

Case Study

Symmons® Shower Valves

Seventy Years of Pressure-Balanced Perfection

Symmons valves installed in The Drake® in 1954 continue the hotel's historic tradition

Known worldwide simply as The Drake, this famed hotel sits atop Chicago's Magnificent Mile, overlooking Lake Michigan. Since its construction in 1920, The Drake has attracted upscale guests, ranging from royals and dignitaries to mobsters and pop culture celebrities.

Every facet of The Drake's architecture reflects its rich history, including the Symmons SafetyMix® shower valves in each guest room, family room, and suite.



CHALLENGE

A safe, consistent shower experience for each guest that visits The Drake Hotel. The shower systems must be durable, and they must be easy to maintain, rebuild, and refresh.



SOLUTION

In 1954, engineers for The Drake determined that the innovative pressure-balancing technology and quality construction of Symmons SafetyMix shower valves would protect their guests from inconsistent shower temperatures and potential scalding.



RESULT

Over the span of seven decades, the valves have performed flawlessly. Symmons has also consistently provided The Drake with new shower trim components to keep their bath spaces updated, without disrupting the charming architecture of this historic hotel.

"For almost a century, our hotel has boasted its prominence within Chicago's history, becoming known as high-society's first choice in opulence and luxury."

General Manager - The Drake Hotel

Highlights

- ★ Made right in the USA, Symmons pressure-balancing shower valves deliver consistent temperatures and prevent scalding
- ★ Update shower trim designs and finishes easily without system shutdowns or construction work
- ★ Symmons continues to offer new legacy parts, compatible trims, and custom trim options for its shower valve portfolio

Conclusion

For their 2017 renovation, The Drake partnered with Symmons Design Studio™ to produce a new custom-designed shower trim, to align with the hotel's classic traditional style. This latest project was the 13th re-trim of the SafetyMix valves since their initial installation.

With their brass, bronze, and stainless-steel construction, there's no reason why those SafetyMix valves shouldn't last another 70-plus years. They're another example of how *We Make Things Right™*.



[SYMMONS.COM/VALVES](https://www.symmons.com/valves)

Better materials make for better valves. We use Semi-Red Brass for a lower zinc content to resist dezincification, making for a longer-lasting product.



SYMMONS®

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