



Frequently Asked Questions

Why can't the positioning strip be removed out of the box?

The positioning strip keeps the components aligned in the proper position to allow the tube to be easily inserted. Removing the positioning strip before the specified step in the installation guide, potentially complicate the sealing process.

Can the fitting be taken apart?

If the fitting is disassembled prior to installation, the warranty is voided. We cannot ensure that the fitting will be reassembled back correctly after it being disassembled. We have a strict and thorough manufacturing and quality assurance system in place to make sure all the components are positioned properly.

Can the fitting be reused?

No, it is a single use item. When the wrench is tightened, the ferrule forms around the outer dimension (OD) of the tube and clamps down on the OD of the tube. Essentially, cold forming of the ferrule and tube is taking place. Cold formed joint is producing the metal to metal seal.

Can SmartLock fittings be used with copper on one side and aluminum on the other side?

Yes, absolutely! Standard SmartLock fittings are designed to connect Copper to Copper, Aluminum to Aluminum, and Copper to Aluminum tubing. For example, SmartLock fittings eliminates the need to braze copper to aluminum coils.

Does the SmartLock fittings require a torque wrench/torque specification?

No, all SmartLock fittings do not require any special tools, even a torque wrench. It is specially designed so the installer will not have to worry about torque specification. As indicated in our installation guide, wrench tightening until there are no gaps and the nuts are completely flush are the main requirements in ensuring a tight seal. However, we do offer torque data for each model fitting can be find in our website www.smartlockfitting.com, if desired.

What if the tubing is out of round?

Tubes that are too out of round will not insert properly. The nut openings act as a go-no go type gauge. The tube will need to be reshaped to in round so it can be inserted into the fitting. Secondly, if the tube is out of round, but can be inserted through the fitting, a tight metal to metal seal will be achieved.

What is the tube is damaged or scratched near where the connection is going to be made?

SmartLock fittings can accept some minor scratches, but recommends a clean, undamaged surface to ensure a proper installation and seal.

Do I need to deburr?

Yes, we advise the installers to cut and deburr the tube prior to installation.

What refrigerants are the fittings compatible with?

All refrigerants are compatible with SmartLock fitting. This is due to the metal to metal sealing technology.

What about the elastomer/O-rings that are part of the fitting assembly?

The o-rings and elastomers do not seal the refrigerants. They are for vibration dampening and keeping dust and moisture out. When the fittings were submitted to UL for certification, all of the elastomers were taken out. All of the internal tests are done without any o-rings or elastomers. This is to ensure that we stand 100% behind our metal to metal sealing technology.

What is the fitting material?

It is anodized aluminum and proprietary material for the ferrule.

What about dissimilar metal issues?

SmartLock fitting does not have any issues with dissimilar metals. Material selection and specialized manufacturing processes have been designed and chosen to prevent cathodic type reactions.

How close can you braze to a SmartLock fitting if there is a requirement to braze close to it?

We cannot specify how close or how far away an installer needs to be if they choose to braze near a SmartLock fitting. We recommend that the installer to use the same care if they were to braze near a service valve, such as using a cooling blanket to keep the temperature down as much as possible on the fitting.

Since it is a single use product what happens when/if I need to move the equipment?

We recommend cutting the tube away from the tube nut and then reconnecting it with a straight union.

Different manufacturer's use different flare angles, what flare angle can the Flare Connector Multi-Angle (FCMA) be used?

FCMA fittings are designed to seal and interface with all types of angles, such as 45 or 37.5 degree flare valve.