



FITTINGS – SEALING INTEGRITY

Background

In applications where Teflon valves exhibit external leakages that are eventually traced to fittings (either incorrectly specified size, number of threads, form etc) or over-tightening of fittings (fittings must only be hand tightened), there is also another possibility often over-looked.

Cause

If those fittings were correctly specified and were hand tightened, the leakages maybe the result of inappropriately meshing thread forms between the male threads of the fitting/s and the female threads of the vale port/s, that is, the spaces and voids that occupy that mesh.

Remedy

On those occasions where total seal integrity is absolutely necessary, we recommend using NR's positive sealing fittings or when alternative low cost, moulded fittings are used, we suggest Epoxy adhesive. There is no need for any Teflon tape. Any two-part hardener and resin epoxy adhesive from hardware stores can be used or specifically '2-Ton Epoxy'. (UK Araldite.)

Procedure

Follow the preparative instructions according to the adhesive manufacturer.

After mixing the two-part adhesive, using a straightened paperclip (or similar device), apply the equivalent of one dropful (no more) of adhesive on the male threads of the fitting. Screw the fitting into the port and hand-tighten only. Allow time to try as prescribed in the instructions accompanying the adhesive.

Should there be need to remove the fitting/s, unscrew and most of the epoxy peels away. Rest assured that the epoxy adhesive does not stick onto the Teflon material, as its main function is to fill any voids in the mating threads.