



Standard Operating Procedure Installation and Extraction of the Vapor Pin®

Updated March 16, 2018

Scope:

This standard operating procedure describes the installation and extraction of the VAPOR PIN® for use in sub-slab soil-gas sampling.

Purpose:

The purpose of this procedure is to assure good quality control in field operations and uniformity between field personnel in the use of the VAPOR PIN® for the collection of sub-slab soil-gas samples or pressure readings.

Equipment Needed:

- Assembled VAPOR PIN® [VAPOR PIN® and silicone sleeve(Figure 1)]; Because of sharp edges, gloves are recommended for sleeve installation;
- Hammer drill;
- 5/8-inch (16mm) diameter hammer bit (hole must be 5/8-inch (16mm) diameter to ensure seal. It is recommended that you use the drill guide). (Hilti™ TE-YX 5/8" x 22" (400 mm) #00206514 or equivalent);
- 1½-inch (38mm) diameter hammer bit (Hilti™ TE-YX 1½" x 23" #00293032 or equivalent) for flush mount applications;
- ¾-inch (19mm) diameter bottle brush;
- Wet/Dry vacuum with HEPA filter (optional);
- VAPOR PIN® installation/extraction tool;
- Dead blow hammer;
- VAPOR PIN® flush mount cover, if desired;
- VAPOR PIN® drilling guide, if desired;

- VAPOR PIN® protective cap; and
- VOC-free hole patching material (hydraulic cement) and putty knife or trowel for repairing the hole following the extraction of the VAPOR PIN®.



Figure 1. Assembled VAPOR PIN®

Installation Procedure:

- 1) Check for buried obstacles (pipes, electrical lines, etc.) prior to proceeding.
- 2) Set up wet/dry vacuum to collect drill cuttings.
- 3) If a flush mount installation is required, drill a 1½-inch (38mm) diameter hole at least 1¾-inches (45mm) into the slab. Use of a VAPOR PIN® drilling guide is recommended.
- 4) Drill a 5/8-inch (16mm) diameter hole through the slab and approximately 1-inch (25mm) into the underlying soil to form a void. Hole must be 5/8-inch (16mm) in diameter to ensure seal. It is recommended that you use the drill guide.

- 5) Remove the drill bit, brush the hole with the bottle brush, and remove the loose cuttings with the vacuum.
- 6) Place the lower end of VAPOR PIN® assembly into the drilled hole. Place the small hole located in the handle of the installation/extraction tool over the vapor pin to protect the barb fitting, and tap the vapor pin into place using a dead blow hammer (Figure 2). Make sure the installation/extraction tool is aligned parallel to the vapor pin to avoid damaging the barb fitting.



Figure 2. Installing the VAPOR PIN®

During installation, the silicone sleeve will form a slight bulge between the slab and the VAPOR PIN® shoulder. Place the protective cap on VAPOR PIN® to prevent vapor loss prior to sampling (Figure 3).



Figure 3. Installed VAPOR PIN®

- 7) For flush mount installations, cover the vapor pin with a flush mount cover, using either the plastic cover or the optional stainless-steel Secure Cover (Figure 4).



Figure 4. Secure Cover Installed

- 8) Allow 20 minutes or more (consult applicable guidance for your situation) for the sub-slab soil-gas conditions to re-equilibrate prior to sampling.
- 9) Remove protective cap and connect sample tubing to the barb fitting of the VAPOR PIN®. This connection can be made using a short piece of Tygon™ tubing to join the VAPOR PIN® with the

Nylaflow tubing (Figure 5). Put the Nylaflow tubing as close to the VAPOR PIN® as possible to minimize contact between soil gas and Tygon™ tubing.



Figure 5. VAPOR PIN® sample connection

10) Conduct leak tests in accordance with applicable guidance. If the method of leak testing is not specified, an alternative can be the use of a water dam and vacuum pump, as described in SOP Leak Testing the VAPOR PIN® via Mechanical Means (Figure 6). For flush-mount installations, distilled water can be poured directly into the 1 1/2 inch (38mm) hole.



Figure 6. Water dam used for leak detection

11) Collect sub-slab soil gas sample or pressure reading. When finished, replace

the protective cap and flush mount cover until the next event. If the sampling is complete, extract the VAPOR PIN®.

Extraction Procedure:

1) Remove the protective cap, and thread the installation/extraction tool onto the barrel of the VAPOR PIN® (Figure 7). Turn the tool clockwise continuously, don't stop turning, the VAPOR PIN® will feed into the bottom of the installation/extraction tool and will extract from the hole like a wine cork, DO NOT PULL.

2) Fill the void with hydraulic cement and smooth with a trowel or putty knife.



Figure 7. Removing the VAPOR PIN®

- Prior to reuse, remove the silicone sleeve and protective cap and discard. Decontaminate the VAPOR PIN® in a hot water and Alconox® wash, then heat in an oven to a temperature of 265° F (130° C) for 15 to 30 minutes. For both steps, STAINLESS – 1/2 hour, BRASS 8 minutes