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Ring Gaskets, Spiral Wound Gaskets, Exchanger Gaskets,
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Dedication and commitment to utilize the best
technologies to achieve the highest quality standards
has been ASP's culture since its very inception. Stringent
quality control measures are followed right from
sourcing the raw material to the final packing,
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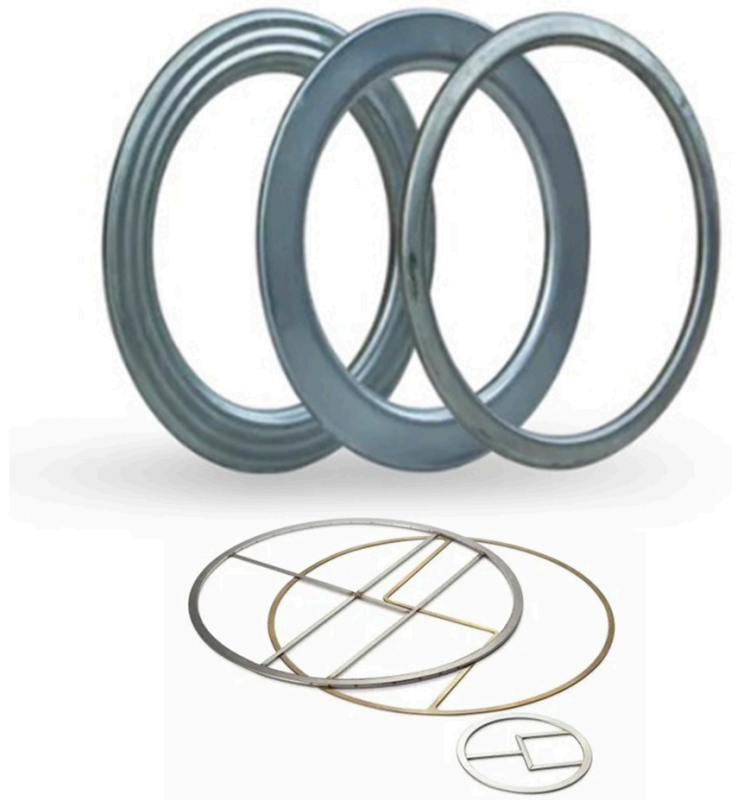
API 6A-1189
API 17D-0077

Comprehensive Guide to Metal Gaskets (Understanding, Selection, and Installation)

Metal gaskets are indispensable components in various industrial applications, providing essential sealing solutions for critical systems. This comprehensive guide aims to enhance your understanding of metal gaskets, covering everything from their types and materials to selection criteria and proper installation.

Table of Contents

1. What is a Metal Gasket?
2. Metal Gasket Uses
3. Metal Gasket Types
4. Metal Gasket Materials
5. Metal Gasket HS Code
6. Specific Standards for Metal Gaskets
7. Selection of Metal Gasket
8. Installation and Maintenance



What is a Metal Gasket?

A metal gasket is a sealing component designed to prevent leakage between two surfaces in industrial applications. Typically made of metal, these gaskets, shims, or washers are engineered to withstand a wide range of operating conditions, including high temperatures, pressures, and exposure to corrosive substances. Metal gaskets are critical in ensuring the integrity of connections in systems such as pipelines, flanges, heat exchangers, and pressure vessels.

The construction of a metal gasket typically involves a solid metal core, which provides strength and stability, surrounded by layers of flexible material that contribute resilience.

This combination allows metal gaskets to effectively create a seal between two surfaces, preventing the escape of fluids or gasses.

Metal Gasket Uses

Metal gaskets are ideal for sealing solutions in challenging environments, ensuring operational integrity and reliability. Here's a closer look at the varied uses of metal gaskets:

01 Oil and Gas Industry

- Metal gaskets are pivotal in sealing connections within pipelines, flanges, and various equipment in oil and gas. Their ability to withstand high pressures and temperatures makes them crucial for preventing leaks in critical components such as valves and wellheads.

02 Chemical Processing Plants

- Chemical processing environments often involve corrosive substances and extreme conditions. Metal gaskets, resistant to chemical deterioration, find applications in pumps, reactors, and other processing equipment, ensuring a secure seal and preventing contamination.

03 Power Generation Facilities

- Whether thermal or nuclear, power plants rely on metal gaskets to maintain leak-free seals in boilers, turbines, and heat exchangers, the resilience of metal gaskets under high-temperature conditions makes them essential for power generation applications.

04 Manufacturing and Engineering

- Metal gaskets are widely used in manufacturing, especially in the automotive and aerospace industries. They provide reliable seals in engines, exhaust systems, and other critical components, contributing to the efficiency and durability of machinery.

05 Petrochemical Plants

- Like the oil and gas industry, petrochemical plants utilize metal gaskets to seal connections in equipment handling various petrochemical substances. Their corrosion resistance ensures longevity and reliability in these demanding environments.

06 Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology

- Precision and cleanliness are paramount in pharmaceutical and biotech applications, and metal gaskets are employed in vessels, reactors, and other equipment. Their durability and resistance to contamination contribute to maintaining stringent quality standards.

07 Marine and Shipbuilding

- Metal gaskets find applications in marine environments, contributing to sealing engine components, exhaust systems, and ship piping. Their ability to withstand harsh sea conditions ensures the reliability of maritime systems.

08 Aerospace Engineering

- Aerospace applications demand precision and reliability. With their ability to maintain seals under extreme conditions, metal gaskets are utilized in aircraft engines, propulsion systems, and aerospace equipment.

09 Food and Beverage Processing

- In food and beverage processing, where hygiene is paramount, metal gaskets with appropriate certifications are employed in pumps, valves, and processing equipment to ensure a secure and contaminant-free seal.

Metal Gasket Types

Metal gaskets exhibit versatility through various types, each meticulously designed to meet distinct sealing requirements across diverse industrial applications. Explore the following metal gasket types to understand their unique characteristics and discover their wide-ranging applications:

01 Spiral Wound Gaskets

- Spiral wound gaskets feature a construction of metal strips and filler material wound in a spiral pattern. They are ideal for high-temperature and medium-pressure environments and provide resilience and adaptability, making them suitable for various industrial applications.

02 Ring Joint Gaskets

- Ring joint gaskets are crafted with a metal ring, often in octagonal or oval shapes, making them ideal for applications with high pressures and temperatures. These gaskets ensure a robust seal in critical environments commonly found in the oil and gas industry.

03 Metal Jacketed Gaskets

- Metal jacketed gaskets boast a solid metal core enveloped by layers of flexible material. This design enhances sealing performance, making them suitable for applications requiring resistance to extreme temperatures, pressures, and corrosive substances.

04 Kammprofile Gaskets

- Kammprofile gaskets feature a solid metal core with concentric serrations on both sides. This design provides excellent sealing and recovery properties, making them a reliable choice for flanged joints and applications with variable conditions.

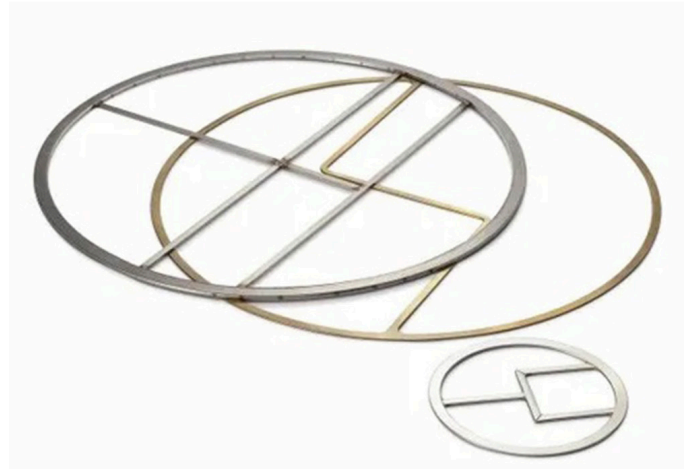
05 Corrugated Metal Gaskets

- Constructed from thin metal layers corrugated for flexibility, corrugated metal gaskets are ideal for irregular or non-smooth flange surfaces. Their adaptability makes them suitable for challenging sealing environments, ensuring a secure and reliable seal.

Whether it's high temperatures, extreme pressures, or unique flange configurations, a metal gasket type is designed to meet your sealing requirements with precision and reliability

Metal Gasket Materials

Metal-reinforced gaskets require careful core and facing material selection to ensure optimal performance in sealing applications. The metal core material, chosen for its chemical resistance and temperature stability, is tailored to match the characteristics of the sealed media. Common selections include Stainless Steel Types 316L, 304, 309, 310, 317L, 321, 347, and 430, providing a robust foundation with a standard core thickness of 1/8". For added versatility, metallic core materials extend to high-performance options like Inconel 600, 625, X-750, Incoloy 800, 825, Hastelloy B2, C276, Monel, CS, Aluminum, Copper, Brass, Titanium, Nickel 200, Alloy 20, Duplex, and more.



Soft gasket facings play a crucial role, and the standard materials include flexible graphite, compressed paper, PTFE, and soft metals. Metallic gaskets can withstand diverse operating conditions by combining a meticulously chosen metallic core and a soft-facing material, making them reliable for demanding sealing applications across various industries.

Metal Gasket HS Code

The HS Code is a standardized global classification system to identify and categorize traded products. The Harmonized System Code for metal gaskets is classified numerically, providing a standardized language recognized by customs authorities worldwide. The HS Code 8484 pertains to gaskets and similar joints made of metal sheeting, combined with other materials, or composed of two or more metal layers. This code is part of the Harmonized System, a standardized international classification system for traded products. It encompasses various metal gaskets and joints used in various industrial applications, including those with composite structures or multiple metal layers. This classification facilitates the smooth movement of goods across borders, ensuring accuracy and efficiency in trade transactions.

Specific Standards for Metal Gaskets

Metal gaskets, crucial components in industrial applications, adhere to specific standards established by reputable organizations. These standards ensure uniformity, reliability, and performance consistency across diverse industries. Understanding these particular standards is crucial to effectively selecting, manufacturing, and implementing metal gaskets. Let's delve into some prominent standards that govern the production and use of metal gaskets

01 ASME Standards

- ASME B16.20, for instance, outlines specifications for spiral wound gaskets used in flanged connections, ensuring dimensional accuracy and sealing effectiveness.

02 API Standards

- API 6A focuses on specifications on wellhead and Christmas tree equipment, including metal ring joint gaskets. Adherence to API standards is critical for gaskets used in essential components within the oil and gas sector.

03 DIN Standards

- DIN 2696 outlines specifications for metal gaskets with a flexible graphite filler, ensuring their compatibility with specific applications and operating conditions.

04 ISO Standards

- ISO 9001, for example, focuses on quality management systems, and manufacturers adhering to this standard demonstrate a commitment to producing metal gaskets with consistent quality.

05 ASTM Standards`

- ASTM F104 provides guidelines for non-metallic flat gaskets used in pipeline flanges, ensuring compatibility and performance under various conditions.

06 EN Standards

- EN 1514 specifies dimensions and tolerances for gaskets, ensuring their compatibility with flanges according to European norms.

Benefits of Adhering to Standards:

- **Quality Assurance:** Standards provide a benchmark for quality, ensuring that metal gaskets meet specified criteria.
- **Interchangeability:** Adherence to standards enhances the compatibility and interchangeability of gaskets across different manufacturers and applications.
- **Safety and Reliability:** Compliance with standards contributes to the safety and reliability of industrial processes, minimizing the risk of failures.

Selection of Metal Gasket

Selecting the right metal gasket is a crucial step in ensuring the reliability and efficiency of industrial processes. The diverse range of applications and operating conditions necessitates careful consideration of various factors. Here are the selection criteria to guide you in choosing the most appropriate metal gasket for your specific needs:

01 Operating Conditions

- Understand the environmental conditions in which the gasket will operate. Consider factors such as temperature, pressure, and exposure to corrosive substances. Different gasket materials and types are designed to perform optimally under specific conditions.

02 Flange Compatibility

- Ensure the selected metal gasket is compatible with the flange design and dimensions. Gaskets are available in various types, including spiral wounds, ring joints, and kammprofile, each suited for different flange configurations. Choose a gasket that complements the specific geometry of your flanges

03 Media Compatibility

- Consider the nature of the substances the gasket will come into contact with. Different materials have varying resistances to chemicals and fluids. Verify the gasket material is compatible with the medium it will seal to prevent corrosion or degradation over time.

04 Temperature and Pressure Considerations

- Evaluate the temperature and pressure conditions within your system. Certain gasket materials are better suited for high-temperature applications, while others excel in low-temperature environments. Likewise, the pressure rating of the gasket should align with the operational pressure of the system.

05 Gasket Type Selection

- Understand different gasket types' specific characteristics and applications, such as spiral wound gaskets, ring joint gaskets, metal jacketed gaskets, kammprofile gaskets, and corrugated metal gaskets. Each type has unique features that make it suitable for particular scenarios. Consider the sealing requirements and system specifications when making your selection.

06 Material Selection

- Understand different gasket types' specific characteristics and applications, such as spiral wound gaskets, ring joint gaskets, metal jacketed gaskets, kammprofile gaskets, and corrugated metal gaskets. Each type has unique features that make it suitable for particular scenarios. Consider the sealing requirements and system specifications when making your selection.

Here's a guide to help you choose the appropriate material and type based on different conditions

1. High-Temperature Applications

- Material: Inconel, Monel, or Stainless Steel (316L, 304)
- Type: Spiral Wound Gaskets with graphite filler, Metal Jacketed Gaskets.

2. High-Pressure Environments

- Material: Stainless Steel (316L, 304), Inconel, Monel.
- Type: Ring Joint Gaskets, Spiral Wound Gaskets, Kammprofile Gaskets.

3. Corrosive or Chemical Exposure

- Material: Inconel, Hastelloy, Monel, Stainless Steel (316L, 304).
- Type: Spiral Wound Gaskets with PTFE filler, Metal Jacketed Gaskets.

4. Fluctuating Conditions (Temperature/Pressure)

- Material: Stainless Steel (316L, 304), Inconel
- Type: Kammprofile Gaskets, Corrugated Metal Gaskets.

5. Flange Compatibility

- Material: Stainless Steel (316L, 304)
- Type: Spiral Wound Gaskets, Ring Joint Gaskets

6. Sealing irregular Flange Surfaces

- Material: Stainless Steel (316L, 304), Inconel.
- Type: Corrugated Metal Gaskets.

7. Food and Pharmaceutical Industries (Hygienic Requirements)

- Material: Stainless Steel (316L).
- Type: Spiral Wound Gaskets with PTFE filler, Camprofile Gaskets with non-metallic facings.

8. Oxygen or Gas Service

- Material: Copper, Stainless Steel (316L).
- Type: Spiral Wound Gaskets with non-asbestos filler, Ring Joint Gaskets. non-metallic facings.

9. Low-Temperature Applications

- Material: Stainless Steel (316L, 304), Nickel alloys
- Type: Spiral Wound Gaskets with flexible graphite filler

10. Compliance with Industry Standards:

- Material: Inconel, Monel, or Stainless Steel (316L, 304)
- Type: Choose the type of gasket based on the specific requirements of ASME, API, DIN, or other applicable standards.

Installation and Maintenance

Proper installation and regular maintenance are essential for maximizing the performance and lifespan of metal gaskets. Following best practices is vital, whether preventing leaks or extending the gasket's durability.

Installation Procedures

1. Surface Preparation

- Ensure flange surfaces are clean, smooth, and free from contaminants.
- Remove any old gasket material, rust, or debris using appropriate tools.

2. Alignment Techniques

- Align the gasket and flange bolt holes accurately to prevent misalignment.
- Use proper alignment tools to achieve precision during installation.

3. Torque Specifications

- Follow manufacturer-recommended torque specifications for bolting.
- Use a calibrated torque wrench to achieve uniform and accurate tightening.

4. Sequential Tightening

- Tighten bolts in a sequential and uniform pattern to distribute pressure evenly.
- Gradually increase torque to achieve the recommended level.

5. Avoid Over-Tightening

- Over-tightening can lead to gasket deformation and compromise its effectiveness.
- Follow torque guidelines to prevent excessive stress on the gasket.

Maintenance Tips

1. Routine Inspections

- Conduct regular visual inspections for signs of wear, corrosion, or damage.
- Check for leaks and ensure gasket integrity during routine maintenance.

2. Surface Conditions

- Periodically assess flange surfaces for irregularities or damage.
- Address any surface imperfections promptly to maintain a proper sealing surface.

3. Torque Checks

- Perform torque checks during scheduled maintenance to ensure bolted connections remain secure.
- Retorque bolts, if necessary, following manufacturer recommendations.

4. Gasket Replacement

- Replace gaskets during planned maintenance intervals or if signs of wear are detected.
- Select replacement gaskets based on the exact specifications as the original.

5. Sealing Aids

- Use appropriate sealing aids, such as anti-seize compounds or lubricants, during reinstallation.
- Ensure compatibility with gasket material and application conditions.

6. Troubleshooting Common Issues

- Identify and address issues promptly, such as leaks or uneven compression
- Investigate the root cause of problems and implement corrective measures

7. Training and Documentation

- Train personnel on proper installation and maintenance procedures
- Maintain documentation of installation and maintenance activities for future reference.

8. Environmental Considerations`

- Consider environmental factors like temperature and chemical exposure when planning maintenance.
- Choose gasket materials that align with the operating environment.

In concluding this guide, we've uncovered the intricate realm of metal gaskets—a vital safeguard for industrial integrity. From understanding various types like spiral wound gaskets and ring joint gaskets to navigating rigorous standards like ASME and API, the exploration delves into the nuances of material selection and global adherence. This guide equips you with the ability to choose the appropriate gasket for specific conditions, underscoring the significance of precise installation and continual maintenance. As industries progress, this knowledge acts as a guiding force, directing professionals toward dependable, enduring, and high-performance sealing solutions.



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