

Technical Bulletin

Re: CustomKraft ProPress Crimped Copper Fittings

Description: The ProPress crimped copper fitting system is ideal for fast, positive copper connections.

Fast and easy to use

One squeeze of the trigger makes the connection on any size tubing in about 4 seconds. Compare to soldering and you'll see the savings.

Flameless

No flame means less chance for heat damage. You can even join wet tube making it ideal for service.

Versatility

ProPress can be used virtually anywhere-in commercial, industrial and residential.

Permanent Watertight Seal

The system provides a strong, reliable, watertight seal. The high-strength connection, installed properly, will last the life of the tubing system.

Wide Capacity

ProPress is designed to handle tubing in sizes ranging from ½" to 4" in diameter. You can easily switch from one size to another, in about ten seconds, simply by changing the jaws or rings.

Large Selection of Fittings

There are more than 240 different engineered fittings available in a variety of configurations and sizes.



Professional Appearance

Because there is no buildup of solder or tarnish, ProPress connections have a more professional look.



Less Equipment

With ProPress, there is no need to buy or carry expensive, cumbersome equipment such as tanks and hoses, and no need for supplies like solder and flux.

Environmentally Friendly

There is no solder or flux used with ProPress, so there's no chance of contaminating the environment.

Meets Codes and Standards

ProPress meets the most rigorous testing standards and codes in the U.S. and Europe. The system is certified and approved by institutions ranging from professional associations to government standards bureaus.

Proven Technology Used Worldwide

ProPress has been in use for years in Europe and other parts of the world. To the professionals who use it every day, it is a proven technology that is preferred over soldering

Frequently Asked Questions

Q- What is the procedure for soldering near a ProPress connection?

A- Stay at least three pipe diameters away from the crimped connection. If three pipe diameters is not possible, installer should take proper precautions to keep the ProPress joint cool while soldering.

1. Wrap the joint with a cold wet rag.
2. Fabricate solder joint prior to installing the crimped fitting making sure pipe is cooled before installing fitting.
3. Use "spray type" spot freezing product.

Q- As an inspector, how do I know if I am looking at a good joint?

A- Pressure test, same as a solder joint.

Q- With what are the sealing elements in ProPress fittings lubricated?

A- The seals are lubricated with an NSF 61 approved silicone oil. If it is necessary to lubricate the seals in the field, use water only. Do not use other lubricants. In particular, DO NOT use any petroleum-based lubricants (petroleum and EPDM are incompatible).

Q- How long will the EPDM seal last?

A- When properly installed, the EPDM seal and connection will last as long as the copper pipe with which it is joined (50+ years). This is confirmed in the NSF 61 tests.

Q- How was the life testing conducted for the seals and fittings?

A- The life testing is a hot and cold thermal cycle test described in the NSF International Report (test procedure can be found in NSF report).

Q- Does the ProPress System require the use of special valves?

A- No. Users can continue with their favorite valve line by using the threaded adapters or by stubbing-out the valves and then crimping on from there.

Q- What is the warranty for ProPress?

A- The Lifetime Warranty applies to ProPress tools, jaws and crimp rings manufactured by Ridge Tool Company. ProPress fittings carry a 50-year warranty against defects in material and workmanship from the manufacturer. To our knowledge, this 50-year warranty is essentially the same as, or better than all warranties offered on copper tubing sold.

Q- Can you turn a crimped fitting on the tube without damaging the integrity of the joint?

A- Yes. The fitting can be turned (not by hand) after crimping and will not effect the integrity of the joint. As a general rule of thumb, if the fitting is turned more than 5" it should be re-crimped to restore the resistance to rotational movement.

Q- What level of turbulence is caused by ProPress fittings and will it cause premature wear in copper tubing?

A- The long radius of ProPress elbows reduces the turbulence typically experienced with traditional short radius fittings. Not reaming the ID of the pipe is the largest contributing factor to turbulence and premature wear of any piping system.