



Quick Reference Guide

Servo Couplings: Bellows vs. Elastomer

Elastomer? Bellows? What is the best coupling technology for your motion control application? Each has its advantages from torsional stiffness to vibration dampening. A quick comparison of features and advantages can point to the best solution.

Servo Coupling Design

There are two basic types of servo couplings: bellows and elastomer. Both provide zero-backlash, low inertia, and compensation for shaft misalignment. Their difference lies in the flexible, compensating element.

Bellows

The bellows coupling uses stainless steel bellows connected to the clamping hubs via a press fit brass wire providing zero-backlash and extremely high torsional stiffness.

Elastomer

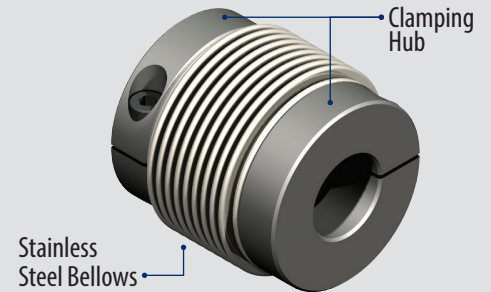
The elastomer coupling uses an elastomer "spider." The spider and the clamping hubs interlock with involute teeth providing zero-backlash and vibration dampening.

Selection

Use this quick guide to select the best type of coupling for an application:

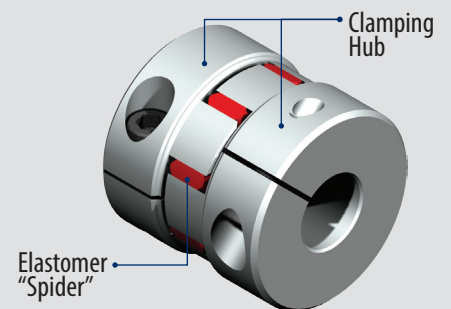
Your application prioritizes...	Use this style coupling...
Ability to repair	Elastomer
Continuous duty cycle	Elastomer
Cyclic duty cycle	Bellows
Electrical insulation	Elastomer
Extreme temperature range	Bellows
High speed	Bellows
High torque capacity	Bellows
High torsional stiffness	Bellows
Low-cost solution	Elastomer
No maintenance	Bellows
Vibration/resonance dampening	Elastomer

Bellows Coupling



- High torsionally stiffness
- Temperatures to 300°C
- Torque capacity up to 4000 Nm
- Suitable for all motion control applications

Elastomer Coupling



- Vibration/resonance dampening
- Temperatures to 120°C
- Torque capacity up to 2000 Nm
- Lower cost for less precise applications
- Plug-in assembly
- Electrically insulating

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