



## Technical Support Sheet

# RRJ Concrete Pipe Installation

## Repair Procedure for Wide Joint Gaps in Rubber Ring Joint Concrete Pipe

Occasionally reinforced concrete rubber ring jointed pipes are installed with joint gaps greater than the recommended maximum.

This may result in a joint without radial shear protection which subsequently, may be prone to leaking if there is displacement of the pipes at the joint. (Refer to Technical Note: Joint Gaps in Rubber Ring Jointed Concrete Pipe for more information).

Whilst the absence of radial shear protection does not automatically lead to a leaking joint, it may be prudent, in some instances, to provide an additional seal to 'back up' the existing rubber ring.

The procedure involves reducing the joint gap to an acceptable width by building up the collar side of the joint with epoxy and then applying a flexible sealant to the remaining joint gap between the collar and spigot of the adjacent pipes.

The procedure is primarily for stable joints and for those exposed to a low external water pressure of 1-3m. Where the joint has risk to potential movement, Hydrophilic Polyurethane Resin must be used as this provides more flexibility at the joint. This must be installed by an approved installer.

Pipe Size	Modified Joint Gap 'X'	Depth of Recess 'Y'
750 to 900 mm Ø	15 mm	12
1050 to 1350 mm Ø	20 mm	12
1650 to 1800 mm Ø	25 mm	12

### Procedure

1. Ensure MSD sheets are obtained and understood. Contact your local Hynds Pipe Systems Branch for these products or your local Sika branch.
2. Prepare the surface and apply epoxy, according to the manufacturer's instructions, to the collar side of the joint to reduce the joint gap to the required dimension 'X' around the entire perimeter of the pipe. (A spacer tool of the appropriate thickness, to match the required joint gap, will assist in placing the epoxy to the correct thickness, to form the desired joint gap).
3. Finish the epoxy flush with the barrel of the pipes, around the entire perimeter and allow epoxy to harden.
4. Insert appropriately sized backing rod into the joint gap, leaving a recess 'Y', 12 mm deep all round the joint perimeter.
5. Apply Sikaflex – Tank N to the recess in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

