

**33.56** 100 *gpm* of water flows through a nominal 4 inch steel pipe then hits a tee splitting into a 3 inch pipe and a 2-1/2 inch steel pipe. The velocity through the 2-1/2 inch pipe is 2.5 *fps*. What is the velocity through the 3 inch pipe?

- A.  $2.7 \frac{ft}{s}$
- B.  $3.5 \frac{ft}{s}$
- C.  $4.5 \frac{ft}{s}$
- D.  $6.9 \frac{ft}{s}$

Consider creating a table to organize the information as it is compiled during the solution process. Label the pipes 1, 2, and 3 for ease of reference. Use the [Schedule 40 Steel Pipe](#) table to look up the internal area for each pipe size.

	$D_{nominal}$ [in]	$A$ [ $in^2$ ]	$v$ [ $\frac{ft}{s}$ ]	$Q$ [ $\frac{ft^3}{s}$ ]	$Q$ [ <i>gpm</i> ]
1	4				100
2	$2\frac{1}{2}$	4.785	2.5	$Q_2$ [ $\frac{ft^3}{s}$ ]	$Q_2$ [ <i>gpm</i> ]
3	3	7.389	$v_3$	$Q_3$ [ $\frac{ft^3}{s}$ ]	$Q_3$ [ <i>gpm</i> ]

Use the equation  $Q = vA$  to solve for  $Q_2$ . To quickly convert to *gpm* from  $\frac{ft^3}{s}$ , multiply by  $448.8 \frac{gpm}{\frac{ft^3}{s}}$ .

$$Q_2 = \left(2.5 \frac{ft}{s}\right) (4.785 in^2) \left(\frac{1 ft^2}{144 in^2}\right) = 0.083 \frac{ft^3}{s} \left(448.8 \frac{gpm}{\frac{ft^3}{s}}\right) = 37.3 gpm$$

Subtract  $Q_2$  from  $Q_1$  to find the volume flow rate through the 3in pipe,  $Q_3$ . Convert to  $\frac{ft^3}{s}$ .

$$Q_3 = Q_1 - Q_2 = 100 gpm - 37.3 gpm = 62.7 gpm \left(\frac{1 \frac{ft^3}{s}}{448.8 gpm}\right) = 0.14 \frac{ft^3}{s}$$

Solve for the velocity,  $v_3$ .

$$v_3 = \frac{Q_3}{A_3} = \frac{0.14 \frac{ft^3}{s}}{(7.389 in^2) \left(\frac{1 ft^2}{144 in^2}\right)} = 2.7 \frac{ft}{s}$$

**Answer A**