

Universal Jointing Consortium

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UJC Jointing Kit Traceability

Traceability from Manufacturing Processes

Each member Company of the UJ Consortium is able to independently market and manufacture Universal Jointing kits to a centrally controlled set of agreed and fixed Bills of Materials and Drawings. The common standard for Piece Part Packaging is detailed in the Universal Jointing Consortiums Quality Plan. This provides instruction for the packing materials used, the details and method of component and kit labelling.

As part of the overall quality process adopted by the UJC members, each UJC member has an obligation to ensure that their suppliers have in place the necessary quality procedures to provide traceability. As such each member works closely with their suppliers to ensure that the necessary quality processes satisfy the traceability requirements.

Each UJC member has adopted a series of identifiers so that it will be possible to identify the content and history of each component contained in that kit as it left the factory. In addition every joint piece part is provided in sealed packaging and a traceable reference number is marked on this packaging. Where necessary the label is applied direct to the piece part.

Therefore each component used within the UJ kits supplied, by any UJC member, can be traced from final inspection to the actual raw material by simply providing the KIT Type and complete Serial Number embossed on the transit case from any sealed UJ kit or the information printed on the individually packaged component label contained within.

Traceability after Receipt of Goods

A number of recommendations and/or requirements are given in the Universal Jointing Construction Manuals for the handling, quality inspection, retention of joint kits information, etc... in particular the 'Introduction to the Universal Joint and Coupling' Construction manual (UJCM001), section 4.16, addresses joint kits records and suggests to "retain the component label" in case (or in anticipation) of "any query regarding a UJ component".

The UJC Members recommend that kit owners make certain that the ship operator/maintenance provider put in place the final steps, via their internal ISO approved operating procedures, to ensure that the "chain of traceability" is maintained throughout the jointing operation. The UJC Members can be contracted to assist the kit owners or their agents in creating traceability programs for their respective organizations. The UJCM has given suggested methods for end user traceability of the product, but it is beyond the remit of the UJ Consortium to dictate a single method or procedure.

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