



Important Considerations For Versiflex™ Bearing Assemblies:

- Under no circumstances should any bearing assembly be dismantled on site unless supervised by a D. S. Brown representative.
- During installation and construction, bearing rotation shall be limited to the design rotation given on the shop drawings.
- Bearing assemblies shall be lifted from below the masonry plate or by specially designed lifting lugs.
- Align the centerline of the bearing assembly with those of the superstructure and substructure. With guided bearing assemblies, special care must be taken to properly align the guide mechanism with the anticipated direction of structural movement.
- In some cases, expansion bearing assemblies will require an initial offset at installation. The offset between the upper and lower plates shall be as required by the contract drawings.
- All bearing assemblies shall be evenly supported over their upper and lower surfaces under all erection and service conditions. Two common methods are presented below:
 1. High-strength, non-shrink grout is commonly used to guarantee that the bearing is level and evenly distributing the load to the adjacent structure.
 - The compressive strength of the grout shall be equal to or greater than the strength of the adjacent structure.
 - The grout must be placed at even density beneath the entire bearing surface without any voids or hard spots.
 - Grout should be allowed to reach optimum strength before placing any load on the bearing.
 2. Fabric or lead underlayment is also commonly placed beneath the bearings to allow for a level surface.
- Shipping straps or retaining devices shall be left in place as long as possible to ensure the bearing components are not inadvertently displaced relative to each other. The straps or retaining devices must be removed before any induced (i.e. post-tensioning) or normal structural movement (i.e. thermal) takes place.
- Welding procedures shall be established by the contractor to restrict the maximum temperature reached by bonded PTFE surfaces to a maximum of 300°F (149°C) and 200°F (93°C) for surfaces in contact with the elastomer. Temperatures shall be determined by temperature indicating wax pencils or other suitable means.
- Repair any damage to the bearing corrosion protection system following installation.