

Product Information News

July 18, 2008

INSPECTION AND REPLACEMENT OF LOOSE UNIVERSAL RESCUE CONNECTION (URC) MALE COUPLINGS

MSA issued the attached User Notice concerning URC couplings in response to reports of couplings loosening. A loose URC coupling can cause an unexpected extrusion of the internal o-ring and result in rapid loss of air.

This PIN Article is being released to address the procedure for MSA certified air mask repair persons to follow when ordering and replacing URC couplings.

The User Notice instructs users to immediately inspect the coupling tightness. If any loose couplings are found, they are to complete the order form attached to the User Notice and forward it to their local MSA authorized air mask maintenance center to arrange for the coupling to be replaced free of charge. Loose couplings must be replaced before returning the air mask to service. Couplings on new air masks shipped from MSA or MSA authorized distributors within the past year do not require the initial user inspection.

In addition to the user's initial inspection, MSA is adding this coupling tightness inspection to the requirements for the annual air mask flow test. The inspection procedure is as follows:

URC Male Coupling Tightness Inspection Procedure

In addition to the tightness of the URC coupling halves, as a precaution, this procedure also includes a check of the tightness of the coupling to the air mask. Both inspections can be performed simultaneously. The inspection applies to URC couplings mounted near the cylinder valve as required by NFPA Standards and to the identical coupling which is used on the Quick-Fill™ System, both over the shoulder and belt-mounted versions.

1. Close the air mask cylinder valve and relieve the pressure from the system.
2. Using a fine-tip ink marker and a ruler or straight edge, draw a line on the male coupling extending across the coupling joint and onto the adjacent air mask housing, as indicated in the photos at right.
3. Attach the dust cover to the coupling.
4. Grasp the dust cover firmly by hand and using maximum effort attempt to loosen the coupling by turning the dust cover counterclockwise. Do not use tools.
5. Remove the dust cover.

Tight

If the line drawn on the coupling lines up (see Figure 2), the coupling is sufficiently tight and the air mask may be

returned to service.

Loose at Coupling Joint

If the coupling is loose or if the marked line does not line up across the coupling joint (see Figure 3), remove the air mask from service until a replacement coupling is installed.

Loose at Manifold

If the coupling is loose at the joint where the coupling attaches to the air mask (see Figure 4), retighten the coupling according to the procedure on page 2 (URC Male Coupling Removal and Installation). Perform the tightness inspection again to verify that the coupling joint is sufficiently tight. If the coupling is sufficiently tight, there is no need to replace the coupling.

Note: Only authorized MSA or Aeroquip personnel should re-tighten the coupling.



FIGURE 1
Typical Assembly



FIGURE 2
Tight



FIGURE 3
Loose at Coupling Joint



FIGURE 4
Loose at Manifold

For More Information, call 1-800-MSA-2222 or Visit Our Website at www.MSAnet.com



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INSPECTION AND REPLACEMENT OF LOOSE URC MALE COUPLINGS

URC Male Coupling Ordering Procedure

For any couplings that are loose at the coupling joint, replacement couplings may be ordered from MSA by completing the attached MSA Air Mask Maintenance Center Replacement URC Male Coupling Order Form. Fax the completed form to MSA Customer Service at 1-800-967 0398 or 724-776-3280. When we receive the form, we will ship to you the appropriate quantity of replacement couplings of similar or newer vintage. The loose couplings must be returned within 30 days; otherwise, we will send you an invoice for the replacement couplings.

Use the attached order form to obtain replacement URC couplings as part of the initial inspection requested in the User Notice. Replacement couplings required as part of an annual air mask flow test should be ordered using the normal procedure for ordering replacement parts.

URC Male Coupling Removal and Installation Procedure

REMOVING THE COUPLING FROM THE MANIFOLD OR QUICK-FILL SYSTEM BLOCK

1. Place the manifold or Quick-Fill System Block in a vise. Use protective sleeves to keep from damaging the block.
2. Using a 1" deepwell socket, remove the coupling by turning counter-clockwise.

INSTALLING THE COUPLING IN THE MANIFOLD OR QUICK-FILL SYSTEM BLOCK

1. Place the manifold or Quick-Fill System Block in a vise. Use protective sleeves to keep from damaging the block.
2. Wrap the coupling threads with transparent tape to prevent damage to the O-ring. Apply a thin film of Christo-Lube Lubricant to the coupling O-ring (P/N 635068). Slide the new O-ring over the coupling threads. Remove the tape.
3. Thread the coupling into the block and tighten to 70–75 ft.lbs. using a 1" deepwell socket.
4. Perform a leak test.

If you have any questions, please contact MSA Customer Service at 1-877-672-3473 or 412-967-3000.



**MSA Air Mask Maintenance Center
Replacement URC Male Coupling Order Form**

Please complete the information below and fax this form to MSA Customer Service.

Fax this form to: 1-800-967-0398 or 412-967-3053.

MSA will ship the appropriate number of replacement couplings of similar or newer vintage to you. We will also send you a Return Authorization Number, shipping instructions and a UPS account number to use when returning loose couplings to MSA. Use the same thread caps and box that the replacement couplings arrive in, when returning the loose couplings.

Authorized Air Mask Maintenance Center: _____

Shipping Address: _____

Certified Repair Person: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____ Date: _____

Please list below the five-digit date codes and quantities of loose URC couplings that must be replaced. The date code is stamped on one of the six wrench flats of the male coupling and should be provided to you by the air mask user.

Date Code	Quantity	Date Code	Quantity
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(List any additional date codes on a separate copy of this form.)

When we receive this form, we will ship the appropriate quantity of replacement couplings of similar or newer vintage to you. Please Note: The loose couplings must be returned within 30 days; otherwise, we will send you an invoice for the replacement couplings. If you have any questions, please contact MSA First Responder Customer Service at 1-877-672-3473 or 412-967-3000.

- MSA Use Only -

Order Code ZC QuickFill Warranty ZD RE: QuickFill Warranty. UPS account 787E60 for Return to 1000 Cranberry Woods. Use PO # QuickFill Warranty