



# Installation Instructions JCM 438 All Stainless Steel Threaded Outlet Tapping Sleeve

**Read instructions before starting installation\***

**For purposes other than water, contact JCM Industries for application and product assistance.**

**Review of “Tricks of the Trade” on the reverse will assist with installation.**

1. Clean and scrape pipe. Remove any scale, pipe wrap, debris or dirt that may interfere with the complete sealing of the gasket. Inspect pipe for integrity, size, outside diameter and surface irregularities. Confirm the proper size and range of tapping sleeve. Inspect fitting to ensure all parts are included.

**See reverse for stainless steel fastener management.**

2. Lubricate the pipe and the fitting gasket with soapy water. **Do not use oil base pipe lubricant.**
3. Position outlet half of body on pipe, making sure outlet is aligned with branch line to be connected. Do Not position so that rotation is required. Rotation can result in gasket dislocation.
4. Position back half of body and install bolts. **NOTE:** For fittings with hardware furnished with double washer sets, to assure ease of installation and obtain optimum bolt torque levels, install the double set of washers under each nut.

Tighten outside bolts first, working toward the center. Tighten bolts evenly. Alternate from one side of sleeve to the other. The gap between sleeve halves should be equal on both sides. JCM recommends the use of a torque wrench to ensure proper torque levels. Improper torque levels can result in leaking assembly or damage to the pipe wall.

**Tighten bolts to the following torque levels:**

Pipe sizes up through 12”	100 ft. lbs. of torque
Pipe sizes 14” & larger	125 ft. lbs. of torque
On Thin Wall, PVC (SDR21, 26), and Flexible Pipe	50 - 55 ft. lbs. minimum
HDPE SDR11, SDR17 - 3” - 12”	55 - 60 ft. lbs. minimum
HDPE SDR11, SDR17 - 14” and Larger	75 - 90 ft. lbs. minimum

**For test or working pressures above 250PSI, contact JCM for proper application and bolt torque levels.**

*For applications involving uncertain pipeline integrity, installer should take care to not tighten the fitting to the point of misshaping or damaging the pipe.*

5. Check inside of sleeve outlet to make certain gasket is properly seated and not protruding where tapping cutter may damage it. Complete installation of fitting, return after approximately 15 minutes and confirm minimum bolt torque levels have been maintained. Test assembly seals through connection on tapping machine.

Alignment and support of the tapping sleeve is the responsibility of the end user, per best engineering practice, industry standard practice, or local code. For water applications: if applicable, test assembly seals with water (per ANSI/AWWA C-223). When testing the assembly against the pipe to pressures greater than the internal pressure of the host pipe, application should be treated with caution to prevent imploding or damaging the pipe wall due to thin wall, flexible or brittle conditions. No more than 10% above line pressure. Size on size tapping cutter must not be larger than recommended by pipe manufacturer. Tapping operation must not force the pipe away from the gasket seal. For inquires, contact JCM Industries, Inc.

\*Ensure fitting is suitable for application (confirm size, materials, pressure ratings, line content, meets local governing & association standards, etc.). Pipeline operation forces, including pressure fluctuations, thermal expansion/contraction, movement/shifting, etc. will influence the success of the application. Proper anchorage, restraint, harnessing, thrust blocks or other devices must be provided to prevent pipe movement (lateral, angular, axial) or pipe pullout from the bolt-on fitting. Inspection of the pipe integrity is the responsibility of the end user. JCM recommends the use of calibrated torque wrench. Failure to follow installation instructions will result in voided product warranty.



## Stainless Steel Fastener Management and Tips and Tricks Of The Trade For a Successful Installation

### JCM Quality Fittings Equipped With 18-8 Stainless Steel Bolts and Nuts

When not properly handled it is the nature of stainless steel fasteners to gall and freeze (seize up). This is due to the inherent properties of the stainless material. Galling and freezing is often triggered by the presence of metal chips, burrs and grains of sand on the threads of the bolts and nuts. Extra care has been taken by JCM prior to assembly and packing of this fitting to assure a trouble-free installation.

1. The nuts and bolts are made from material of different hardness so that they have different strengths.
2. Nuts are coated with a special anti-seize coating. Additional lubricant may be needed. A Molybdenum-Base lubricant is recommended.
3. Each nut is assembled by hand to be sure that it went on the bolt freely.
4. The bolts and nuts are handled carefully to avoid damage to the threads.
5. The bolts and nuts are made to exacting specifications to assure that the correct material is used and that the thread form is correct.

Stainless hardware is especially susceptible to galling. JCM supplies specially coated nuts to eliminate the galling caused by over-torque but the bolt threads must be kept clean, free from nicks and not pitched or thrown into the tool bucket during the installation process. Use of the JCM 901 Master Wrench highly recommended. Use of a calibrated torque wrench is recommended to confirm bolt torque levels have been achieved. Use of pneumatic wrench for installation could cause hardware to seize and is not recommended.

### Tricks of the Trade

Years of field experience, special applications and product testing have revealed many subtleties regarding application and installation of bolted fittings. For maximum performance under adverse conditions take advantage of the JCM "Tricks of the Trade."

Lubricate the pipe with soap-water or water. Oil based pipe lubricants produce a film between the gasket and pipe surface that is not water soluble and can interfere with the gasket/pipe watertight seal.

Do not rotate the sleeve on the pipe. Rotation of the sleeve on the pipe can result in the gasket being ripped from the groove and damaging the gasket beyond repair. Some manufacturers recommend rotation - JCM does not.

Tighten the bolts in the sequence provided in the instructions. Fittings are engineered to "load" the gasket in a certain fashion. Instructions provide the "sequence" of tightening bolts. Ensure the gap between sleeve sections is equal on all sides

Confirm bolt torques with a torque wrench. Proper compression of the gasket is critical to the success of the tapping sleeve installation. A torque wrench should be used to ensure recommended levels are achieved. Most field problems are directly related to lack of proper torque levels.

For water applications, proper valve installation, support and trenching per AWWA M-44. Improper assembly support and careless backfilling can sabotage an otherwise perfect installation.