

HANDLING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR *THERMOSEL* FLEXIBLE CONNECTIONS

GENERAL STORAGE

Storage of the majority of products based on vulcanised rubber for a certain period inevitably causes some degree of change in the physical properties of the stored products. These changes may result from one particular factor or from a combination of factors as follows: oxygen; ozone; light; heat and humidity.

By storing *Thermosel* flexible connections in accordance with the following recommendations the effects of these factors may be minimised.

PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Storage area requirements:

Cool:
Optimum temperature is 10...C. It must not drop below 0...C, it is advisable to rewarm the joint carefully before handling to prevent a risk of damage.

Relatively dry:
Maintain a relative humidity between 45% and 70% as excessive dryness is harmful to the rubber. Temporary deviations are OK, but prolonged exposure to a dry atmosphere could accelerate deterioration of the rubber.

Slight ventilation:
Ventilation should be as consistent and gentle as possible, avoiding any draughts.

Heating:
Heat sources should be insulated, or if this is not possible the rubber units must be stored a good distance from these heat sources.

Lighting:
During storage the units must not be exposed to sunlight or other light sources rich in ultraviolet.

Cleanliness:
It is advisable to clean the room thoroughly before storing *Thermosel* flexible connections. Oil, greases and chemicals must not be stored in the same area or should at least be kept separate.

STORAGE PRECAUTIONS

To restrict the deterioration of *Thermosel* flexible connections we recommend storing them away from ozone-generating sources.

It is advisable to store them in such a way that they are not in contact with the ground.

Thermosel expansion joints should be laid flat on a level surface to prevent deformation or warping.

Under the above optimum conditions *Thermosel* flexible connections can be stored for a maximum period of 3 years. Metallic constituents such as tie-rods and bolts are to be stored with the units in their original packaging.