

Installation Instructions: Rubber Connectors

Store these connectors in a cool, dry, place; face down on a pallet or wooden skid. Don't let them sit vertically on the edges of the flanges. Don't store heavy items on top of them. Be careful not to damage them when lifting or while fitting them up.

Piping should be lined up accurately before installation. Misalignment reduces connector movements and can severely reduce their service life. Use special care during installation to avoid rolling the rubber leading edge of the joint out of its flange groove.

Be sure the face to face opening between the mating flanges is correct. Install the flange bolts so the bolt head is against the connector flange and tighten the bolts using the criss-cross method until leak tight. Retighten the bolts after start up, and periodically as required. Don't let flange bolts protrude where they could damage the connector when they flex. Over-torque of the flange bolts can deform the connector and result in failure.

The connectors should be mounted close to the equipment. When using the connectors to absorb thermal motion (expansion - contraction) in a piping system, piping must be properly guided and anchored. If the piping is not anchored, if the equipment is spring mounted, or if they are specified, control units must be installed on the connectors to prevent excessive extension due to pressure thrust and/or piping movement:

To install Thermo Tech Inc "No Hassle" control units, simply install the two limit bolts through the lugs along with the washers - rubber side against the flange lug; then turn the nuts onto the bolts to the specified setting.

To install the add-on type of control units, bolt the gusset plates to the outside of the mating flanges, being sure all the flange bolt heads are on the inside of the connector flanges. Install the control rods, nuts and washers on the gusset plates and snug them up hand tight.

If double nuts are used on the control rods, tighten them against each other so they won't vibrate loose. Don't use the control rods for a piping system anchor or for piping supports or hanger rods. If the system design requires extension of the joint, leave the specified space (but, no more) between the washers and the nut surface.

Never exceed the pressure, temperature and movement ratings or limitations of the connectors or the system. Be sure you know those ratings. Anchors, supports, guides, control units, and piping must be properly installed so the connectors are never allowed to over compress or hyper extend.

Don't weld near the connectors without protecting them from heat and weld splatter. Don't bolt the connectors directly to a component with a resilient face or to a butterfly valve or wafer check, unless you install a spacer such as an additional plate flange between the connector and the component to prevent any damage to the rubber flange bead of the connector. If you install the connectors to a flange with a raised face, you should install a composition or metallic ring gasket against the mating flange to prevent damage to the rubber flange bead of the connector.

Don't insulate the connectors. Be sure to protect them from sunlight, ultraviolet rays and ozone. Don't install the connectors underground, submerged, or in areas where they can't be inspected. These connectors are designed for HVAC systems. Never install them to carry hazardous, dangerous or toxic substances.