RS-RP-VAX-1 Rev.3: Changes of table on page 11. Updated table showing area for visual inspection about perfect threads: “Perfect Thread Length” (Measured from Pin End); Proprietary Connection table and Proprietary Grades table (old Revision page 4 & 5) deleted
This document contains the recommended practices for the installation of voestalpine tubulars proprietary connections. This is not comprehensive and is meant only as general guidance, based on best industry practices.

The user assumes all responsibility for the safe and effective implementation of these practices. Further, it is the user’s responsibility to provide competent and knowledgeable personnel, as well as appropriate and well maintained equipment.
VAXplorer®

Suitable for
- Extreme torques
- Extended reached wells
- Rotation operations
- High yield torque
- 100% compression and tension efficiency
- Successfully Cal IV tested

Definition yield torque: transition point from elastic to plastic zone
Dimensions and torque values will be provided through our datasheet generator:
http://www.voestalpine.com/tubulars/en

- Torques are valid for dope with friction factor 1 at room temperature
- Max. torque: optimum +10%
- Min. torque: optimum -5%
- Torques for special clearance couplings on request
- Special clearance & 20° beveled couplings: slip type elevator strongly recommended due to lower load on coupling face
Running and handling

**Equipment**
- Elevator
  - If collar type – smooth bearing face
  - If slip type – clean and sharp dies
- Derrick
  - Blocks are centered over rotary table
- Power tong
  - Correct size and calibrated
  - Torque-turn monitoring system

**Pipe handling**
- Thread protectors in place
- No hooks to lift pipes
- No rough handling
- Use proper racks

**Preparation**
- Cleaning
  - Remove and clean protectors
  - Clean pin and box
  - Diesel and oil-based products are not recommended as cleaning solvent
  - API-modified running compound with known friction factor between 0.8 and 1.2 is recommended. Dope shall be applied uniform on pin and box (on pin including seal and shoulder)

**Prevent corrosion**

**Drifting**
- Drift on pipe rack – start from box end

**Visual inspection**
- Check each pipe (see page 10)
- Apply clean and dry protectors

**Pipe tally**

**Running**
- Lifting and stabbing
  - Remove pin protectors just before stabbing
  - Clean connection with compressed air
  - Check seal area for damages
  - Apply thread compound – pin & box
Running and handling

- Use a stabbing guide
- Lower carefully
- Maintain good alignment

**Make-up**
- Start slowly in high gear with open back-up
- If connection jams (torque increases immediately)
  - Stop and release tong
  - Disengage connection / place back-up on coupling
  - Clean connection / visual inspection
  - If questionable - set aside
  - If o.k. – stab again
- If connection stabs correct
  - Increase speed to spin-in (max. 20 rpm)
  - Assemble until torque increase
  - Stop rotation / close back-up
- Finish in low gear and with speed less than 5 rpm
  - Approximately 1 to 2 turns before shouldering

**Acceptance**
- Final torque between maximum and minimum
  - Use correct friction factor of dope
  - Friction factor might be affected by extreme temperatures.
- Delta torque shall be at least 30% of actual applied torque
  - See diagram on page 8
- No plastic deformation
- Increase of torque shall be reasonable uniform and smooth
Running and handling

Casing

- Minimum 30% torque on shoulder (Delta torque).

**Triangle stamp** shall be used as rough indicator for the make-up progress only.

After final make-up the coupling should be close to base line.
Running and handling

**Break-out**
- Place back up tong on coupling mill side
- Set up power tongs to low gear
- Speed shall be less than 10 rpm
- Slowly lift the pin out of the box
- Handle with care / use protectors
- Clean all pipes
- Visual inspection / page 10
- Apply appropriate dope
- Any problems during make-up or break-out should be reported immediately
  - Used equipment, thread compound, torques used, assembly speed, .......
- Any questionable joint, set aside for evaluation, shall be brought to a disposition
  - Accepted or rejected
  - If rejected it must be properly marked

**High chrome material**

**Handling**
- Avoid metal to metal contact

**Equipment**
- Use non ferrous low marking dies
- Use weight compensator
- Use non metallic drift
- No misalignment

**Make-up**
- Start make-up by hand
- Maximum assembly speed 10 rpm
- Final make-up speed max. 5 rpm

**Thread lock compound**

**Pin**
- Thread lock compound shall be applied on the first two-thirds of the threads. No other compound on pin.

**Box**
- No thread lock compound on threads. On seal and shoulder running compound shall be applied.
Visual inspection and field repair

1. Seal
2. Shoulder
3. Cylindrical section
4. Internal bore
5. Perfect thread length
6. Non perfect thread length *
7. Coupling face *
8. Clearance

* not shown in sketch
# Visual inspection and field repair

## Seal (a*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Re-cut the pin</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Minor remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Re-cut the pin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Shoulder

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with emery paper</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with emery paper</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with file and emery paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Radius between seal and shoulder

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with emery paper</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with emery paper</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with file and emery paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Edge between shoulder and bore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with file and emery paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Cylindrical section

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Remove rust with abrasive fleece, Pitting is accepted.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with file and emery paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Internal bore

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Perfect thread length (b*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with emery paper</td>
<td>Remove with emery paper</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Non-perfect thread length

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with emery paper</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with file and emery paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Clearance area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Remove rust with abrasive fleece, Pitting is accepted.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Grind to smooth surface with file and emery paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Pin**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PIPE OD</th>
<th>mm</th>
<th>inch</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 1/2&quot;</td>
<td>35.20</td>
<td>1,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&quot;</td>
<td>33.60</td>
<td>1,323</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Notes:**

- Minor pitting, dents or scratches may be accepted after approval by voestalpine Tubulars specialist.
- Up to 2 thread-turns may be imperfect if not more than ¼ of a turn is affected. If more than 2 thread-turns / or more than a half turn in total / are affected, hand-repair may be accepted after approval by voestalpine Tubulars specialist.

Abbrasive fleece: 400 / 500 (superfine)
Emery paper: 300 - 400 (superfine)

**voestalpine Tubulars GmbH & Co KG**

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# Visual inspection and field repair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rust</th>
<th>Rust + Pitting</th>
<th>Burrs</th>
<th>Scratches</th>
<th>Dent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seal (a*)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoulder (a*)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Minor accepted</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radius between seal and shoulder</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Minor accepted</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edge between shoulder and bore</td>
<td>2-4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Remove with emery paper</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cylindrical section</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Remove rust with abrasive fleece.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal bore</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect thread length (b*)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
<td>Remove with emery paper</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Change coupling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-perfect thread length</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Remove with abrasive fleece</td>
<td>Minor pitting, after removal of rust with abrasive fleece, is acceptable</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coupling face</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearance</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>Accepted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Box**

General: The phosphated surface shall not be removed by hand – repair (except area 3, 4 and 7. If removed, it can be accepted after approval by voestalpine Tubulars specialist and application of phosphate spray. It is also recommended that after repair Moly-disulfide spray should be applied (pin and box).

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**Notes:**
- a* Minor pitting, dents or scratches may be accepted after approval by voestalpine Tubulars specialist
- b* Up to 4 thread-turns may be imperfect if not more than 1/2 of a turn is affected. If more than 4 thread-turns / or more than 2 in total are affected, hand-repair may be accepted after approval by voestalpine Tubulars specialist

**voestalpine Tubulars GmbH & Co KG**

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Transportation, Handling and Storage
(as recommended by API 5C1)

Transportation
- Load pipe on bolsters and tie down with suitable chains or straps at the bolsters
- Load pipe with all couplings on the same end of the truck
- Do not overload the truck

Handling
- Before loading or unloading thread protectors should be in place
- Do not unload pipe by dropping
- Avoid rough handling which might damage the threads or the body of the pipe
- When rolling pipe, on the rack, keep pipe parallel and do not allow pipe to strike the ends
- Do not use hooks to lift pipes
Transportation, Handling and Storage

- **Storage**
  - At least every six months some of the pin and box thread protectors should be removed at random and the threads should be checked for corrosion.
  - First tier of pipes should be no less than 1.5 feet’s (approximately 0.5m) from the ground.
  - Pipes should properly rest on supports to prevent bending and damages.
  - Between the successive layers of pipes you should provide wooden strips as separators.
  - Do not stack pipes higher than three meters.
  - Only use thread protectors that correspond to the threaded pin/box ends.
  - Do not mix different pipes in the stack.
  - All protectors must be secured and should have no damage.
Thank you