

## **PV Fluid Products**

The **PROGRESSIVE**  
rotor and stator company



**Product  
Service  
Quality  
Manufacturing**



# **STATOR ELASTOMERS**



## Thermal Expansion

As the rotor and stator heat up downhole, thermal expansion takes place which changes the fit. The elastomer has a higher rate of thermal expansion than the rotor and the rate of thermal expansion is also determined by the elastomer and the model. When the heat reduces, the thermal expansion also reduces.

The main sources of heat are

- Internal – the heat generated by the rotor turning in the stator
- External – heat from the formation

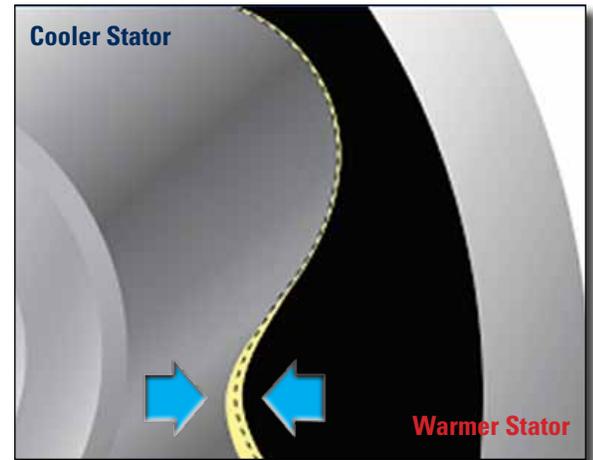
Internal heat is accommodated within the design of the power section, external heat is accommodated by stator fit selection. Looser fit stators are available for higher downhole temperature applications.

The fit at surface and in the workshop will be looser than the fit downhole.

## Formula For Thermal Expansion

$$\frac{\Delta L}{L} = \alpha[\Delta T]$$

$\Delta L$  = Change in Length  
 $\Delta T$  = Change in Temperature  
 $\alpha$  = Coefficient of Thermal Expansion (CTE)



## Chemical Swell

Chemical swell occurs when the drilling fluid reacts with the elastomer and a chemical change takes place and it varies by elastomer type and by drilling fluid.

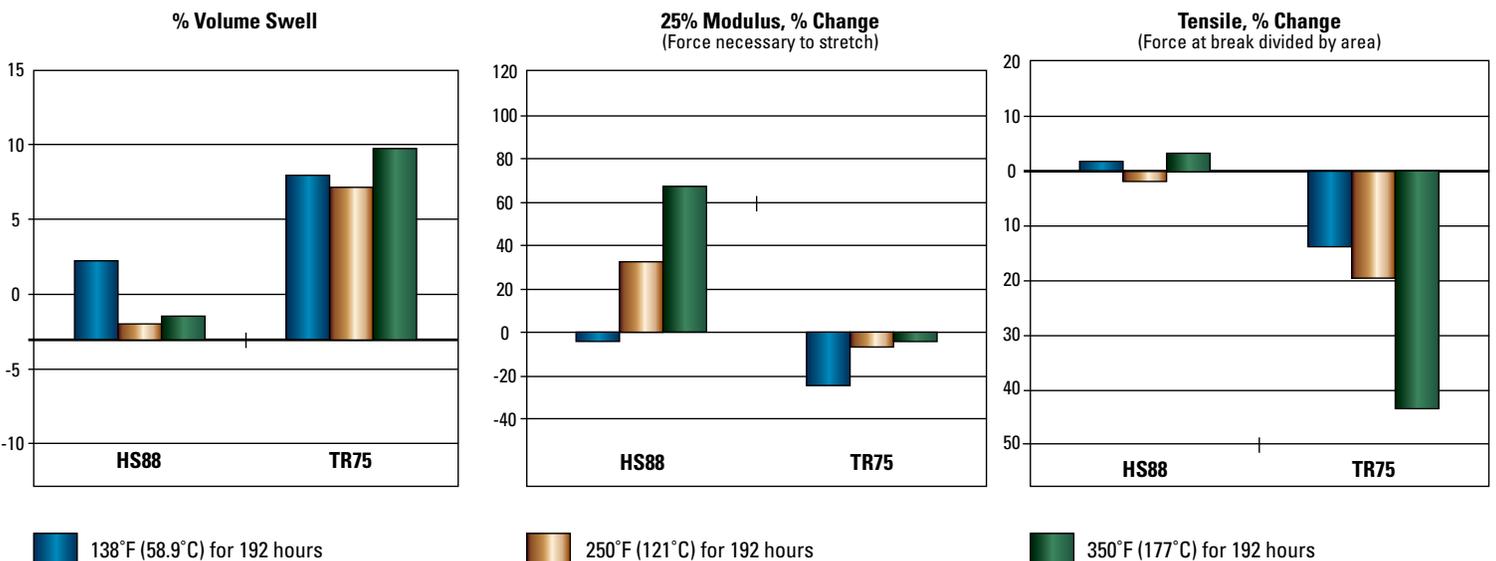
If the aniline point of the drilling fluid is lower than the circulating temperature, there is more chance of chemical swell occurring.

The effects of chemical swell tend to have a permanent effect on the elastomer and result in changes to the mechanical and physical properties, to the fit and to the service life e.g.

- The elastomer can swell and become softer
- The elastomer can shrink and become harder

Immersion tests on elastomers in drilling fluid can be undertaken to help identify changes to the key mechanical properties of the elastomers. This helps determine what elastomer and fit should be used for a specific application. Typical results are:

## Diesel Baseline Test



138°F (58.9°C) for 192 hours

250°F (121°C) for 192 hours

350°F (177°C) for 192 hours

Observations and conclusions reached in this report are based on lab results obtained using PV stator elastomer and mud samples supplied to PV Fluid Products and are based on ASTM testing standards. Fluid Products does not guarantee that the results of this test will be duplicated in actual drilling conditions. This report is provided for general guideline purposes only.

## Temperature Derating

Elastomers lose some of their mechanical strength when they get hotter. For optimum service life, the maximum Operating Pressure across the power section should be reduced (derated) as the temperature increases. The derating factor increases with the temperature so to calculate the derated Operating Pressure at given application temperature, multiply the Maximum Operating Pressure by the derating factor.

Each stator's performance specification sheet shows the maximum Working Pressure, the maximum Off-Bottom Pressure and the maximum Operating Pressure (for the power section only).

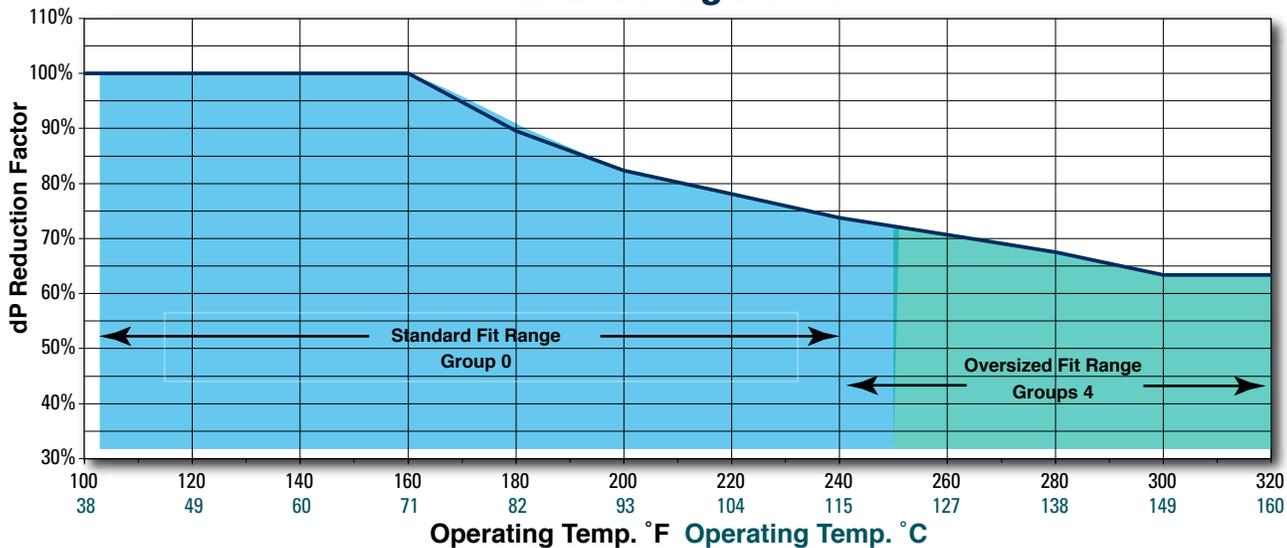
**Maximum Working Pressure** = the maximum pressure that can be put across the power section before slip starts to occur.

**Maximum Off-Bottom (OFF-BTM)** = the pressure, at maximum flow rate, needed to overcome the internal mechanical and hydraulic friction in the power section.

**Maximum Operating Pressure** = maximum Working Pressure – maximum OFF-BTM (i.e. the remaining pressure available for the drilling operation).

A typical derating chart is shown below.

### dP Derating Factor



## Stator Shelf Life

In general, elastomers age when exposed to heat, light, ozone, oxygen and radiation. Aging causes the elastomer to harden and crack and changes the mechanical properties. A borescope can be used to view the internal condition of a stator and a durometer gauge can be used to measure the hardness of the elastomer.

The recommended shelf life for a NEW stator stored with the ends covered is:

- 3 years – if the stator is stored in a climate controlled environment
- 2 Years – If the stator is stored inside or outside, in moderate conditions (up to 100°F / 38°C)
- 1 Year – if the stator is stored outside in high heat conditions

It is recommended that stators stored outside are painted a light colour and are located out of direct sunlight. It is also recommended that stators are relined after each run, particularly when used with invert or oil base mud and in high temperature applications.

If used stators are to be re-run, local knowledge and experience should be used to determine shelf life. Used stators should be flushed out with clean water before being laid down. The rotors should not be stored inside the stator.



**For more information on PV elastomers, fit charts, derating curves, etc., please contact your local PV sales office.**

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