COPPER PRESS FITTINGS AND VALVES
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: WHAT ARE THE APPROVED FLUIDS AND/OR GASES?

**YES**
- Hot water (up to 250°F) at a maximum working pressure of 300 psi
- Chilled water (32°F to 250°F) at a maximum working pressure of 300 psi
- Water glycol mixture (ethylene, propylene, butylenes – between 40% and 90% concentration)
- Air, compressed (oil content less the 0.025 ppb)
- Window washer fluid
- Oxygen (non-medical applications)
- Argon (maximum working pressure 300 psi)
- Vacuum
- Low pressure steam (maximum working pressure 15 psi)

**NO**
- Solar (contact “Apollo” Flow Controls to review the application)
- Refrigerants (contact “Apollo” Flow Controls to review the application)
- Chlorine
- Medical gas
- Petroleum products (e.g. grease, oil, diesel fuel, gasoline)
- DWV pipe
- Copper tube with wall thickness less than ASTM B88 Type M
- Natural gas – propane – fuel gas
- Fire protection systems (UL/FM pending)
- Paint lines like those found in car manufacturing plants

Q: WHAT IS THE MINIMUM DISTANCE (GAP) BETWEEN APOLLOPRESS FITTINGS?
A: The minimum gap is 0” for 1/2” through 3/4”, 1/2” for 1-1/4” and 5/8” for 1-1/2” through 4”.

Q: WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE FOR SOLDERING NEAR AN APOLLOPRESS CONNECTION?
A: Stay at least 12 inches away from the pressed connection. If 12 inches is not possible, the installer should take proper precautions to keep the APOLLOPRESS joint cool while soldering. Additional information can be found in the installation instructions.
  - Wrap the joint with a cold, wet rag
  - Fabricate the solder joint prior to installing the pressed fitting, making sure the pipe is cooled before installing the fitting
  - Use a “spray type” spot freezing product

Q: AS AN INSPECTOR, HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM LOOKING AT A GOOD JOINT?
A: Check that the position of the depth insertion mark on the tube is adjacent to the end of the APOLLOPRESS fitting, then pressure test the joint in the same manner as a solder joint.

Q: WHAT LUBRICANT IS USED ON THE SEALING ELEMENTS IN THE APOLLOPRESS FITTINGS?
A: The seals are lubricated with an NSF-61 silicone lube. If it is necessary to lubricate the seals in the field, use water only. Do not use other lubricants. In particular, do not use any petroleum-based lubricants since petroleum and EPDM are incompatible.

Q: HOW LONG WILL THE EPDM SEAL LAST?
A: When properly installed, the EPDM seal and connection will last as long as the copper pipe with which it is joined (50+ years).

Q: HOW DO I FABRICATE A SYSTEM IN TIGHT PLACES WHEN USING APOLLOPRESS?
A: If necessary, pre-fabricate connections, then install.

Q: WHAT IS THE WARRANTY FOR APOLLOPRESS?
A: APOLLOPRESS fittings carry a 50-year warranty against defects in material and workmanship from the manufacturer.

Q: WHAT LEVEL OF TURBULENCE IS CAUSED BY APOLLOPRESS FITTINGS, AND WILL IT CAUSE PREMATURE WEAR IN COPPER TUBING?
A: Deformation at the interior of the pressed joint has not proven to be a source of turbulence. The smooth surfaces created allow the fluid flow to remain undisturbed. Not deburring the ID of the pipe is the largest contributing factor to turbulence and premature wear in any copper piping system.

Q: TO WHAT DEGREE DOES THE TEMPERATURE RATING GO UP OR DOWN AS PRESSURE IN THE APOLLOPRESS FITTING CHANGES?
A: The pressure rating is 300 psi maximum working pressure with a 600 psi maximum test pressure at all temperatures from 0°F to 250°F. Pressure changes within these limits have no impact on the temperature ratings.
Note: For water systems, the pressure/temperature rating is 300 psi, 32°F to 250°F.
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Q: WHAT ARE THE FLOW RATES THROUGH APOLLOPRESS FITTINGS?
   A: Flow rates and flow rate calculations are the same as those used for solder fitting installations.

Q: HOW DO APOLLOPRESS JOINTS HOLD UP TO FREEZING TEMPERATURES?
   A: Water systems should not be allowed to freeze. When water freezes, it expands and creates pressures that exceed plumbing system pressure capabilities. Tubes and fittings will burst.

Q: WHAT SHOULD A USER DO IF AN APOLLOPRESS FITTING LEAKS?
   A: In general, APOLLOPRESS fittings leak for only a few reasons:
       • The fitting was never pressed. Solution: press the fitting
       • The copper tubing was not properly inserted prior to pressing. This cannot be repaired. Replace the fitting.
       • The jaw was not properly aligned on the fitting (cross pressed; cross crimped). This cannot be repaired. Replace the fitting.
       • After confirming the above were originally performed satisfactorily, re-press the fitting with the jaw rotated 90° to the original position. Under all other circumstances, if a fitting continues to leak, contact the pressing jaw/tool company and EPC.

Q: IS APOLLOPRESS COMPATIBLE WITH THE CLEANING AGENTS USED TO DISINFECT A NEW PLUMBING SYSTEM?
   A: Yes.

Q: WHAT SHOULD BE DONE IF A USER ACCIDENTALLY CUTS THE SEAL WITH THE COPPER PIPE DURING TUBE INSERTION?
   A: If the seal is damaged by inserting the copper pipe, then the seal must be replaced.

Q: WHAT SHOULD AN INSTALLER DO IF A 1/2" OR 3/4" TUBE ROTATES IN APOLLOPRESS DURING A STUB-OUT INSTALLATION?
   A: Repressing the joint is the preferred repair. However, testing has shown that a joint which has spun 360° does not leak or exhibit reduced pressure-temperature performance.

Q: IS AN APOLLOPRESS PRESS-CONNECT FITTING JOINT ELECTRICALLY CONDUCTIVE?
   A: Yes, the copper tube and the fitting body are in intimate contact once pressing occurs.

Q: HOW WAS THE LIFE TESTING CONDUCTED FOR THE SEALS AND FITTINGS?
   A: Life testing is performed per the requirements of IAPMO PS-117.