

Elster Perfection replaces compression couplings on steel tees

Project Profile

PROJECT: Elster Perfection Servi-Sert Tee Retro-Fit

LOCATION: Virginia, Maryland, Washington, DC

PRODUCTS: Servi-Sert and Retrofit adapter



Elster Perfection's solution helps utility partners replace potentially leaking compression couplings on steel tees

- Elster Perfection's creative solution to the replacement of compression couplings has allowed utility partners the opportunity to save thousands of dollars in replacement costs.
- The compression coupling on the outlet of the steel tapping tees was identified by Elster Perfection's utility partners as a potential leak point.
- Utility partners sought a solution that would allow them to salvage the welded tee since complete replacement would be time consuming and costly.
- Elster Perfection engineers worked with utility partners to develop a solution that combines the use of the time proven Servi-Sert along with a custom adapter that threads directly onto the outlet of the existing tee.



SCENARIO

A large Northeast US natural gas utility was faced with steel welded tapping tees that were leaking or potentially could leak at the outlet of the tee connecting the existing service line to the home or business. The compression-style coupling to the service line was identified as the specific potential leak point. The utility determined that the welded tapping tee base, tower and outlet portion up to the compression coupling were still in good condition, functional and safe.

The largest problem was replacement of the tee would be costly, require a welder and a greater area of excavation and restoration. The "traditional solution" would be to excavate a large hole. A welder would plug and abandon the old mainline tee. Another tee would then be tapped and tied-in to the new or existing service line. The large Northeast US natural gas utility was seeking a creative alternative solution utilizing proven technology while taking advantage of any potential cost savings.

THE SOLUTION

The utility proposed the scenario to Elster Perfection and Elster Perfection was able to develop and supply an affordable solution.

A standard excavation is completed above the suspect tapping tee. The fitting accommodates small-hole technology, although currently tooling is not yet available. Following standard operating procedures, the compression coupling is removed exposing standard male pipe threads. The installer cleans the male pipe threads of any loose impediments and inserts the custom Retrofit adapter into the outlet of the tee. From here, the installer threads on the Servi-Sert fitting and stabs the existing polyethylene tubing or renewed tubing into the outlet of the Servi-Sert using standard installation instructions.

About Elster

A world leader in advanced metering Infrastructure, integrated metering, and utilization solutions to the gas, electricity and water industries. Elster's systems and solutions reflect over 170 years of knowledge and experience in measuring precious resources and energy.

Elster provides solutions and advanced technologies to help utilities more easily, efficiently and reliably obtain and use advanced metering intelligence to improve customer service, enhance operational efficiency, and increase revenues. Elster's AMI solutions enable utilities to cost-effectively generate, deliver, manage, and conserve the life-essential resources of gas, electricity, and water.

Elster has over 7,500 staff and operations in 38 countries in North and South America, Europe, and Asia.

Estimated 15 to 20 percent
cost savings per installation
Additional savings with small
hole applications

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