



Designation: C923 – 18

Standard Specification for Resilient Connectors Between Reinforced Concrete Manhole Structures, Pipes, and Laterals¹

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 (ϵ) 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, health, and environmental practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.* For a specific precaution statement, see 7.2.5.

1.4 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

¹ 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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2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- 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:

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

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

TABLE 1 Resilient Material Tests

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

^A Specimens shall be prepared from connector specimens, and shall not be prepared from laboratory slabs or by direct molding.

^B 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**.