BUILDINGS 2022-002 BULLETIN

OTCR

ISSUANCE DATE
January 10, 2022

ISSUER: **Alan Price, P.E.**
Director, Office of Technical Certification and Research

PURPOSE: This document establishes acceptance criteria for couplings used as mechanical joints for water supply and distribution, sanitary drainage and storm drainage piping systems.

SUBJECT(S): Plumbing mechanical joints, plumbing piping systems, couplings, water supply and distribution, sanitary drainage, storm drainage

RELATED CODE SECTIONS: 2014 PC 605.12.2, 605.14.2, 605.23.1, 605.24, 705.2.1, 705.4.2, 705.9.2, 705.10.2, 705.12.2, 1102.1

I. BACKGROUND

The 2014 NYC Plumbing Code (PC) requires conformance with acceptance criteria established by the Commissioner for mechanical joints listed in Table 1 below. Additionally, in some applications, the joint is part of the coupling. This Bulletin establishes criteria for couplings used as mechanical joints in piping systems identified in Table 1 as required by the Code.

TABLE 1

2014 PC REFERENCE	JOINT TYPE
For Water Supply & Distribution	
605.12.2	Brass Pipe
605.14.2	Copper Pipe (Refer to PC 605.15.3 for copper tubing.)
605.23.1	Stainless Steel Piping
605.24	Joints between different piping materials
For Sanitary Drainage	
705.4.2	Brass Pipe
705.9.2	Copper Pipe
705.10.2	Copper Tubing
705.12.2	Steel Pipe
For Storm Drainage	
1102.1	The materials and methods utilized for the construction and installation of storm drainage systems shall comply with this section and the applicable provisions of PC Chapter 7.

II. DESCRIPTION

In accordance with the 2014 NYC Plumbing Code, a mechanical joint is a connection between pipes, fittings, or pipes and fittings that is not screwed, caulked, threaded, soldered, solvent cemented, brazed or welded. This Bulletin addresses couplings used as mechanical joints.

III. USES

Mechanical couplings may be used in water supply and distribution, sanitary drainage, and storm drainage piping systems, where permitted by Chapters 6, 7, and 11 of the 2014 NYC Plumbing Code. Mechanical couplings shall be permitted in both above and underground applications.

IV. EVALUATION SCOPE

NYC Construction Codes

V. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Pursuant to Code provisions indicated in Table 1, the Office of Technical Certification and Research (OTCR) recognizes the mechanical couplings identified in Table 1 that are tested and evaluated in accordance with ASTM F1476-2007 (R2013) *Standard Specification for Performance for Gasketed Mechanical Couplings for Use in Pipe Applications.*[1]

Acceptable mechanical couplings shall have an evaluation document issued in accordance with ASTM F1476-2007 (R2013) and shall comply with the conditions of this bulletin. The agency providing the evaluation or Code compliance report shall be accredited to ISO 17065.

VI. ADDITIONAL PERMITTING & SIGN-OFF REQUIREMENTS

Mechanical couplings shall comply with the NYC Construction Codes and the following applicable provisions:

A. Design. Mechanical couplings shall be designed in accordance with the NYC Construction Codes, manufacturer's installation instructions, and the conditions of this Bulletin.

B. Installation Requirements

1. Installation requirements shall be in accordance with the NYC Construction Codes, manufacturer's installation instructions, applicable listing agency, and the conditions of this Bulletin.
2. Installation shall be performed by a Licensed Master Plumber only.

C. Inspections. The installation of mechanical couplings shall be subject to inspection by the Department of Buildings and the requirements of Section 107.2 of the 2014 NYC Plumbing Code.

D. Marking. Mechanical coupling products shall be marked as per 2014 PC 303.1 and ASTM F1476-2007 (R2013), Section 16, Product Marking. All shipments and deliveries of materials shall be marked certifying that the materials shipped or delivered are equivalent to those tested and approved.

VII. REFERENCED STANDARD

ASTM F1476-2007 (R2013) Standard Specification for Performance for Gasketed Mechanical Couplings for Use in Pipe Applications.