

# Preventing Pipeline Corrosion: Monolithic Isolation Joints & Flange Isolation Kits

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12th October 2022

# **Areas of Discussion**

- Selection Criteria How do you decide what will work best?
- The benefits of using an FIK vs MIJ and vice-versa
- Current trends in isolation
- Recommended Pre and Post installation practices for MIJ and FIK





# Poll

Why do you typically use electrical Isolation products in your pipelines?

- a. Prevent Galvanic Corrosion
- b. Prevent Crevice Corrosion
- c. Seal mismatched flanges (RTJ RF)
- d. Reduce Flange Stress
- e. Provide Isolation for cathodic protection
- F. I don't know

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## Selection Criteria – How do you decide what will work best?







# TAMPS

- Temperature
- Application
- Media
- Pressure
- Size



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# The benefits of using an FIK vs MIJ

FIK Benefits:

- Lower cost Average 5X-10X less
- Easily accessible Bolted connection
- Short lead-time 20X 40X quicker
- Comfort level Widely accepted/used
- Wide range of applications- Many variations
- Wide size range  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 144" is common
- Higher temp isolation 392F/500F/770F are common ratings
- Fire safe

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# The downside of using an FIK vs MIJ

### **FIK Limitations:**

- Installation issues Number one problem
- Short path isolation Increasing in number
- Many parts 24"/600# has 193 pieces
- Shouldn't be buried Nuts and bolts corrode
- Many variables Easy to install wrong product



# The benefits of using an MIJ vs FIK

#### **MIJ Benefits:**



- Long path isolation coated IDs seal the internal components (consider high pressure "breach of coating")
- 20-year design life
- Easy installation welders who weld line pipe are qualified to do this welding, so no special labor is needed
- Ideal for buried apps
- A place to mount other equipment (SSDs, CP test nodes)
- One-piece visible design instead of hundreds of pieces
- Higher de-electric strength

# The downside of using an MIJ vs FIK

### **MIJ Limitations:**

- Higher upfront cost
- Not easily accessible
- Narrow range of applications
- Long lead-time
- Limited size range
- Internal parts are hidden





# Poll

Q2 . Within in your pipeline what is the split of MIJ and FIK usage?

- A. FIK only
- B. MIJ only
- C. 50 / 50
- D. 60% or greater FIK
- E. We don't use Isolation



# **Current Trends in Isolation**

- Migration to coated isolation washers
- Migration to coated isolation gaskets
- Training on how to install isolation kits
- Training on how to test isolation kits
- Movement towards universal seal material
- Better thermal control
- Better Inside Diameter coating management



## **Coated Washers**

# **Coated Gasket**



- •Higher compressive strength
- •Simpler installation (can't reverse)
- •Higher dielectric
- Longer life



- Fire safe (at lower cost)
- More chemically resistant
- No exotic metallurgy required
- Much better sealability
- Easier to install
- Higher pressure capability
- Cryogenic capable

## Poll

What formal training have you or your team received on installing isolation products? A. None

- B. Internal training
- C. Third party training



# **Typical GPT Flange Isolation Training Outline**

- Class size 12-30 per session
- Duration- 4hr class Including hands-on training
- Certification workers are certified for specified period of time (1 year)
- Attendees field personnel, supervisors, integrity engineers, reliability engineers
- Currently seeking Personnel Certification
- Teaches proper installation as well as proper testing methods





# **Current Trends in Isolation Techniques and Solutions**

- NDT (PAUT)
- Internal sealing elements such as low temp Viton(R)
- Special coatings (new coatings are almost too strong)
- More MIJs in Water applications
- Sour service requirements
- Transition MIJs (SS to CS)
- Welding
- Documentation integrity and urgency
- MIJ's supplied with SSD, Surge Diverter and/or CP test station connection brackets/lugs

#### **Current Trends in Isolation Techniques and Solutions**

PAUT Can detect all defect types and characterize them in accordance with acceptable criteria code. This allows for more accurate quality control



### **Current Trends in Isolation Techniques and Solutions**

	CRACKs		LOFs		LOPs		SLAGE		CAVITY-s		POROSITY-s	
Depth of flaw	RT	PAUT	RT	PAUT	RT	PAUT	RT	PAUT	RT	PAUT	RT	PAUT
10-19mm	50%	100%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
20-39mm	30%	100%	70%	100%	90%	100%	90%	90%	60%	90%	90%	90%
40 and Over	25%	100%	28%	100%	20%	100%	17%	90%	50%	92%	50%	80%



**FIK Pre Installation:** 

- ALIGN FLANGES
- Use non-metallic lubricant
- Verify isolation kit is correct size/class/schedule
- Clean flange faces
- Inspect studs/nuts/flanges





Inspector Checklist:

- $\Box$  Are the gaskets the correct type, size and class?
- □ Are the sleeves the correct type, diameter and length?
- □ Are the washers the correct diameter?
- □ Flange face was cleaned? Yes / No
- □ Flange aligned prior to gasket installation? Yes / No
- □ Bolts are the proper length? (at least two threads exposed after torqueing) Yes / No
- Flange gap is consistent around the flange and of appropriate distance? ((raised face height x 2) + gasket thickness) Yes / No
- Nuts are installed with printing facing out? Yes / No
- □ Non-metallic lubricant was used on bolts/nuts? Yes / No
- □ Isolation washers are installed properly? Yes / No
- □ Sleeves are all proper length? Yes / No
- Nuts were torqued in proper star pattern? Yes / No
- □ Nuts were torqued to proper torque value and in proper increments? Yes / No



### **FIK Post Installation:**

- Measure flange gap in four quadrants making sure gap is as expected
- Electrically test bolts (all) to flange, flange to flange and flange to core (if exposed metal cored gasket) – Note: don't wait until fully torqued to test
- Complete all required reporting



#### **MIJ Pre Installation:**

- Clean bevel and two inches past bevel to API 5L white metal specs
- Prepare to lift MIJ in a supported manner
- Inspect bore for foreign particles and clean if necessary.
- Horizontal = bi-directional flow
- Vertical = bi-directional flow, position the RTV area down
- Ensure weld ground is on the same side of the MIJ as the welding is being performed



#### **MIJ Post Installation:**

- Ensure welds are properly inspected
- Tape RTV area with tape prior to any sandblasting
- Coat exposed steel around MIJ and Line Pipe connection
- Using an RFID meter, confirm Electrical Isolation





# QUESTIONS Thank you for your time and attention

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