



MTAP Makes Design Reviews Easier

By Megan Beaulieu, Elastro Proxy Inc.

Do your customers include MTAP in their gasket design process? When Elastro Proxy performs a design review for a customer, we ask about the media (M), temperature (T), application (A), and pressure (P) that a gasket will encounter. We devised this easy-to-remember acronym to help with material selection, a key part of the gasket design process. Let's break it down.

Media

The M in MTAP stands for Media. This includes the fuels, chemicals, and other substances that will contact the gasket. Customers need to identify the specific media, but they also need to determine whether this contact is continuous or intermittent. Think about the door gasket on a truck's fuel tank. Is the fuel diesel or gasoline? Is contact with the gasket limited to an occasional splash?

Temperature

The T in MTAP stands for temperature. At a minimum, customers need to determine the minimum and maximum service temperatures a gasket will encounter. They may also need to account for temperature cycling, the process of moving

through two temperature extremes. With electronics, rapid changes in temperature can degrade some elastomeric seals.

Application

The A in MTAP stands for application, the intended purpose of the seal. If a customer is designing a gasket for the hatch on a yacht, their concerns are probably different than if they're designing a seal for a commercial oven. Customers may also need to meet specific standards or consider the implications of installing a gasket with fasteners instead of adhesive tape.

Pressure

Finally, the P in MTAP stands for pressure. If your customer is designing a gasket for a metal tank, what is the tank's internal pressure? If the gasket is for a pump instead, what is the pump's operating pressure? As with temperature, application, and media, customers need to have a complete understanding of this final variable – especially to ensure safety.

Will you add MTAP to your design reviews? Doing so can help make customer gasket design easier.

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