

Installation Instructions: Braided Metal Connectors

Piping should be lined up accurately before installing the connector. Excessive angular or axial misalignment, and/or torque, will cause shearing stresses and will severely limit the life of the connector. The system must be piped to eliminate excessive misalignment.

When installing flanged connectors, don't rotate or torque the connector to match the bolt holes in the mating flanges. Piping and flanges should be installed straight and true. The bolt holes should line up and flange bolts should not be used to correct flange alignment problems. Be sure the face to face opening between the flanges is the proper dimension for the connector and that mating flanges are parallel. Tighten the flange bolts evenly using the criss-cross method.

If the connector has grooved ends, be sure the mating pipe ends are clean and true. Check the gasket and the coupling to be sure they meet the specifications for the service required, lube the gasket and install the gasket and coupling according to the manufacturer's instructions. (Note: gasket and coupling are furnished by others.)

When installing threaded connectors, don't impose torque as you are mating up to piping. Use two wrenches with one of them backing up. Don't put a wrench on the band or the ferrule or the braid. Use the wrench on the end fitting.

Don't let the connector support any weight other than its own. The system piping must be properly supported and hung. Since the connector is flexible, any extra weight will stress it. Don't bend the connector near the end fittings. Don't stretch, compress, or force the connector. Avoid installing the connector with excess offset, short bend radii, or "S" bends.

When used to dampen vibration, the connector must be mounted close to the equipment, and the piping must be securely anchored next to the connector at the end opposite to the source of vibration. The connector will be most effective installed at right angles to the movement of the piping, or parallel to the shaft of the vibrating equipment. For severe vibration applications it is advisable to double the standard connector length.

When used to absorb thermal expansion and contraction movement in a piping system, adjacent piping must be properly guided and anchored. Important! Be sure to refer to the Anchoring and Guiding Instructions. Any piping motion must be perpendicular to the connector centerline axis. These connectors are not designed for axial motion. They should not be allowed to compress or extend.

Never install a connector where its temperature or pressure ratings could be exceeded. Be sure you know the ratings for the connector and for the system.