

5 REASONS TO USE PREFORMED PACKING RING SETS IN ROTATING EQUIPMENT

Comparison of bulk compression packing versus pre-cut, preformed packing ring sets in rotating, fluid handling equipment



By Jean Melancon
(Revision By J.Vachon)

INTRODUCTION

You rely on braided compression packing to efficiently seal rotating equipment, particularly when sealing aggressive fluids where mechanical seals have demonstrated their limits. However, installing compression packing requires know-how and even experienced personnel find it tedious and time-consuming.

SITUATION

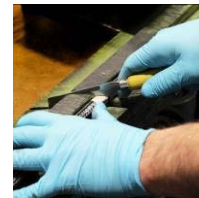
You need to select which packing would best suit your equipment and application, and in what order to install each packing length, assuming your maintenance worker will remember and respect the installation order and steps involved. Measuring packing lengths, cutting them to the correct size and allowing for compression expansion can be difficult. There's always material waste as a result of error and achieving the required angle cut. Also, giving each packing length a shape around the shaft and making sure the shape is maintained during insertion requires time and patience. Then, unless the packing is pre-densified, exerted compression may not be ideal and will result in reduced, inadequate sealability.



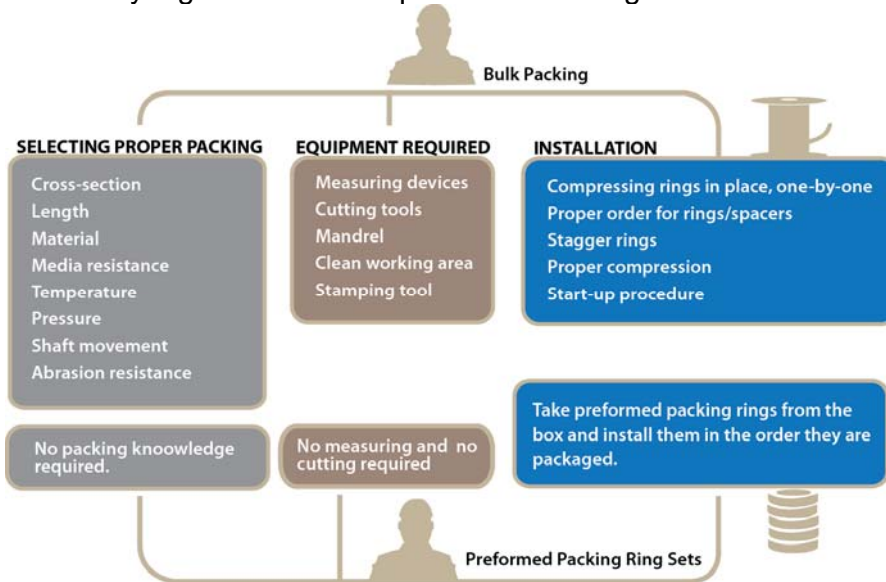
That's where preformed packing ring sets come into play. These custom-made sets, pre-cut and formed to fit your equipment, will incorporate the best configuration of packing types and spacers to suit your application.

UNDERSTANDING THE BENEFITS

- 1- **PRE-CUT** - Packing comes in rings that are pre-cut to optimal size for your equipment. This means less time spent awkwardly measuring and cutting compression packing around the shaft. This will also eliminate cutting scraps and wasting packing that you've paid for.
- 2- **PREFORMED** - Each pre-cut length is preformed to a ring for ease of installation. Rings maintain their shape as they are twisted around the shaft and fitted into the stuffing box.
- 3- **PRE-DENSIFIED** - Pre-cut, formed rings are pre-densified and pressed to the optimal compression needed to ensure a tighter seal than if bulk packing had been used.



- 4- **PACKAGED IN SETS** – Pre-cut, preformed packing rings are packaged in ready-to-install individual sets. Rings are packaged in the order they should be installed. Maintenance workers don't have to guess or decide installation sequence of packing rings, spacers or end rings as these are designed specifically for your equipment. An installation diagram is provided with each shipment.
- 5- **BETTER PERFORMANCE** - Optimal selection of preformed packing ring sets ensures superior performance resulting in less sleeve wear, less slurry ingress and requires less cooling water.



SUMMARY

Although ordering and installing bulk compression packing and spacers may give an initial impression of lower total cost, in reality, the extra time and material involved amounts to a higher total cost with inferior performance.

Pre-cut, preformed packing ring sets ensure faster, sequential installation, superior seal, faster start-up and lower total cost of ownership.

Average Total Cost per Equipment	\$ 215	\$ 325
	66.20%	100%

