



BELT STORAGE

METHODS OF STORAGE CONT.

2. JOINED V-BELTS, SYNCHRONOUS BELTS, V-RIBBED BELTS

Like V-belts, these belts may be stored on pins or saddles with precautions taken to avoid distortion. However, belts of these types, up to approximately 120 inches (3000 mm), are normally shipped in “nested” configuration and it is recommended that the belts be stored in this manner as well. Nests are formed by laying a belt on its side on a flat surface and placing as many belts inside the first belt as possible without undue force. When the nests are tight and are stacked with each rotated 180° from the one below, they may be stacked without damage.

Belts of these types over approximately 120 inches (3000mm), may be “rolled up” and tied for shipment. These rolls may be stacked for easy storage. Care should be taken to avoid small radii, which could damage the belts.

3. VARIABLE SPEED BELTS

Variable speed belts are more sensitive to distortion than most other belts and it is not recommended that these belts be hung from pins or racks. They should be stored on shelves. A common method for packaging for shipment is the use of a “sleeve” slipped over the belt. Variable speed belts should be stored in these sleeves and may conveniently be stacked on shelves with the aid of the sleeves.

EFFECTS OF STORAGE

The quality of belts has not been found to change significantly within eight years of proper storage at temperatures less than 85°F (30°C) and relative humidity below 70 percent. Also there must be no exposure to direct sunlight.

If the storage temperature is increased beyond 85°F (30°C), then the storage limit for normal service expectancy should be reduced. From a base of eight years at 85°F (30°C), the storage limit should be reduced by one-half for each 15°F (8°C) increase in temperature. Under no circumstances should belts be exposed to storage temperatures above 115°F (46°C).

With a significant increase in humidity, it is possible for fungus or mildew to form on stored belts. This does not appear to cause serious belt damage, but should be avoided if possible.

Equipment using belts is sometimes stored for prolonged periods (six months or more) before it is put in service or during other periods when it is idle. It is recommended that the tension of the belts be relaxed during such period and that equipment storage conditions should be consistent with the guidelines for belt storage. If this is not possible, the belts should be removed and stored separately.

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