

EXPANSION JOINT

STORAGE, SHELF & SERVICE LIFE INFORMATION

Storage Instructions

In order to achieve optimal shelf life elastomeric expansion joints should be stored as follows:

1. Store in a cool, dry area
2. Store lying flat on one flange face in original shipping container
3. Protect the flange faces and tube from nicks, cuts, dents, etc.
4. Do not expose to greases, oils or solvents of any form
5. Prevent exposure to ultraviolet rays from sunlight and/or strong fluorescent lighting
6. Do not store near devices which produce ozone
7. Do not place other objects on the top flange of the expansion joint
8. Following extended storage, CAREFULLY inspect the joint for damage paying particular attention to the flange and tube areas.

Shelf Life

- Based on ideal storage conditions, the recommended shelf life of a Garlock expansion joint is five years from the date of manufacture. If this time period is exceeded some degenerative processes may be evident; hard and brittle, surface cracking, dry rot of fabric reinforcement, etc.
- Should expansion joints be stored in less than ideal conditions the shelf life must be reduced proportionately. Shelf life must be taken into consideration when predicting the expected service life of an elastomeric expansion joint. If stored in less than ideal conditions, the expected service life would also decrease.

Life Expectancy

The life expectancy of an elastomeric expansion joint is based a wide range of variables.

1. Service Conditions

- a. Temperature
- b. Pressure
- c. Movement
- d. Number of Cycles
- e. Environmental Conditions
- f. Media - Abrasive, Chemical, etc.
- g. Flow Velocity

2. Presence of Misalignment

3. The use of control units

4. Proper Installation

5. Proper Storage

- In moderately dynamic services an elastomeric expansion joint has an estimated service life of 5 to 7 years based on proper application and installation. The service life will increase proportionately in less dynamic applications.