



RAF Refrigeration Flexible Connectors

OPERATION, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

General: Metraflex Flexible Connectors for Refrigeration utilized corrugated stainless steel or bronze hose and copper female sweat ends. These connectors are cleaned and bagged for use on a wide range of refrigeration systems. The connectors are designed to minimize vibration generated by rotating equipment, and to make up for misalignment in pipes. They are available in standard sizes and custom lengths. Please consult the factory submittals for specific performance specifications.

Application:

1. Refrigeration connectors are designed to absorb vibration and lateral movement only. These connectors are NOT designed for axial movement.
2. Flex connectors are available in a wide range of lengths and diameters. Each has its own performance characteristics. Confirm that the braided connector ratings for temperature, pressure, vacuum, and movements match the system requirements and that the material selected is chemically compatible with the process fluid or gas.
3. Flexible connectors are not flow directional.
4. RAF refrigerant connectors are cleaned and bagged for use in refrigerant applications.

Installation:

1. Inspect connectors for shipping damage. Damaged connectors should not be used.
2. Piping should be aligned as closely as possible, and within the allowed connector limit.
3. Unit lengths must not be altered during installation.
4. Piping must be properly supported so connector does not carry any pipe loads.
5. Do not torque flexible connectors.
6. Avoid over bending the flexible connector.
7. Cold strapping should be used to prevent excessive heat transfer generated during the sweating or brazing process.
8. Don't use excessive flux when installing the connector.
9. The connector should be flushed after installation to remove residual flux.

Testing:

1. Connector may be one-time pressure tested to 1-1/2 times the product's maximum operating pressure. Do not exceed maximum pressure or temperature during operation.
2. Metraflex recommends hydrostatic test with all air in the system removed. If an air test is performed, appropriate safety precautions must be made.

Precautions:

1. Connectors should not be installed in inaccessible areas where inspection is impossible.
2. Make sure proper drainage is available in the event of leakage when operating personnel are not available.
3. If welding near a braided connector, cover the unit with a weld blanket to keep weld splatter from damaging the braid cover.
4. Don't use excessive flux when installing the connector.
5. The connector should be flushed after installation to remove residual flux.

Maintenance:

Flexible hose and braid connectors have no serviceable parts and do not require maintenance. Metraflex recommends periodic inspection for leakage or damage such as dents or broken braid. If damaged, replace and do not use.

