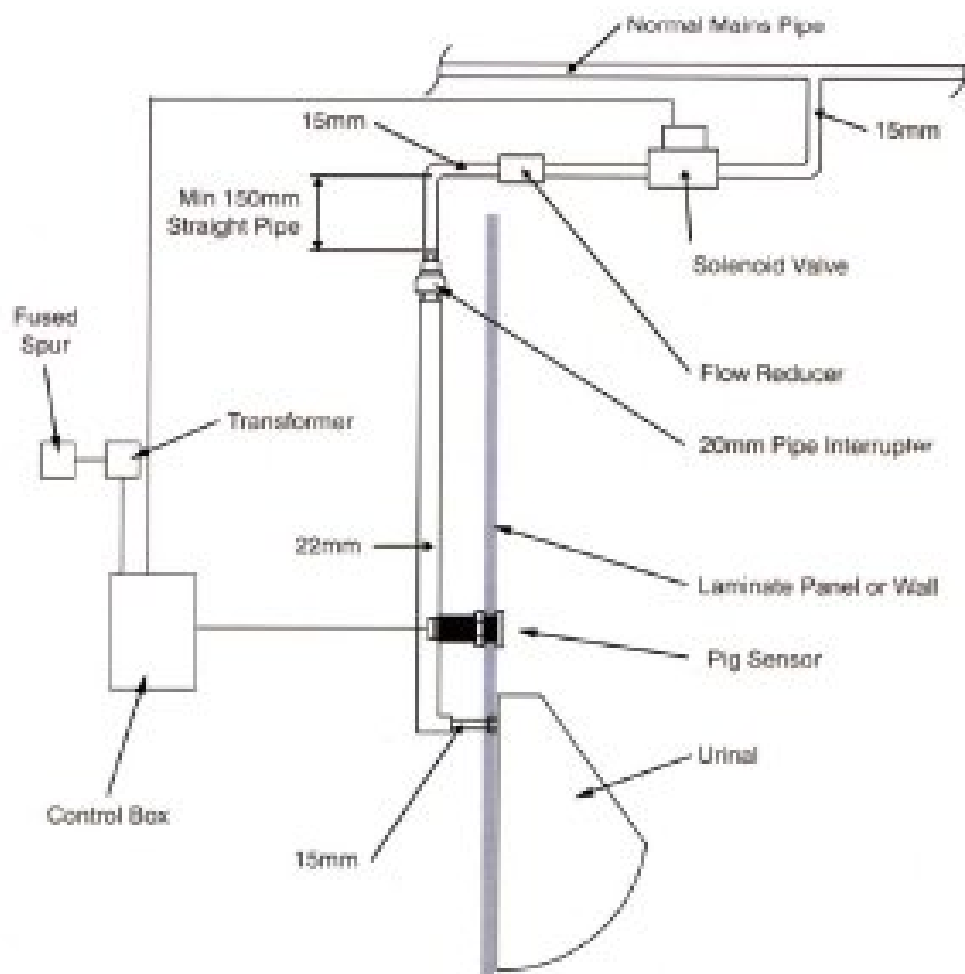
The traditional type of urinal flushing is via a unit called a Cisterniser, or a similar equivalent. This equipment is fairly cheap and easy to install, and requires no electrical supply.

The Cisterniser works by detecting a drop in water pressure within the pipework it is connected to – as when someone washes their hands. When this water pressure drop is detected it will open its internal valve for a preset amount of time, which will allow a certain amount of water in to the urinal cistern.

After a certain number valve openings the cistern will eventually reach its maximum level when it automatically opens the flushing mechanism and all the urinals are flushed. With the cistern empty the whole process starts again.

This system has a disadvantage in designs where there are multiple urinals to flush because it automatically flushes all the urinals, whether they need flushing or not! This obviously uses a lot more water than is needed.

To get around this problem we can now install individual urinal flushing mechanisms. The user simply moves away from a PIR sensor fitted just above the urinal, or an infra-red swipe sensor also fitted next to the urinal. This flushing mechanism conforms to the Water Regulations and can be adjusted to be open for short or long periods of time. This can be a useful tool for shallow urinals and/or slow drainage problems as the water volume being flushed can be adjusted down to suit.



Right: a typical installation by Dart Valley Systems.

This type of system has the disadvantage of being more expensive to install and requires a small electrical supply, but these costs can be offset against the cost of using less water. And in some areas these costs can be recouped within 12 months.

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