

## **Installation Instructions: Silicone Lined Connector / Expansion Joints**

Piping should be lined up accurately before installing the connector. Angular, lateral, and axial misalignment, and / or torque, will cause shearing stresses, so the system must be piped to eliminate excessive misalignment at the connector. Don't torque the connector to match bolt holes in the mating flanges. Piping and flanges should be installed straight and true so that the bolt holes are properly lined up. Flange bolts should not be used to correct system piping alignment problems.

Check to be sure that the face to face opening between the mating flanges on the piping is the proper dimension for the connector and that the flanges are parallel. It is important that the connector fit correctly between the mating flanges. Tighten up the flange bolts evenly using the criss-cross method. Protect the integral flange gasket by avoiding excessive force when tightening the flange bolts. Don't let the connector support any weight, except its own. System piping must be properly supported and hung. Since the connector is flexible, extra weight will stress it.

Be sure to install the control rods. They can be pulled up snug (not tight) to the flange face. If the system design requires extension of the joint, leave the specified space (but, no more) between the flange and the nut surface. Do not use the control rods for a piping system anchor or for piping hanger rods. The control rods are important. They restrain the connector from hyper-extending due to excessive system pressure or movement. If double nuts are used on the control rods, tighten them against each other so they won't vibrate loose.

Mount the connector close to the pump or equipment. If there is system vibration, the piping must be anchored immediately following the connector. When the connector is used to absorb rated thermal expansion or contraction in a piping system, the adjacent piping must be properly anchored and guided. Do not install the connectors right next to a wafer check, or butterfly valve unless you install an additional flat face plate flange between the connector and the valve to protect the resilient sealing surfaces and to prevent the valve disc from damaging or scoring the inner silicone lining of the connector.

This quality connector is lined with a 3-A / FDA compliant, *SILOFLEX®* silicone elastomer. Do not install it for continuous steam service. If you clean the connector for sanitary service, rinse thoroughly with clear water after any cleaning. Use approved mild caustic solutions or other suitable commercial cleaners. Be very sure the cleaning solutions and also the liquid medium flowing in the piping system are compatible with the silicone elastomer lining and integral gasket of the connector. Intermittent, open end steam may also be used for cleaning.

Never install a connector where its temperature or pressure ratings could be exceeded. Be sure you know the ratings of the connector and of the system. Do not use this connector to carry hazardous, dangerous, or toxic substances.

This is the finest quality equipment connector available. Install it with quality piping practices. This unique product is manufactured with pride in the U.S.A.