



To: All Customers
Subject: Changes to ASME B16.20 Spiral Wound Gasket Specifications
Date: August 4, 2008

The 2007 edition of ASME B16.20 as just been released by ASME publications. This includes some changes to the inner ring requirements for standard spiral wound gaskets. For historical context, a requirement was added in the early 1990's for inner rings to be included on all PTFE filled spiral wound gaskets (to be in conformance to ASME and stamped "ASME B16.20" on the outer ring). This was in addition to requirements that certain size and pressure class spiral wound gaskets must have the inner ring to conform and bear the ASME stamp, regardless of filler. These requirements are still in place. The new edition further calls for inner rings to be furnished with all flexible graphite filled spiral wound gaskets "unless the purchaser specifies otherwise". The complete wording is quite lengthy but is given by ASME B16.20 (2007 ed.), par. 3.2.5. The requirements are largely given in context of concerns about inward buckling of the winding element. The standard is available for purchase/download at www.asme.org.

In response to the new requirement, Teadit would like to clarify, with its customer base, the requirements for inner ring use. Since the latest change affects flexible graphite filled spiral wounds, it should be indicated in writing on purchase orders or via letter if future orders are not to have the inner rings for these items. Otherwise, inner rings will be provided and reflected in the price.

I hope this letter clarifies the new requirements and feel free to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Calvin B. Gillis".

Calvin Gillis
Technical Applications Manager
Teadit North America
(ASME B16 Subcommittee G Vice Chairman).