

# **Installation, Maintenance, and Repair of Surface Safety Valves and Underwater Safety Valves Offshore**

API STANDARD 6AV2  
FIRST EDITION, MARCH 2014

ERRATA 1, AUGUST, 2014



AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE

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This standard is the result of the revisions of API 14H, *Recommended Practice for Installation, Maintenance and Repair of Surface Safety Valves and Underwater Safety Valves Offshore*, 5th Edition. The document was revised with additional requirements and re-classified as a “standard.” Even though this document (API 6AV2) is the First Edition, it is a revision of and supersedes API 14H, 5th Edition, and is the next in the evolution of the document.

This standard shall become effective on the date printed on the cover.

Suggested revisions are invited and should be submitted to the Standards Department, API, 1220 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005, [standards@api.org](mailto:standards@api.org).



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# Installation, Maintenance, and Repair of Surface Safety Valves and Underwater Safety Valves Offshore

## 1 Scope

This standard provides requirements for installing and maintaining surface safety valves (SSV) and underwater safety valves (USV). Included are requirements for receiving inspection, installation and maintenance, field and off-site repair, testing procedures with acceptance criteria, failure reporting, and documentation. Power and control systems for SSVs/USVs are not included. This document is applicable to SSVs/USVs used or intended to be used as part of a safety system, as defined by documents such as API 14C.

NOTE SSV/USV system architecture and power/control systems for SSVs/USVs are addressed in safety system documents such as API 14C.

This standard is the revision of and supersedes API 14H, Fifth Edition.

## 2 Normative References

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

API Specification 6A, *Specification for Wellhead and Christmas Tree Equipment*

API Recommended Practice 14C, *Analysis, Design, Installation, and Testing of Basic Surface Safety Systems for Offshore Production Platforms*

API Recommended Practice 17A/ISO 13628-1:2005, *Design and Operation of Subsea Production Systems—General Requirements and Recommendations*

API Specification 17D, *Design and Operation of Subsea Production Systems—Subsea Wellhead and Tree Equipment*

## 3 Terms, Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

### 3.1 Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this standard, the following terms and definitions apply.

#### 3.1.1

##### **choked flow**

Flow condition in which the fluid flow velocity and mass-flow rate are insensitive to the pressure differential across the flow restriction and occurs when the pressure drop across the flow restriction is higher than the critical pressure differential.

#### 3.1.2

##### **christmas tree**

Assembly of equipment, including tubing-head adapters, valves, tees, crosses, top connectors, and chokes attached to the uppermost connection of the tubing head, used to control well production (as defined in API 6A and API 17D).