

BFM®'s flexible connectors are available in a wide range of diameters as shown in the table below. It is important that the appropriate connector length is selected for the space available. Pipe and spigot length can be adjusted to ensure the right fit within an appropriate Installation Gap (IG) for the connector length.

The Installation Gap is always slightly smaller than the actual connector length to allow for ease of connector replacement and offset or movement during operation.

Standard Connector DIAMETER Ø	Standard Connector LENGTHS
(MM)	(MM)
100	80
125	100
150	150
200	200
250	250
300	300
350	350
400	400
450	450
500	500
550	550
600	600
650	650
	700
	750
	800
	↓
1,650*	6,000*

**NB:** Connector diameters and lengths are available in 50mm increments only. Measurements shown in mm are exact.



As a basic guide for **in-line static equipment** (ie. no off-set or movement):

$$IG = CL - 10mm \text{ (Minimum)}$$

- The connector diameters and lengths highlighted in blue on the adjacent table are the **'Preferred Connector' range** and are the most **cost effective** options
- Anything outside of this standard range can be produced as a special connector, up to **1,650mm diameter maximum\*** 100mm diameter is the smallest we can manufacture
- The **maximum length** for diameters under 700mm is **6 metres**
- Available in **50mm increments only**
- TR (Tool Release) connectors are available up to a maximum of diameter of **650mm**

\* There are some restrictions on diameter and length for different materials and for those connectors with support rings.

**NOTES:**

01. The stainless steel spigots (flanges) have a tail 52mm long. These can be easily cut down or cut on an angle to suit your existing pipework. See installation instructions for more information.
02. It is important to weld the spigots onto your pipework with the length of the flexible connector in mind as indicated above. All BFM® connectors are available in length increments of 50mm.
03. For applications where there is a possibility for static build up, e.g. wood dust, flour, milk powder etc., we recommend using a static dissipative wire (strip), connecting the two BFM® spigots.

## Installing your BFM® fitting

Preparation is the key to optimising the performance of your BFM® fitting system. It's important that you prepare your connecting pipes to be vertically aligned wherever possible, and the spigot heads need to be welded so that they are parallel to each other (as shown in 3 & 4 below). It is also essential to ensure that you have allowed the correct installation gap between the spigots.

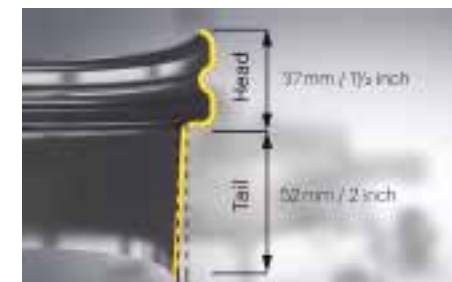
Any off-set installation (2) will cause increased abrasion by product constantly running along the connector wall. Also, more pronounced off-set situations will cause the connector to crease or pull, which in turn will result in premature wear.

Consider relocating your duct work to enable an in-line installation of the BFM® fitting (3). If this is not possible, try to weld on both of the spigots at an angle (4) so they are aligned to avoid folds in the connector material.



If you have limited space to install the optimum connector length, you may need to cut the BFM® spigots down to ensure the appropriate installation gap.

The standard total spigot length is 89mm, but the tail of these can be cut right down so the total length is a minimum of 37mm if necessary (*ensure extreme care is taken and use a heat-sink to avoid distortion of the spigot when welding.*)



## Measuring offsets & movement

- For **Offset** (if you can't straighten pipes), the measurement you need to take is the maximum horizontal difference in either direction vs if the two spigots were in alignment from a fixed point on the top Spigot compared to the same point on the bottom Spigot.
- For **Vibratory or Oscillating**, the measurement you need to take is the maximum horizontal movement in either direction from a fixed point on the top Spigot compared to the same point on the bottom Spigot.
- For **Oscillating + Offset**, the measurement you need to take is the maximum horizontal difference/movement in either direction from a fixed point on the top Spigot compared to the same point on the bottom Spigot\*. This includes any initial offset (ie. you need to know the **total maximum horizontal difference in either direction vs if the two spigots were in alignment**).

As a general rule, for in-line connectors that have little (vibratory) or no movement, you can position the spigots at a distance of approx. 10 mm (3/8") less than the connector length.

If the installation gap is too big, the connector will be stretched and difficult to install and remove from the spigot. The seal may also not be 100% dust tight anymore and service life will be compromised. If it is too small, the connector may have excessive creases, creating more product contact.

BFM® fitting connector lengths start at 80mm, then go from 100mm through to 6m in 50mm increments.\*

The length of connector you choose will largely depend on the **total space** you have available to install your connector.

For static/vibratory applications that don't require frequent changes, any length is fine provided the correct Installation Gap is used. We usually recommend installing the longest possible connector for most other applications, and for those with large movements (such as gyratory equipment), a minimum of around 300mm is best.



Installation gap too small      Installation gap optimal      Installation gap too large