Tech tip

SKF developed and patented its seal part numbering system as a support tool for its customers. The part number identifies the approximate shaft size for the seal it is designed to fit on. Here is how they work:

Small Diameter Oil Seals – the approximate shaft size is indicated by inserting a decimal point to the left of the last four digits in the number. For example, 20425 (2.0425) indicates a 2.040" shaft. Metric shaft sizes are cataloged by their INCH equivalents in the inch size listing section. A complete size listing of metric seals arranged by metric shaft, bore and widths can be found in the Metric-Complete size listing section of the Seal Handbook (457010).

Large Diameter Oil Seals (over 10") – the approximate shaft size is indicated by inserting a decimal point to the left of the last five digits. For example, 1600560 (16.00560) indicates a 16" shaft. Large Diameter and split seals under 10.000" (254 mm), as well as all axial clamp type seals, are listed under the assigned 500,000 series part numbers which do not relate to shaft size.

Speedi-Sleeves – the approximate shaft size is indicated by inserting a decimal point to the left of the last two digits in the number. For example, 99300 (993.00) indicates a 3.00" shaft.

V-Rings – the shaft size is indicated in metric dimensions within the stock number. Locate the fifth digit from the left to determine the approximate shaft size. For example, 400180 (400180) indicates a 18MM shaft and 401800 (4**01800**) indicates a 180MM shaft size.

When a counterperson is looking for a seal by dimension, it is simply a matter of going to the proper shaft size location in the Oil seal specifications manual, or checking the shelf in the proper numerical sequence location.

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