



Volume I - 2020

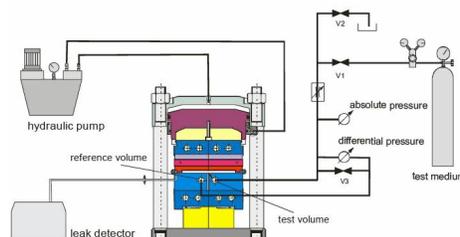
Updates to FSA's KnowledgeBase

The online FSA KnowledgeBase was officially launched in May 2017 as part of the FSA's mission to be "... the primary source of technical information" for the fluid sealing industry's products and their applications. This marked the transition from a print-based handbook focus to an online focus for training and education resources. At launch, the KnowledgeBase contained approximately 35 pieces of content and videos across seven categories of mechanical seal subject matter. Since that time, the FSA has expanded and improved the site content, which now has more than 230 files on mechanical seals, expansion joints, and an archive of "Sealing Sense" articles spanning the full range of FSA topics. There are more than 750 registered users, and the site has tracked nearly 5,000 online sessions from that user base.



[Click here](#) to read more!

KnowledgeBase can be accessed at <http://fsaknowledgebase.org> or through the FSA's website at www.fluidsealing.com.



ASTM International Committee Releases Latest Room Temperature Tightness Test

The American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) International Committee F03 on Gaskets recently released the latest standard practice to derive gasket design constants for the proper design of bolted flanged joints (BFJs): ASTM F2836-18. End users of gaskets can then use these gasket constants for proper BFJ design using calculation methods that are currently being developed by a special working group of American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code (BPVC) Section VIII at the time of this publication. In this

article, the current test procedure, the mathematical models for the test evaluation and the calculation of the characteristics are described and discussed.

[Click here](#) to read more.

The Danger of Complacency in Equipment Selection & Installation

When working with valves, flanges and pumps, operators should never be complacent. The wrong gasket or packing in a deadly application could result in loss of life. Ensuring the correct materials are suitable for the application requires special attention because safety is critical. As Gordon DeLeys, compliance assistance specialist at the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), said, "Safety should not be a company priority since priorities in an organization can and usually change. Safety and health need to be a core value of an organization. Safety is really a case of values versus priorities."



[Click here](#) to read more.

How Not to Use a Rubber Expansion Joint

Rubber expansion joints are likely the least understood and most abused component in a piping system. They are flexible, stretchy and easily forced into lots of places despite what the installation instructions say. Most of the time, rubber joints are merely an afterthought in multi-million dollar piping systems - until things go awry.



The rubber joint is unmatched for vibration isolation. If properly installed, a rubber joint can greatly reduce equipment nozzle loads. Its resilience allows it to be installed in many different systems under a range of temperatures, pressures and media. What could possibly go wrong?

[Click here](#) to read more.

Current Standards for Fire Testing of Flange Gaskets & Stem Packing

Fire test standards for valves date back to the 1960s, with specific tests for stem packing and gaskets not occurring until the 1990s.

In the early 1990s, Exxon was an industry leader in developing and requiring fire testing, possibly because of increased concern after a large fire in 1994. Fueled (no pun intended) by safety and insurance requirements, fire-tested valve designs became mandatory.

[Click here](#) to read more.

How to Prevent Galvanic Corrosion of Valve Stems

Valve packing is a necessity for plants trying to contain product and meet the latest emission requirements. However, finding a sealing product that works and has longevity can be a challenge.

Graphite-based packing can be a good choice for stem sealing when elevated temperature requirements are necessary. This is due to graphite's ability to maintain its sealing properties at temperatures that cause polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) to break down and allow leaks to occur. However, graphite is not an electrical insulator like PTFE; graphite will act as a metal and undergo galvanic corrosion if the environment is right.

[Click here](#) to read more.

GFA Gasketing/Converting Expo

FSA is a co-sponsor of this event.
You don't want to miss it!

May 18-20, 2020
Rosen Shingle Creek
Orlando, FL

The Gasket Fabricators Association (GFA) sponsors the bi-annual Gasketing/Converting Expo which has quickly become a "must attend" industry event with large numbers of suppliers and attendees. It's an easy and cost-effective way to meet your best current and potential customers-and learn the latest technologies and great ideas.



gasketing/converting expo 2020

[Click here](#) to learn more.

FSA Webinars On Demand

- Energy Efficiency of Compression Packings in Pump Applications
- The Fundamentals of Bolting for Gasketed Joints
- How to Select the Correct Gasket
- Low E Valve Sealing

[Click here](#) to learn more.

Additional Resources

[KnowledgeBase](#)

[Life Cycle Cost Estimator](#)

[Gasket Questionnaire](#)

[Sealing Sense Archives](#)

[Technical Publications](#)

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