

FAQ

STRAND-LOCK Couplings for Fume Exhaust Duct

How long do the coupling joints take to cure, and how long before we can start up the system after sealing?

Same as a butt joint, 40-60 minutes depending on temperature. Normally 24 hours unless heat cured.

Can I field pressure test a complete system that used couplings?

Yes, but if using air pressure don't exceed 6-12" W.C. as air compresses and failures can be explosive. **Test with water if more than 12" of W.C. is desired.** Make sure any temporary caps are well secured and sealed.

Why are the couplings more expensive than butt joints?

In the coupling itself, the internal flange stop adds an element of more machine time, and the epoxies are 2x-5x more expensive than the straight resin used in a butt joint.

How do I save 60-75% labor using couplings?

It eliminates the need for grinding both duct ends, and the time to cut and wet-out the glass wraps. Also does not require a large area to wet out multiple layers of glass rolls.

Is the coupling joint as strong as the duct and a butt joint?

Yes, it is stronger than the duct and made the same way. The overlaps inside the coupling with the epoxy make the joint approx. 3x thicker than the duct.

Why would I pay the extra money for the VOC free epoxy?

If an install is indoors or in a confined space, the VOC free epoxy can be used without any respirator gear and will not bother the other trades working in the area.

Is there enough play in the coupling to offset an install issue that caused a run to be off by a couple degrees?

Yes, each coupling can be used to offset approx. 1-2 degrees if you make sure the epoxy bead is still solid around the circumference of the seam.

How corrosion resistant is the coupling?

The coupling is as corrosion resistant as the duct and even has a higher % of resin at the seam.

If I cut and dry fit the entire system to length, is there an easy way when going back and gluing the couplings to keep moving down the run and avoid having the couplings move when both ends are wet?

Yes, if you put one end of a coupling on each piece of duct or manifold in the system and skip the other side of the couplings until you get to the end of the run. By the time you finish at the other end, you will have cured joints and now can fit the other side of the system together with only one joint to cure at each coupling.

Can the couplings be installed while the duct is in hangers or on supports?

Yes, that is probably the easiest way to assemble the duct. Keep the straps loose so you can move the duct until the joint is cured.

Can the couplings be inspected for leaks upon completion like a butt joint?

Yes, it is easier to inspect than a butt joint because they will not sag and be subject to pin holing. You can see very easily if the bead of epoxy putty is continuous and unbroken around the edge of the coupling. You only have to worry about the 2 seams, and not the entire joint.