



# Standard Specification for Resilient Connectors Between Reinforced Concrete Manhole Structures, Pipes, and Laterals<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C923; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.*

## 1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers the minimum performance and material requirements for resilient connectors used for connections between reinforced concrete manholes conforming to Specification C478 and pipes, between wastewater structures and pipes, and between precast reinforced concrete pipe and laterals.

1.1.1 These connectors are designed to minimize leakage between the pipe and manhole, and between the pipe and lateral.

1.2 A complete metric companion to Specification C923 has been developed—C923M; therefore, no metric equivalents are presented in this specification.

NOTE 1—This specification covers the design, material, and performance of the resilient connection only. Connections covered by this specification are adequate for hydrostatic pressures up to 13 psi (30 ft) without leakage when tested in accordance with Section 7. Infiltration or exfiltration quantities for an installed system are dependent upon many factors other than the connections between manhole structures and pipe, and allowable quantities must be covered by other specifications and suitable testing of the installed pipeline and system.

1.3 The following precautionary caveat pertains only to the test methods portion, Section 7, of this specification: *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* For a specific precaution statement, see 7.2.5.

## 2. Referenced Documents

### 2.1 ASTM Standards:<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C13 on Concrete Pipe and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C13.06 on Manholes and Specials.

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<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

A493 Specification for Stainless Steel Wire and Wire Rods for Cold Heading and Cold Forging  
A666 Specification for Annealed or Cold-Worked Austenitic Stainless Steel Sheet, Strip, Plate, and Flat Bar  
C478 Specification for Circular Precast Reinforced Concrete Manhole Sections  
C822 Terminology Relating to Concrete Pipe and Related Products  
C913 Specification for Precast Concrete Water and Wastewater Structures  
D395 Test Methods for Rubber Property—Compression Set  
D412 Test Methods for Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers—Tension  
D471 Test Method for Rubber Property—Effect of Liquids  
D543 Practices for Evaluating the Resistance of Plastics to Chemical Reagents  
D573 Test Method for Rubber—Deterioration in an Air Oven  
D624 Test Method for Tear Strength of Conventional Vulcanized Rubber and Thermoplastic Elastomers  
D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics  
D1149 Test Methods for Rubber Deterioration—Cracking in an Ozone Controlled Environment  
D1566 Terminology Relating to Rubber  
D2137 Test Methods for Rubber Property—Brittleness Point of Flexible Polymers and Coated Fabrics  
D2240 Test Method for Rubber Property—Durometer Hardness

NOTE 2—For more information about wastewater structures, see Specification C913.

## 3. Terminology

### 3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 Terms relating to plastics and rubber shall be as defined in Terminologies D883 and D1566, respectively.

3.1.2 Terms relating to precast concrete pipe, manholes, and related products shall be as defined in Terminology C822 and as modified in 3.1.3 – 3.1.6.

3.1.3 *connector*—the entire assembly including resilient seals and metallic or nonmetallic mechanical devices, if any, used therein.

3.1.4 *lateral*—the small diameter pipe connected to the main line pipe.

3.1.5 *pipe*—the inlet or outlet pipe connected to the manhole.

3.1.6 *pipe stub*—a short section of pipe, installed in the structure as an inlet or outlet pipe, for future connection.

#### 4. Materials and Manufacture

4.1 All materials shall conform to the following requirements:

4.1.1 Resilient materials for connectors and filler rings shall be manufactured from natural or synthetic rubber and shall conform to the requirements prescribed in **Table 1**. If a splice is used in the manufacture of the seal, its strength shall be such that the seal shall withstand a 180° bend with no visible separation.

4.2 *Mechanical Devices*—Expansion rings, tension bands, and take-up devices used for mechanically compressing the resilient portion of the connector against the pipe, manhole or wastewater structure shall be made from a material or materials in combination that will ensure durability, strength, resistance to corrosion, and have properties that will ensure continued resistance to leakage. All metallic mechanical devices, including castings and bolt assemblies used to mechanically deform resilient materials shall be constructed of corrosion resistant materials meeting the physical properties and chemical composition requirements of Specifications **A493** and **A666**, Type 302 through Type 316.

NOTE 3—Experience has shown that successful performance of this product depends on the type of bedding and backfill and the care in the field installation of the manhole or wastewater structure and connecting pipes. The owner is cautioned to require inspection at the construction site.

#### 5. Principles of Design

5.1 The design of the connector shall be such that positive seal is accomplished at two locations: (1) between the connector and the wall of the manhole or wastewater structure and (2) between the connector and the pipe. The seal between the connector and the wall of the manhole or wastewater structure shall be made by either mechanical means, compression of the

resilient material between the outside surface of the pipe and the pipe opening in the wall of the manhole or wastewater structure, or by casting the connector integrally with the wall of the manhole or wastewater structure. The seal between the connector and the pipe shall be made by mechanical means or by compression of the resilient material against the outside of the pipe. Resilient filler rings are not prohibited from being used between the pipe and the connector to provide a seal. Whichever design is used, it shall be capable of maintaining a resilient, hydrostatic seal under the performance conditions in accordance with Section 7. Devices used to effect mechanical seals shall conform to the requirements specified in Section 4.

5.2 For lateral to pipe connectors, the design of the connector shall be such that a positive seal is accomplished at two locations: (1) between the connector and the pipe wall and (2) between the connector and the lateral. The seal between the connector and the pipe wall shall be made by either mechanical means, compression, or by casting the connector integrally with the pipe wall. The seal between the connector and the lateral shall be made by either mechanical means or by compression of the resilient material against the outside of the pipe. Resilient filler rings are not prohibited from being used between the lateral and the connector to provide a seal. Connector design must not allow either lateral or connector to extend past the cylindrical plane of the pipe inside diameter. The connector shall be capable of maintaining a resilient hydrostatic seal under the performance conditions in accordance with Section 7. Devices used to effect mechanical seals shall conform to the requirements specified in Section 4.

5.3 Purchaser shall require that all pipe stubs installed, to allow for future connection to the manhole or wastewater structure, be mechanically restrained from movement by means of, and in addition to, the resilient connectors.

#### 6. Basis of Acceptance

6.1 For diameter 36 in. and smaller, at least one connector shall be tested for each 6 in. increment in diameter. For diameters larger than 36 in., at least one connector shall be tested for each 12 in. increment in diameter.

**TABLE 1 Resilient Material Tests**

| Test                                                               | Test Requirements <sup>A</sup>                                                               | ASTM Test Method                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chemical resistance:<br>1 N sulfuric acid<br>1 N hydrochloric acid | no weight loss<br>no weight loss                                                             | <b>D543</b> , at 22°C for 48 h                                                   |
| Tensile strength                                                   | 1200 psi, min                                                                                | <b>D412</b>                                                                      |
| Elongation at break                                                | 350 %, min                                                                                   |                                                                                  |
| Hardness <sup>B</sup>                                              | ±5 from the connector manufacturer's specified hardness                                      | <b>D2240</b> (Shore A durometer)                                                 |
| Accelerated oven-aging                                             | decrease of 15 %, max, of original tensile strength,<br>decrease of 20 %, max, of elongation | <b>D573</b> , 70 ± 1°C for 7 days                                                |
| Compression set                                                    | decrease of 25 %, max, of original deflection                                                | <b>D395</b> , Method B, at 70°C for 22 h                                         |
| Water absorption                                                   | increase of 10 %, max, of original by weight                                                 | <b>D471</b> , immerse 0.75 by 2 in. specimen in distilled water at 70°C for 48 h |
| Ozone resistance                                                   | rating 0                                                                                     | <b>D1149</b>                                                                     |
| Low-temperature brittle point                                      | no fracture at – 40°C                                                                        | <b>D2137</b>                                                                     |
| Tear resistance                                                    | 200 lb/in.                                                                                   | <b>D624</b> , Die B                                                              |

<sup>A</sup> Specimens shall be prepared from connector specimens, and shall not be prepared from laboratory slabs or by direct molding.

<sup>B</sup> The connector manufacturer shall select the hardness appropriate for each component of the connector. Thereafter, the hardness shall comply within the tolerances in **Table 1**.

6.2 The acceptability of the resilient connector shall be determined by the results of the physical tests prescribed in this specification, if and where required, and by inspection, to determine whether the connector conforms to the specification with regards to design and freedom from defects.

6.3 When requested, a current certification shall be furnished as the basis of acceptance. The certification shall consist of the connector manufacturer's test report, or statement by the manufacturer, accompanied by a copy of the test results, that the resilient connector has been tested and inspected in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 and Section 7. Each certification so furnished shall be signed by the connector manufacturer or an authorized agent.

NOTE 4—Certification shall be deemed current, if it represents present design, and bears a date that is no more than five years older than the current date.

## 7. Test Methods and Requirements

7.1 Install a pipe(s) and the resilient connector(s) to be tested in the base section of a manhole or wastewater structure. Subject the assembly to the prescribed hydrostatic pressure in 7.2 at the centerline of the connector for a period of 10 min for each test condition. Restrain the pipe against axial movement during the tests.

NOTE 5—The user of this specification is advised that if manhole bases greater than 48 in. inside diameter are required to accommodate large diameter connectors for the test, all safety requirements and procedures should be reviewed prior to the test.

7.1.1 Install a lateral and resilient connector to be tested into the pipe. Subject the assembly to the prescribed hydrostatic pressure in 7.2 at the centerline of the connector for a period of 10 min for each test condition. Restrain the lateral against axial movement during the tests.

7.2 There shall be no leakage under any of the following conditions:

7.2.1 Straight alignment of the pipe(s)/lateral(s) subjected to a hydrostatic pressure of 13 psi (30 ft) for 10 min.

7.2.2 Axial deflection of the pipe(s)/lateral(s). Upon completion of the test for straight alignment in 7.2.1 the pipe(s)/lateral(s) shall be axially deflected at least 7° in any direction and subjected to a hydrostatic pressure of 10 psi (23 ft.) for 10 min.

7.2.3 When the pipe is loaded in shear in accordance with the requirements shown in Fig. 1 and subjected to a hydrostatic pressure of 10 psi (23 ft.) for 10 min.

7.2.4 When the lateral is loaded in shear in accordance with the loading requirements of Fig. 1 and does not exceed 1 in. of axial movement at the connector and subjected to a hydrostatic pressure of 10 psi (23 ft.) for 10 min.

7.2.5 Note: Pressure is not prohibited from being relieved while deflecting or loading test section.

7.3 Leakage shall be construed to mean freely dripping water emanating at the interface between the connector and base of the manhole or wastewater structure, or the pipe; between the connector and the filler rings; or through the body of the connector and the filler rings; or through the body of the connector itself.

7.4 Moisture appearing at random locations on the base of the outlet in the form of patches or beads adhering to the surfaces shall not be considered leakage.

7.5 A delay of up to 24 h is not prohibited prior to making observations of leakage.

## 8. Product Marking

8.1 Each connector shall be marked legibly by the connector manufacturer with his trade name and the size designation or part number.

## 9. Keywords

9.1 definitions; design test method; marking; material requirements acceptance criteria; product marking; resilient connector

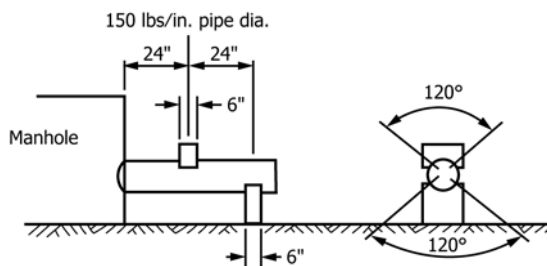


FIG. 1 Shear Test Requirements

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