



## Standard Operating Procedure Installation and Extraction of the Vapor Pin™

Updated April 3, 2015

### 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.

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- 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). Continue turning the tool clockwise to pull the Vapor Pin™ from the hole into the installation/extraction tool.
- 2) Fill the void with hydraulic cement and smooth with a trowel or putty knife.



Figure 7. Removing the Vapor Pin™.

- 3) 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.

The Vapor Pin™ is designed to be used repeatedly, however, replacement parts and supplies will be required periodically. These parts are available on-line at [VaporPin.CoxColvin.com](http://VaporPin.CoxColvin.com).

