

CHANGE TYPE. Modification

CHANGE SUMMARY. This revision correctly identifies that the trap seal is composed of a liquid rather than referencing water only.

2009 CODE: CHAPTER 2, DEFINITIONS

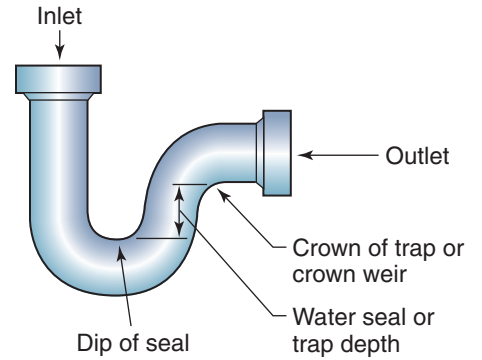
DEPTH OF WATER TRAP SEAL. The depth of water liquid that would have to be removed from a full trap before air could pass through the trap.

CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE. At first glance this code change appears to be minor in nature; however, this modification is necessary to keep up with the ever-changing plumbing profession by improving the language concerning trap seals. Technically speaking, when fixtures are used, the trap seal could contain waste liquids or materials. An example would be food liquids and scraps from a sink, or urine from a urinal. This code change focused on clarification and new technology to recognize that the code-required trap seal protects the habitable space from the entrance of sewer gas.

The code change reason stated the term “depth of water” is not used in the code. There is a clear definition of trap and trap seal in the code, however. The purpose of the trap seal is now clarified, and with this modification, it now addresses that it is not only composed of water. The definition provides a better understanding that incorporates the new technology used in waterless urinal traps, which are not composed of water. The 2006 International Plumbing Code recognized waterless urinals through the addition of standards in Chapter 4 that contained performance criteria and a reduction in the drainage fixture units for non-water-supplied urinals to 0.5 dfu’s in Chapter 7.

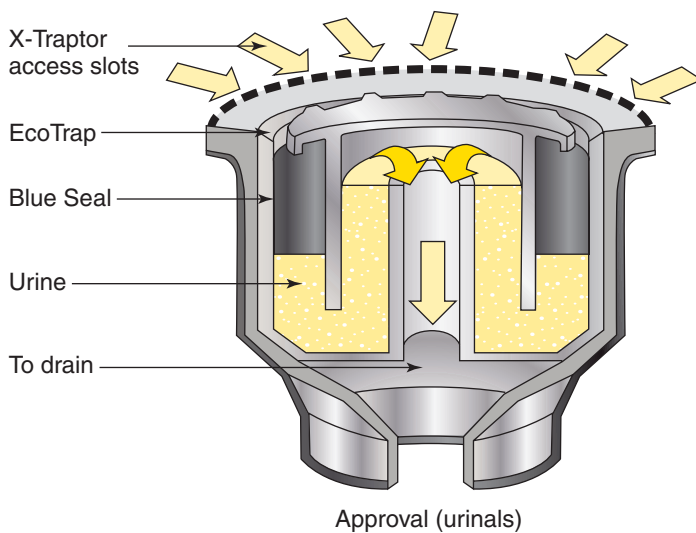
Chapter 2

Depth of Water Seal (Definition)



Depth of Trap Seal

This figure illustrates a conventional trap seal used in the plumbing industry for many years.



Cross Section of the Patented Vertical EcoTrap

This is a cross section of a patented vertical EcoTrap® used in a waterless urinal.