



SEALS-IT "RERS" SERIES ROD END BOOT INSTALLATION TIPS

Seals-it "RERS" series rod end boots are very elastic, so they can be stretched quite far during assembly. However, you do need to lubricate them during assembly - there are rubber "lubricants" available, but liquids like "Armor All" or dishwashing liquid (diluted) will suffice. WD 40 or similar sprays will also work, but be careful to wipe them off after installation. With the lubricants, the keyword is "moderation", as too much creates a mess, and makes the parts hard to handle, along with the possibility of attracting contaminants.

Now, for assembly procedures:

When looking at a boot, there are (3) holes, (2) for the bolt to pass through, and the one that the "shank" of the rod end will protrude through after installation. The rod end should be inserted "shank" first through one of the bolt cross holes, and then the shank should be fed through the bottom hole, so the rod end is in a "diagonal" orientation through (2) holes. Then, the rest of the "head" of the rod end can be inserted and pulled into the boot. A small, blunt, round dowel can help this process if used like a tire iron to lever the boot over the body gradually. The reason for inserting the rod end through the side hole has to do with the fact that the neck that the shank protrudes through is less expandable than the side holes.

Seals-it now sells a Boot Installation Tool that will help with the installation process. This tool can be inserted in the side hole of the boot and expand the hole (and with lubrication, of course) as to be able to more easily slip the rod end into the boot in the manner described.

The cautionary note here is that this is not an exact science, and some dexterity and determination are a prerequisite. The upside to the exercise is that once the boots are installed, the benefits are obvious.