AFV Sleeves

Elastomer storage

Elastomer parts stored for long periods may change their physical characteristics. Such changes may include hardening, softening, cracking and other forms of surface degeneration. This is due to one or more influences such as deformation, oxygen, light, ozone, heat, damp, oil or solvent. Basic instructions on storage, cleaning and preservation of elastomer seals are laid down in the DIN 7716 and ISO 2230 standards. ISO 2230 contains advice on storing rubber items. The table below gives the maximums storage periods split into three groups.

Natural rubber base	Maximum storage period	Extension
BR, NR, IR, SBR, AU, EU	5 Years	2 Years
NBR, XNBR, **HNBR**, CO, ECO ACM, CR, IIR, BIIR, CIIR	7 Years	3 Years
CM, CSM, EPM, EPDM, FPM, VMO, PVMQ, FVMQ	10 Years	5 Years

Elastomer storage periods

After the first shelf periode the elastomer part should be inspected. If the parts shows no defects like cracks, hardened surface or shrinkage which could affect the functionality, the sleeve can be put in stock again for further 3 years.

When storing rubber products certain conditions must be met.

Heat
Storage temperature for elastomers should preferably be in the +5 °C to +25 °C range. Avoid direct contact with heat sources such as radiators or sunlight.

Moisture
Relative humidity should be below 70 % in the storage space. Extremely damp or dry conditions should be avoided.

Light
Elastomer parts should be protected against light when stored. Direct sunlight and strong artificial light with a UV content in particular are to be avoided. We recommend covering windows in storage spaces with red or orange materials.

Oxygen and ozone
If possible elastomers should be packaged or put in airtight containers to protect them against circulating air.

Deformation
Elastomers should be stored in untensioned condition if possible.

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