

Technical Service Bulletin

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Vessel Shimming Procedure

To reduce the risk of having disconnects between elements within a pressure vessel, it is advisable to shim the vessel properly. Shimming is the process of placing pieces of material (shims) between two parts to take up free space and help to prevent movement. For membrane systems, plastic or PVC washers are used as shims. This TSB outlines the procedure to shim a vessel.

Note: Before beginning the shim procedure, ensure that the spacer tube (called the thrust ring on HydraCode pressure vessels) is in place on the downstream end of the vessel.

1. Remove the end plate on the feed end of the pressure vessel.
2. Push elements firmly into the vessel, and ensure that there is no free space between elements.
3. Place an inboard connector on the lead element.
4. Obtain washer-like pieces of plastic (or other approved materials) 1/8" to 1/4" in thickness with an inner diameter larger than the outer diameter of the adapter. These are the shims.
5. Place the shims by trial and error method over the adapter and then replace the endplate. Shims should be added until the endplate will not fit entirely in place. Then remove a shim so that the total thickness of the shims is just enough to allow the endplate to fit.
6. Repeat this procedure for all vessels.

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