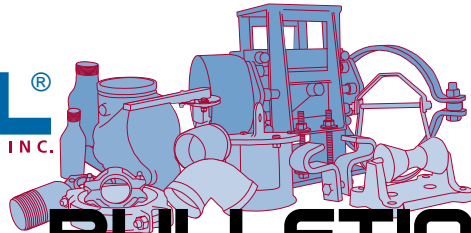


**ANVIL**<sup>®</sup>  
INTERNATIONAL, INC.



# TECHNICAL BULLETIN Volume 2 • Issue 2

**New products and developments from Anvil International, Inc.**

## To Lube, or NOT to Lube

The new no-lube gaskets can be great time savers and are certainly cleaner to install. They eliminate the handling of lubricant coated gaskets and couplings. How many times have you had lubricant coated gloves or wrenches that were a bother to handle? That gasket lube seemed to be everywhere.

Yet, along with taking advantage of these significant time and convenience advantages, comes the added responsibility for the installer to use pipe in good condition, prepare the grooves according to standards, and only use no-lube gaskets in applications that will remain above freezing. It is the responsibility of the installer to know whether a job will allow the use of no-lube gaskets, or will require the use of a gasket lubricant. Let us explain what lubricants do in greater detail.

Putting lubricant on the gasket and the coupling housings allows the gasket to optimally seat itself into the coupling and onto the pipe. Lubricant makes the gasket very slippery, much more so than a no-lube gasket would be. This slipperiness lets the rubber gasket flow and force itself into the crevices in the pipe. This is especially important on the weld seam, which can have significant imperfections. Even if the width of the crevice is too narrow or too deep for the gasket to flow into, the lubricant can aid in providing a seal.

The same general reasoning holds true when the grooving might not be optimal. The gasket lubricant allows the gasket to establish the preferred seating position between the pipe and the coupling.

And finally, there's the cold. Elastomeric gaskets harden with decreasing temperature. In fact, they will continue to harden until they reach the glass transition temperature, at which point they can crack. An applied lubricant continues to fill any voids and allows the gasket to find the proper seat.

No-lube gaskets, on the other hand, are not as slippery and have no accumulation of lubricant on the surface to augment their sealing capability. They do a reasonable job under most conditions so long as pipe is in good condition, grooving is to standard, and temperatures don't freeze. This is the reason Gruvlok states the no-lube gaskets are not to be used in systems that go below 32 F. Dry sprinkler systems are specifically referenced because they are most frequently used in colder environments.

No-lube gaskets are great tools for the right application. They do require more care during application and installation. If you have questions about whether no-lube gaskets are appropriate for your situation, remember the three main criteria to help you make the final choice: pipe condition, grooving accuracy, and temperature.



**Gruvlok<sup>®</sup> Xtreme Lubricant<sup>™</sup> is an excellent choice for applications above 180° F and below -20° F.**

When conditions require a lubricant or no-lube gaskets are not preferred, Anvil offers a complete line of quality lubricants.

Standard Lubricant	Price
Pack (with 12 Tubes, 4½ oz. each) . . .	\$160.39/pack
Carton (with 12 Tubes, 144 Tubes) . . .	\$1,588.70/carton
1 Quart Can . . . . .	\$68.67/can
5 Gallon Pail . . . . .	\$580.39/pail

Quick Dry Lubricant	Price
1 Pint Can . . . . .	\$52.34
1 Quart Can . . . . .	\$73.61
1 Gallon Pail . . . . .	\$124.85

Xtreme Lubricant (Silicone)	Price
10 oz. Tube (1 each) . . . . .	\$34.00
2.2 lb. Tub (Gruvlok <sup>®</sup> Lubricant) . . . .	\$196.45