



# ThorPlas® Bearings

## Engineering Manual

Version: TP2006.1

# SYMBOLS AND UNITS

## THORPLAS® BEARINGS ENGINEERING MANUAL Version TP2006.1

### SYMBOLS AND UNITS

	Units	
	Metric	Imperial
$C_t$ = Thermal Expansion Allowance	mm	inches
$C_s$ = Absorption Allowance	mm	inches
$d$ = Shaft Diameter	mm	inches
$E_o$ = Modulus of Elasticity	MPa	psi
I.D. = Inside Diameter of Bearing	mm	inches
O.D. = Outside Diameter of Bearing	mm	inches
$L$ = Length of Bearing	mm	inches
$N$ = Shaft Speed	R.P.M.	R.P.M.
$P$ = Pressure	MPa	psi
$T_a$ = Machine Shop Ambient Temperature (Nominally 21°C (70°F))	°C	°F
$T_o$ = Operating Temperature	°C	°F
W.T. = Wall Thickness of Bearing	mm	inches
$\alpha$ = Coefficient of Thermal Expansion	°C	°F
$\mu$ = Coefficient of Friction	-	-
$V$ = Velocity	m/sec.	ft./min.
$\gamma$ = Poisson's Ratio		

### FREEZE FIT COOLANT TEMPERATURES

Dry Ice: -78°C (-109°F)

Liquid Nitrogen: -196°C (-320°F)

**Note:** All clearances referred to in this manual are diametrical clearances.

### METRIC CONVERSION TABLE

#### • Length

1 Metre (m) = 39.37 Inches (in.)

1 Millimetre (mm) = 0.03937 Inches (in.)

#### • Force

1 Newton (N) = 0.2248 lbs.

1 Kilogram (kg) = 2.205 lbs.

#### • Pressure

\* 1 kg/cm<sup>2</sup> = 14.223 psi (lbs./in.<sup>2</sup>)

\*\* 1 Mega Pascal (MPa) = 145 psi (lbs./in.<sup>2</sup>)

1 N/mm<sup>2</sup> = 145 psi (lbs./in.<sup>2</sup>) = 1 MPa

1 MPa = 10.195 kgf/cm<sup>2</sup>

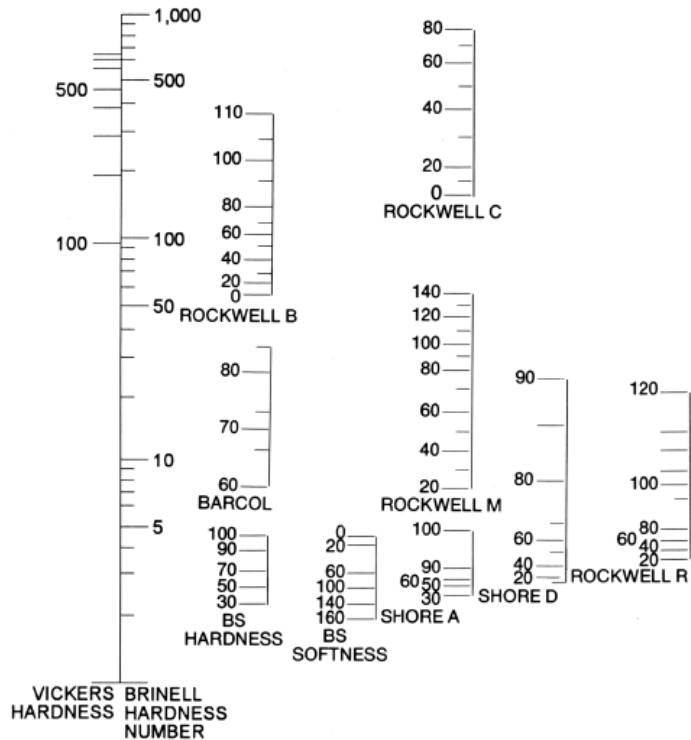
1 Bar = .981 kg/cm<sup>2</sup>

1 Mega Pascal (MPa) = 10 Bar

\* Kilo = 1,000

\*\* Mega = 1,000,000

### APPROXIMATE COMPARISON OF VARIOUS HARDNESS SCALES



### OTHER THORDON

#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE

- Thordon Engineering Manual (for Thordon elastomeric bearings)
- Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program

Please contact your local Thordon Distributor or Thordon Bearings Inc. if you require any of the above.

## Index

<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>	02
<b>2. PHYSICAL PROPERTIES</b>	
a) General	03
b) Pressure	03
c) Friction	03
d) Self Lubrication	03
e) Effect of Water	03
f) Effect of Temperature	04
g) Material Stiffness	04
h) Chemical Compatibility	05
i) Typical Physical Properties	06
<b>3. DESIGN GUIDE</b>	
a) Application Analysis	07
b) Bearing Pressure	07
c) Velocity	07
d) PV Limits	08
e) Water Flow Grooves	08
f) Wall Thickness	09
g) Mating Surface	10
h) Fitting	10
i) L/D Ratio	10
j) Abrasive Environment	10
k) Impact and Shock Loads	10
<b>4. APPLICATION DESIGN</b>	
a) Application Analysis	11
b) Interference	11
c) Bore Closure	11
d) Running Clearance	11
e) Thermal Expansion Allowance	13
f) Absorption Allowance	13
g) Machining Tolerances	14
h) Minimum Installed Clearance	15
i) Machined Bearing OD	15
j) Bearing ID and Wall Thickness	15
k) Bearing Length	15
l) Bearing Retention	16
m) Using the Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program	16
n) Step-by-Step Manual Calculations	19
<b>5. MACHINING INSTRUCTIONS</b>	
a) General Machining	21
b) Groove Cutting	21
c) Chamfers	21
d) Step-by-Step Machining Process	22
e) Machining Tolerances	24
<b>6. INSTALLATION GUIDELINES</b>	
a) Freeze Fit Installations	25
b) Press Fit Installations	26
<b>APPENDIX 1</b>	
Shaft and Housing Tolerances	27
<b>WARRANTY</b>	28

# INTRODUCTION

## 1. Introduction

Thordon Bearings produces several bearing grades that offer specific operating advantages in different applications. ThorPlas® has been formulated to complement the existing range of Thordon elastomer bearing grades and significantly expands the range of applications where Thordon bearings can be specified, while still maintaining many of the recognized Thordon performance benefits. As compared to Thordon elastomer bearings, ThorPlas offers better dimensional stability in water and through a wide range of temperatures, so can be installed with tighter clearances in applications such as vertical pumps.

A proprietary engineered thermoplastic, ThorPlas is a homogeneous, self-lubricating polymer material capable of withstanding operating pressures up to 31 MPa (4500 psi) installed in a full-form, interference-fit bearing configuration. ThorPlas was formulated for use in hydro-turbine wicket gate and operating linkage applications, as well as for high pressure industrial and marine bearing applications. Other applications where ThorPlas has performed successfully include vertical pumps, where higher temperatures and chemical content prohibited the use of Thordon SXL, and deck equipment where the use of Thordon TRAXL bearings was cost prohibitive.



The guidelines in this manual have been developed to ensure that ThorPlas is designed, machined and installed correctly. They will also help to ensure the safety of all personnel during the handling, machining and installation of ThorPlas.

This information is offered as part of our service to customers. **It is intended for use by persons having technical training and skill, at their discretion and risk. All operations should be performed by individuals using suitable protective equipment.**

If there are any questions regarding the procedures or performance of ThorPlas, contact the Thordon Bearings Inc. at (905) 335-1440 or by e-mail: [info@thordonbearings.com](mailto:info@thordonbearings.com).

*The company reserves the right to change or amend any specification without notice. The sole, exclusive and only responsibility of Thordon Bearings Inc. ('the Company') to any customer or distributor of the Company's products for any claims, damages, losses or liabilities arising out of, or relating to, any products supplied by the Company, and the Company's sole, exclusive and only warranty shall be in accordance with the Company's Limited Warranty and statements limiting its liability set out on page 28 of this manual. In no event whatsoever shall the Company be liable for special, indirect or consequential damages.*



## 2. Physical Properties

### a) General

The development of ThorPlas is part of the Thordon Bearings Inc. ongoing program of creating new bearing materials to meet specific needs. Thordon recognized the need for a high pressure, low friction homogeneous bearing material that could be installed as a full form (not requiring a metal or other rigid backing) bearing. ThorPlas is the result of more than 10 years of research.

The main properties and features of ThorPlas are:

- A proprietary grade, crystalline, lubricated engineering thermoplastic
- Excellent wear/abrasion resistance
- Low friction, self-lubricating, high Pressure, Velocity (PV) limit
- Excellent dimensional stability through the normal range of working temperatures
- High strength and low creep
- Good strength retention with increasing service temperature up to 70°C (158°F)
- Maximum continuous service temperature in water or oil: 80°C (176°F). **Note:** *Anti-rotation devices required above 70°C (158°F)*
- Maximum continuous service temperature in air: 110°C (230°F). **Note:** *Anti-rotation devices required above 70°C (158°F)*
- Minimal water absorption
- Excellent chemical resistance
- Easily machined without affecting the coefficient of friction or the self lubricating properties

The following applications take full advantage of the properties of ThorPlas. The maximum design pressure of 31 MPa (4500psi) is high enough that the material can be used in virtually all water control mechanism applications in hydro turbines. The low friction and low water absorption make the material ideal for vertical pump applications, particularly where dry start-up is required. As ThorPlas operates grease free, it is perfect for highly loaded marine and industrial applications where grease lubrication is difficult and sporadic causing failure of bronze and other metallic bearings.

### b) Pressure

The high strength and low creep of ThorPlas enable it to support high operating pressures. Maximum dynamic design pressure is 31 MPa (4500 psi) either operating dry or lubricated by water, oil or grease (for corrosion protection purposes). Peak static pressure is 45 MPa (6500 psi).

### c) Friction

The dry coefficient of friction of ThorPlas is 0.10. In water, it is 0.10 to 0.17. Low friction enables ThorPlas to be used in vertical pumps with dry startup requirements.

### d) Self Lubrication

ThorPlas is a homogeneous polymer with lubricants to lower friction and wear formulated into the molecular structure. Once the bearing enters service and a transfer film is established between the shaft and the bearing, friction stabilizes for the life of the bearing. Because the lubricants are evenly dispersed throughout the material, machining has no adverse effect on its self lubricating or low friction properties.

### e) Effect of Water

Long term testing of ThorPlas indicates that water absorption is minimal. For design purposes a factor of 0.15% of wall thickness is used for water absorption. The same factor is used for oil or grease absorption.

When ThorPlas is subjected to continuous immersion in hot water, i.e. above 80°C (176°F), the material chemically deteriorates over time due to a reaction with the hot water. This deterioration or breakdown is known as hydrolysis. The surface of the material softens initially and then eventually cracks and breaks. Hydrolysis will also occur with other liquids with a high aqueous content.



*Typical example of ThorPlas bearing with hydrolysis*

# PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

## f) Effect of Temperature

ThorPlas is less affected by changes in temperature than most engineered plastics. The coefficient of thermal expansion of ThorPlas is  $4.6 \times 10^{-5}$  °C is or  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  °F. This thermal expansion allowance, although small, must be considered when dimensioning ThorPlas bearings.

Retaining rings or mechanical retention should be used for temperatures over 70°C (158°F).

The maximum operating temperature for ThorPlas in water is 80°C (176°F).

In a dry environment, the maximum operating temperature is 110°C (230°F).

## g) Material Stiffness

Bearing material stiffness is dependent on both size parameters and physical properties. The size parameters are the bearing length, diameter and wall thickness. The physical property to be considered is the Compressive Young's Modulus ( $E_0$ ) of the bearing material, which is equal to the compressive stress divided by the compressive strain. Material stiffness can be roughly estimated from:

$$\text{Stiffness} = (L \times D \times E_0)/t$$

where: L = Bearing Length: mm (in.)  
D = Bearing Diameter: mm (in.)  
 $E_0$  = Compressive Young's Modulus: MPa (psi)  
t = Wall Thickness (W.T.): mm (in.)

For bearings with equal size parameters the bearing material stiffness is directly proportional to the value of the Compressive Young's Modulus for the material. Figure 1 gives the value of the Compressive Young's Modulus of Elasticity ( $E_0$ ) for various materials commonly used as bearings.

Figure 1: Compressive Young's Modulus of Elasticity ( $E_0$ )

Material	$E_0$ (MPa)	$E_0$ (psi)
Thordon SXL	440	64,000
Thordon XL	490	71,000
Thordon HPSXL	650	94,250
<b>ThorPlas</b>	<b>2410</b>	<b>350,000</b>
UHMWPE	480	70,000
Laminated Phenolic	1,730	251,000
Nylon	2,750	400,000
White Metal	33,500	4,860,000
Steel	206,900	30,000,000

In engineering calculations, the stiffness of bearing support structures is typically in a range between 0.5 to 1.00 MN/mm (2.8 to  $5.7 \times 10^6$  lbs./inch). This is much less than the typical bearing material stiffness of 5.0 to 20.0 MN/mm (28.0 to  $112.0 \times 10^6$  lbs./in.). As a result, the stiffness of a bearing material such as ThorPlas is normally not considered in whirling vibration calculations. If more detailed evaluation is required, contact Thordon Bearings.

# PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

## h) Chemical Compatibility

Figure 2: Thordon Chemical Resistance Chart

Chemical/Fluid	ThorPlas	Thordon Elastomers	Chemical/Fluid	ThorPlas	Thordon Elastomers
<b>Salt solutions</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Hydrocarbon/fuels</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A-D</b>
Ammonium chloride	A	A	Aromatic hydrocarbons	A	D
Calcium chloride	A	A-B	Benzene	A	D
Cupric chloride	A	A	Toluene	A	D
Magnesium chloride	A	A	Xylene	A	D
Potassium chloride	A	A	Aliphatic – gasoline, grease	A	A-B
Sodium chloride	A	A-B	Lubricating oils (petroleum)	A	B
<b>Weak acids (Aq.)</b>	<b>A-B</b>	<b>B-D</b>	Liquid propane gas	A	B-C
Acetic acid	B	D	<b>Chlorinated Solvents</b>	<b>C-D</b>	<b>D</b>
Benzoic acid	A	D	Ethylene Chloride	C	D
Boric acid	A	A-B	Chloroform	D	D
Carbonic acid	A	A	<b>Alcohols</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>D</b>
Chromic acid	A	D	Ethanol	A	D
Citric acid	A	A	Methanol	A	D
Formic acid, 3%	B	D	Isopropyl alcohol	A	D
Lactic acid	A	B-D	<b>Ketones</b>	<b>A-B</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Strong acids</b>	<b>A-C</b>	<b>B-D</b>	Methyl ethyl ketone	A	D
Hydrochloric, 10%	C	B	Acetone	B	D
Nitric acid, 0.1%	C	C	<b>Ethers</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>D</b>
Phosphoric acid, 3%	A	A	Diethyl ether	A	D
Sulphuric, 5%	A	B-C	Isopropyl ether	A	B
Sulphuric, concentrated	C	D	<b>Esters</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Weak bases</b>	<b>A-B</b>	<b>A-C</b>	Ethyl acetate	A	D
Ammonia 10% Aq.	A	A	Methyl acetate	A	D
Magnesium hydroxide, 10%	B	C	<b>Freon 12</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A-C</b>
Potassium carbonate	A	B	<b>Detergents, Organic</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B-D</b>
Sodium carbonate	A	B	<b>Castor oil</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A-B</b>
Triethanolamine	B	B-D	<b>Silicone fluids</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Strong bases</b>	<b>C-D</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>Vegetable Oils</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A-B</b>
Potassium hydroxide, 10%	C	B			
Sodium hydroxide, 10%	C	B			
<b>Oxidizing agents</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B-C</b>			
Hydrogen peroxide, 1-3%	A	B			
Chromic acid	A	C			

A: Excellent-No Effect;      B: Good-Little Effect;      C: Fair-Moderate Effect;      D: Unacceptable

# PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

## i) ThorPlas Typical Physical Properties

**Figure 3: ThorPlas Typical Physical Properties – Metric & Imperial**

Property	Unit	Values
Density	g.ml <sup>-1</sup>	1.40
Hardness (Shore D)	–	83
Tensile Strength at Break (D638)	MPa (psi)	67 (9,750)
Tensile Modulus of Elasticity	MPa (psi)	2930 (425,000)
Elongation at Break	%	~10
Compression Strength (D695)	MPa (psi)	105 (15,300)
Compression Stress at Yield	MPa (psi)	92 (13,400)
Compressive Young's Modulus of Elasticity	MPa (psi)	2,410 (350,000)
Compression Strain at Yield	%	~8
Minimum Notched Impact Energy (D256)	J.m <sup>-1</sup> (Ft.lb.in. <sup>-1</sup> )	31 (0.60)
Notched Specific Impact Energy (D256)	J.m <sup>-2</sup> (Ft.lb.in. <sup>-2</sup> )	506 (0.24)
Coefficient of Linear Thermal Expansion (20-120°C)	°C (°F)	4.6 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> (2.5 x 10 <sup>-5</sup> )
Volumetric Swell -Water, 24-h immersion (D570)	Wt%	0.034
Volumetric Swell -Water, long-term immersion	Vol%	< 0.15
Dynamic Coefficient of Friction (0.27 MPa or 40 psi), dry (D3702)	–	~0.1
Dynamic Coefficient of Friction (>200 bar or >3000 psi), dry	–	~0.10
Dynamic Coefficient of Friction (>200 bar or >3000 psi), wet	–	0.10-0.17
Abrasive Wear (Rotary Drum Abrasion), dry (D5963)	mm <sup>3</sup> (in. <sup>3</sup> )	195 (0.012)
Melting Temperature	°C (°F)	> 250 (> 480)
Max. Continuous Service Temp. in Air	°C (°F)	110 (230)
Max. Continuous Service Temp. in Water	°C (°F)	80 (176)

**Note:** Properties are typical values, unless otherwise noted, and may be altered to some extent by processing conditions.



## 3. Design Guide

### a) Application Analysis

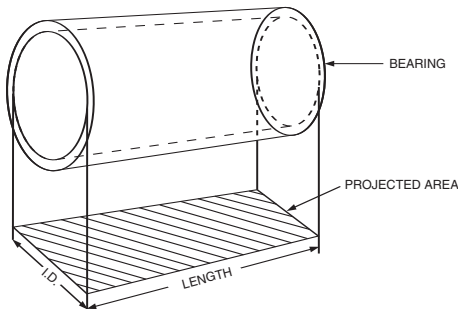
The following information should be considered when evaluating an application where ThorPlas is to be used:

- shaft and housing dimensions
- bearing pressure
- shaft rotation and speed
- type and magnitude of abrasives
- type of lubrication – lubricating medium and flow rate

### b) Bearing Pressure

Nominal bearing pressure is calculated by dividing the radial load by the projected or cross sectional area. The projected area is determined by multiplying the inside diameter (I.D.) of the bearing by the bearing length (L), as in **Figure 4**. The use of I.D. multiplied by bearing length (L) is a bearing industry norm for calculating the projected area for bearing pressure. Dividing the load by the projected area gives the approximate pressure. This assumes that the pressure is uniform across the area. In reality, the pressure is greatest at the 6 o'clock position and decreases in a parabolic curve to zero where the shaft starts to have clearance with the bearing. It is therefore advantageous, considering load carrying capacity, to keep running clearances to a minimum.

**Figure 4: Bearing Pressure**



Radial load needs to be defined as maximum design load, normal operating load or a combination of static and impact loads. Furthermore, it is important to define if the load is constant or cyclic.

$$\text{Bearing Pressure} = \frac{\text{Radial Load}}{\text{Projected Area}} = \frac{\text{Load}}{\text{Length} \times \text{I.D.}}$$

### c) Velocity

The sliding velocity or the peripheral shaft speed is also an important design factor. Velocity is an essential consideration when evaluating frictional heat generation. It is calculated by the following equation for rotating shafts.

$$V \text{ (m/sec)} = \frac{\pi \text{ dN}}{60 \times 1000} = \frac{\text{dN}}{19,100}$$

or

$$V \text{ (fpm)} = \frac{\pi \text{ dN}}{12} = 0.262 \text{ dN}$$

where

V = Sliding Velocity

d = Shaft Diameter (mm or in.)

N = RPM of the shaft

$\pi$  = pi constant 3.1416

ThorPlas can work at high pressures in oscillating motion or at slow full rotation rpm. For non-hydrodynamic operation, as the peripheral velocity increases, the load on the bearing should be reviewed in conjunction with the allowable PV limit as described in Figure 5. For applications outside the PV limits, please consult with Thordon Bearings Inc.

# DESIGN GUIDE

## d) PV Limits

For proper bearing performance, two factors must be considered:

- operating pressure
- velocity at the contact surface

The result of multiplying the pressure by the linear velocity is referred to as a PV value. The combination of pressure and velocity causes heat generation at the bearing surface. If this heat is not removed from the bearing surface, it can cause premature bearing failure due to overheating and wear.

The PV limits in Figure 5 have been developed to ensure the proper design of ThorPlas bearings.

**Figure 5: PV Limits**

Operating Condition	PV Limit (MPa - m/min.)	PV Limit (psi - fpm)
Full rotation – dry	7.35	3500
Full rotation – cooled (water bath) <sup>1</sup>	24	12000
Full rotation – continuous cool water supply	147.14	70000

If the frictional heat generated is removed by a sufficient flow of cooling lubricant such as water or process liquid, ThorPlas bearings will perform well at velocities far outside the limits shown on the PV limits. Typical applications where this occurs include vertical pump bearings where a constant flow of cool water is provided. The minimum recommended cooling water flow rate is 0.15 litres/minute/mm (1 US Gal/minute/inch) of shaft diameter.

**Note 1:** The size of the water bath should be such that the heat generated by friction does not increase the water temperature above 80°C (176°F).

**Note 2:** For guidance on potential applications that fall outside the PV limits contact Thordon Bearings Inc. or your local Thordon distributor.

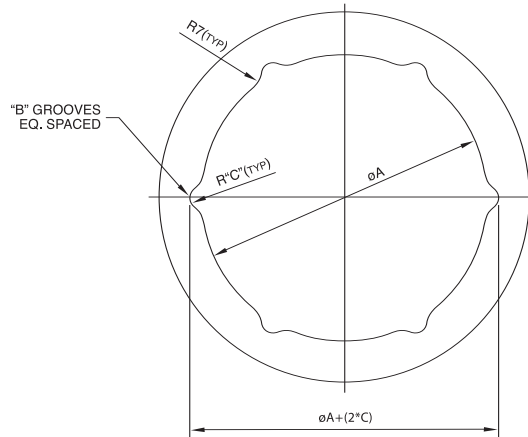
**Note 3:** PV values are given by many non-metallic material manufacturers and are often published with several incorrect assumptions. The first is that the individual P and V values have little importance, as long as they are with the product value range. The second, and perhaps the most dangerous assumption is the limited amount of test time used to develop the P and V values. No formal consideration is given to the time factor.

**Note 4:** These guideline values are supplied for reference only. PV limits for any material vary with different combinations of pressure and velocity as well as with other test conditions.

## e) Water Flow Grooves

For applications such as vertical pumps where there is a high peripheral velocity and an available flow of cooling water, grooves are machined in the I.D. of the bearing to facilitate the flow of the cooling water. Grooves for ThorPlas bearings should be radiused (“u” type) rather than the square grooves often used for Thordon elastomeric bearings. Figure 6 shows the standard groove configuration for a ThorPlas bearing while Figure 7 shows the groove dimensions.

**Figure 6: Typical Groove Configuration for ThorPlas Bearings**



**Figure 7: ThorPlas Water Groove Dimensions**

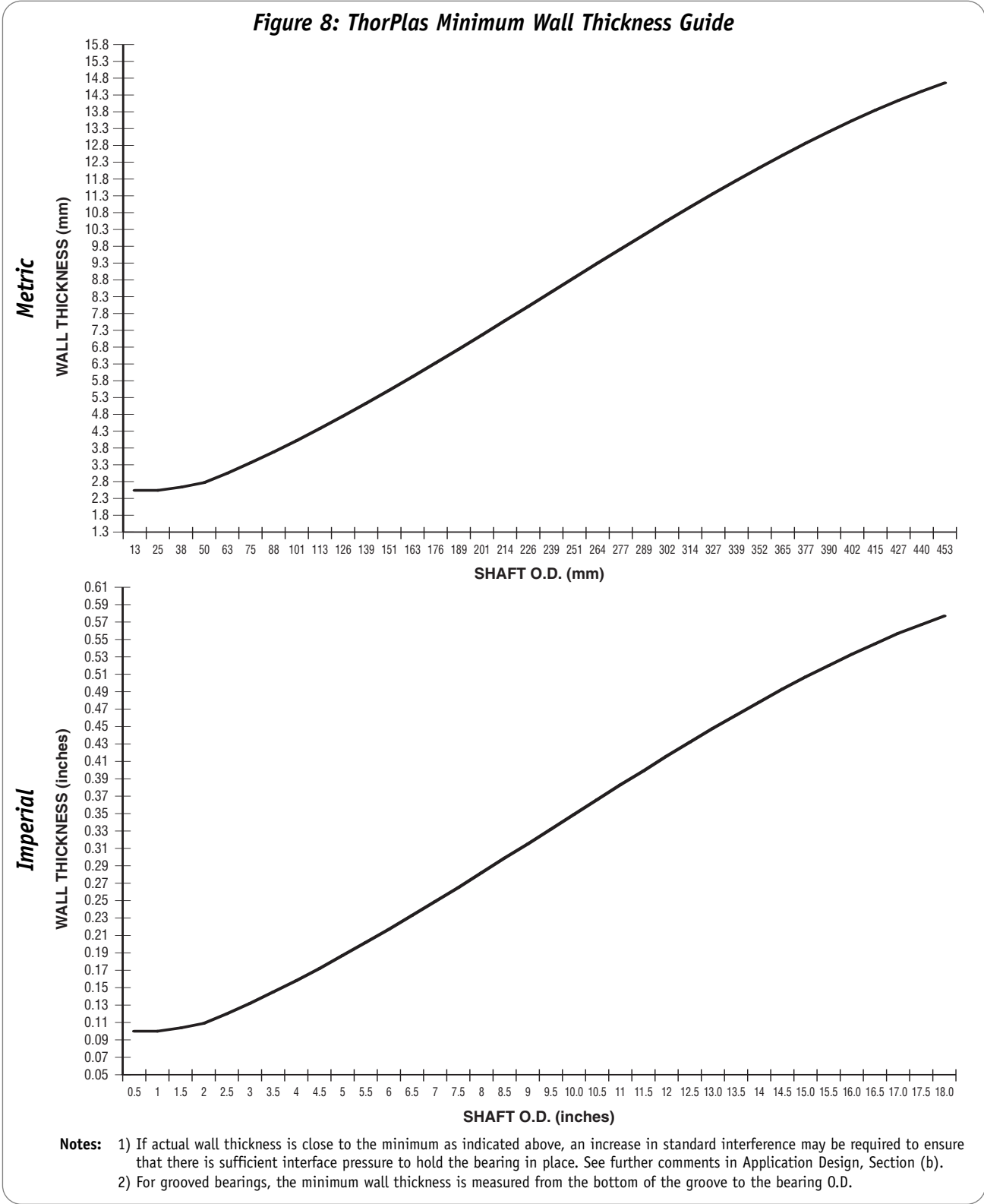
A Shaft Diameter (mm)	A Shaft Diameter (in.)	B Number of Grooves	C Groove Radius (mm)	C Groove Radius (in.)
up to 30	up to 1.20	3	3	0.120
31 to 50	1.21 to 2.00	4	3	0.120
51 to 80	2.01 to 3.15	6	3	0.120
81 to 120	3.16 to 4.70	6	4	0.160
121 to 160	4.71 to 6.30	8	4	0.160
161 to 200+	6.31 to 7.90+	10	4	0.160

**A, B and C refer to dimensions in Figure 6.**

**Note:** Water grooves are only used when there is a flow of water through the bearing such as a vertical pump. Grooves are not required when a bearing is immersed in water with no significant flow, as in a wicket gate bearing application.

## f) Wall Thickness

A minimum wall thickness is required for ThorPlas to ensure that it can generate sufficient interface pressure for an interference fit. The minimum wall thickness for ThorPlas is shown in Figure 8.



# DESIGN GUIDE

## **g) Mating Surface**

Most common metallic mating surfaces will perform well when used in conjunction with ThorPlas bearings. If corrosion is a concern, a corrosion resistant mating surface should be used. Stainless steel is frequently used for corrosion resistance. Bronze shafts or liners can also be used. Do not run ThorPlas on corroded surfaces as this will result in accelerated bearing wear. Common bronzes that work well include Gunmetal (88% Cu, 10% Sn and 2% Zn) or 70-30 Copper Nickel. Optimum shaft hardness is 40 Rockwell C; satisfactory performance is achieved with hardness above 20 Rockwell C.

ThorPlas should not be used with a non-metallic mating surface.

The surface finish of the mating shaft should be as smooth as practical to limit the initial bedding-in wear. Thordon testing has shown that less frictional heat is generated with a smoother shaft. For optimum performance, a final machined surface finish of 0.8 micro-metres (32 micro-inches) is recommended. Mating surface finishes up to 1.6 micro-metres (63 micro-inches) will perform satisfactorily. Where the application involves axial movement, the shaft finish should not exceed 0.8 micro-metres (32 micro-inches).

## **h) Fitting**

ThorPlas bearings are usually fitted with an interference fit. Freeze fitting is recommended but press fitting can be used as long as care is taken to avoid direct impact on the material. A combination of freeze fitting and press fitting is recommended for bearings with high interference. See Section 6 - Installation Guidelines for detailed freeze and press fitting instructions.

### **Bonding of ThorPlas bearings is not recommended.**

If ThorPlas bearings are exposed to temperatures above 70°C (158°F) mechanical retention – retaining rings or pins – should be used.

Both the O.D. and I.D. of a ThorPlas bearing should be machined prior to installation. Machining of the bearing I.D. after fitting should be avoided because of the negative impact the removal of the material will have on the interference interface pressure whose stress is concentrated on the I.D. of the bearing.

## **i) L/D Ratio**

To facilitate installation and to provide reasonable bearing operation, the recommended Length to Diameter ratios (L/D) for ThorPlas are:

Maximum L/D ratio: 2:1

Minimum L/D ratio: 1:1

For larger or smaller L/D ratios, please consult with Thordon Bearings Inc.

## **j) Abrasive Environment**

Although ThorPlas is more abrasive resistant than the majority of metallic and non-metallic bearing materials, it will perform better if it has less contact with abrasives. For high pressure bearings which may be exposed to water, especially those with oscillating motion and no flow of water, Thordon recommends the use of Thorseals® in recessed grooves near the ends of the bearing to prevent abrasive ingress. In other cases, a clean water flush may offer a practical alternative.



*ThorPlas wicket gate bearing with Thorseal*

## **k) Impact and Shock Loads**

ThorPlas can withstand impact and shock loading, however, the bearing must be fully supported in this type of application. For applications with significant shock/impact, Thordon elastomer bearing grades should be evaluated.



*This example indicates that the ThorPlas bearing chamfers were too long and as the bearing was loaded in this area, not enough support was available for the material to take the load. Although the bearing cracked, it did not shatter and remained in one piece.*

## 4. Application Design

### a) Application Analysis

Thordon Bearings Inc. has developed a computer program for calculating the dimensions of ThorPlas bearings. This program greatly simplifies the dimensioning process. Using the Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program is the preferred method of calculating dimensions for ThorPlas bearings.

In order to perform an analysis for an application, all the appropriate information must be reviewed and correctly evaluated. The following parameters should be considered:

- Housing Size and Tolerance
- Shaft Diameter and Tolerance
- Length of Bearing
- Operating Temperatures
- Machine Shop Temperature
- Type of Lubrication
- Retention Method

**Note:** The recommended tolerance is H7 on the housing and h7 on the shaft. – See Appendix 1 for complete metric and imperial shaft and housing tolerances for various sizes.

### b) Interference

ThorPlas bearings are normally installed in a housing using an interference fit. The level of interference will depend on the design operating pressure of the bearing. Figure 9 gives the pressure ranges and the appropriate interference calculation for each range.

#### Example:

Comparing interference values for a bearing to suit a 127mm (5.000”) housing diameter at various pressure ranges:

- Low pressure application bearing, interference is: 0.30mm (0.012”)
- Intermediate pressure application, interference is: 0.51mm (0.020”)
- High pressure application, interference value is: 0.64mm (0.025”)

The interference values presented are for minimum operating temperatures above -20°C (-4°F) and a machine shop ambient temperature of approximately 21°C (70°F). Increased interference values may be required for applications with lower operating temperatures, higher machine shop ambient temperatures and thin-walled bearing applications. A temperature adjustment chart is available from the Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program. For those who are familiar with the ambient temperature adjustments required for Thordon elastomeric bearings (XL, SXL, COMPAC, etc.), it should be noted that ThorPlas has more stable thermal properties. For this reason, ambient temperature adjustments are less critical.

ThorPlas can be installed using either a straight press fit technique or preferably by freeze fitting. For a high pressure application, with higher interference value, freezing of the bearing prior to press fitting is helpful. Significant line boring of the bearing I.D. after installation is **not** recommended because of the reduction this will have on the interference pressure.

### c) Bore Closure

ThorPlas bearings experience an I.D. reduction of approximately 110% of the diametrical interference. Therefore 110% of the interference should be added to the machined bearing I.D. to allow for bore closure.

For example, if a bearing has interference of 0.5mm on the O.D., the bore closure allowance will be  $0.5 \times 110\% = 0.55\text{mm}$

### d) Running Clearance

The recommended running clearance for ThorPlas is dependent on the type of service – see Figure 10a or 10b. For applications where the bearing is exposed to constant shaft rotation, the recommended running clearance is 0.15% x shaft diameter. For oscillatory applications, tighter clearances based on 0.10% x shaft diameter are permitted.

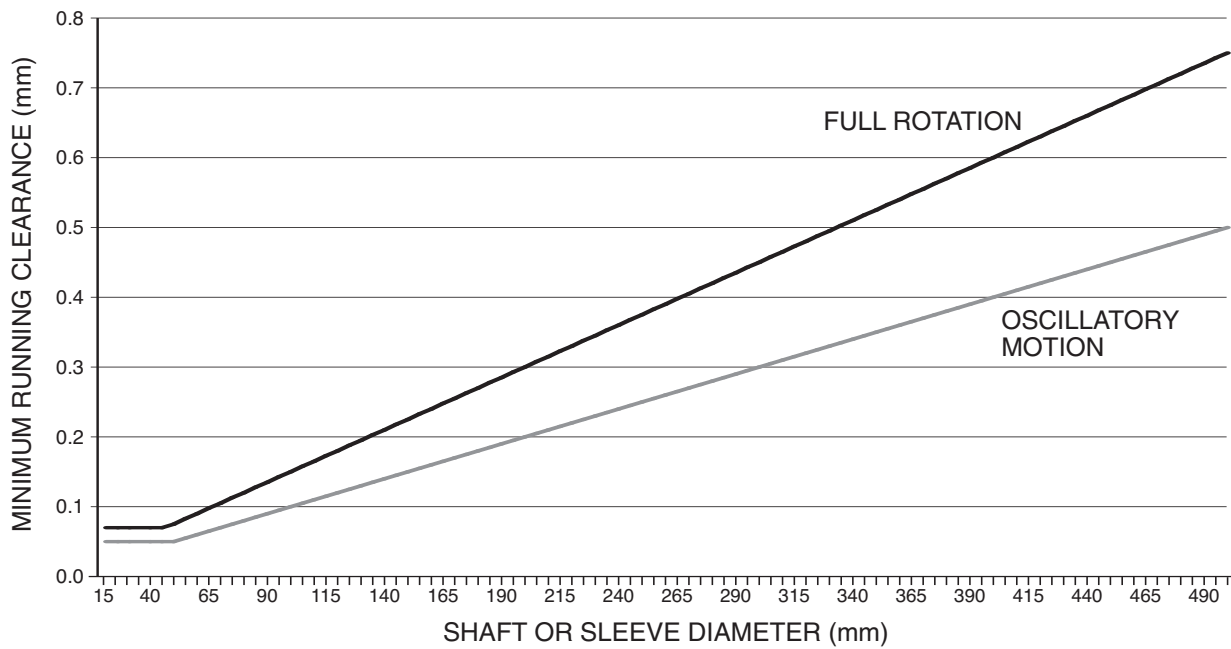
Please note that the running clearance for a ThorPlas bearing is NOT the same as the installed clearance. Thermal and water effects, although minimal, must still be taken into account.

**Figure 9: Bearing Pressure Ranges and Normal Interference**

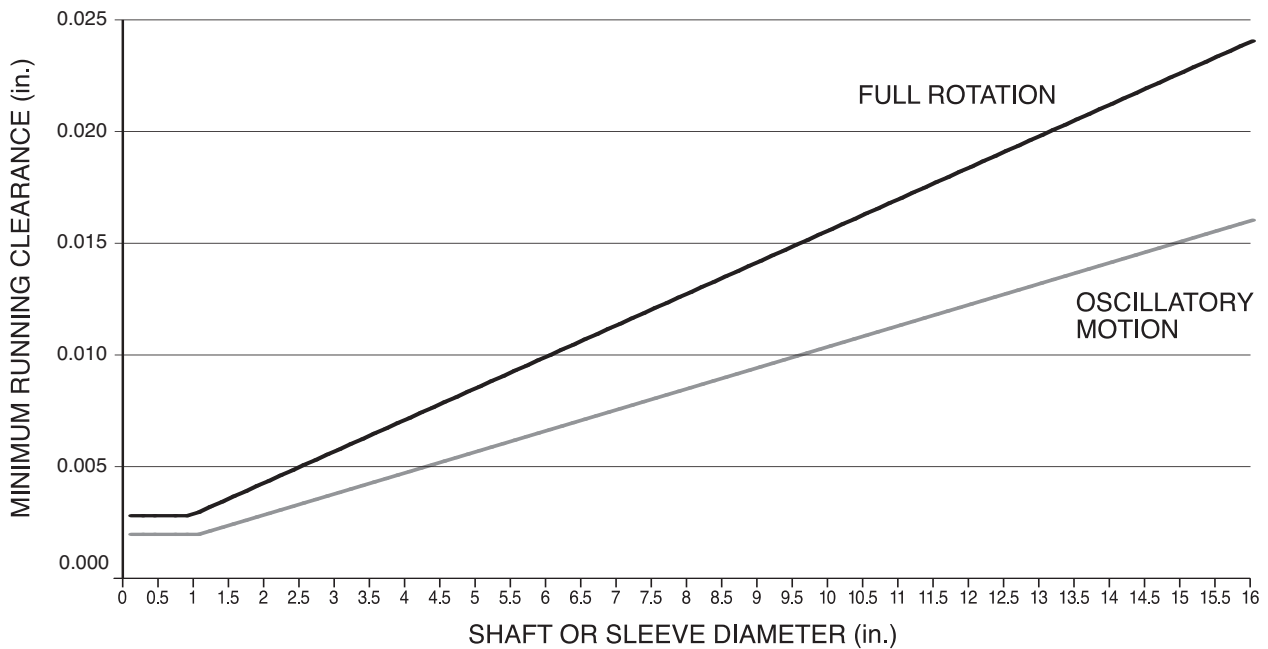
Bearing Pressure Range	Interference (Metric)	Interference (Imperial)
Up to 300 psi (0 to 2 MPa)	Housing I.D. x 0.0020 + 0.05 mm	Housing I.D. x 0.0020 + 0.002”
300 to 1500 psi (2 to 10 MPa)	Housing I.D. x 0.0034 + 0.05 mm	Housing I.D. x 0.0034 + 0.002”
1500 to 4300 psi (10 to 30 MPa)	Housing I.D. x 0.0045 + 0.05 mm	Housing I.D. x 0.0045 + 0.002”

# APPLICATION DESIGN

**Figure 10a: Minimum Running Clearance for ThorPlas (Metric)**



**Figure 10b: Minimum Running Clearance for ThorPlas (Imperial)**



## e) Thermal Expansion Allowance

As with other Thordon grades, a thermal expansion allowance is used in the design of ThorPlas bearings when appropriate. The standard design temperature for ThorPlas is 21°C (70°F). ThorPlas is more stable than the Thordon elastomeric grades through its range of operating temperatures, so the thermal expansion allowance is less. It should, however, be considered for critical applications. The thermal expansion allowance is based upon the wall thickness (W.T.) of the bearing and the deviation between the standard design temperature and the maximum service temperature. The diametrical temperature allowance is calculated as follows:

### Thermal Expansion Allowance ( $C_t$ )

$$C_t \text{ (diametrical)} = 2 \times \text{W.T.} \times \alpha \times (T_{\text{max}} - T_{\text{standard}})$$

where  $\alpha$  = Thermal Coefficient of Expansion

$$C_t = 2 \times \text{W.T.} \times 0.000046 \times (T_{\text{max}} - T_{\text{standard}})$$

for metric results

or

$$C_t = 2 \times \text{W.T.} \times 0.000025 \times (T_{\text{max}} - T_{\text{standard}})$$

for imperial results

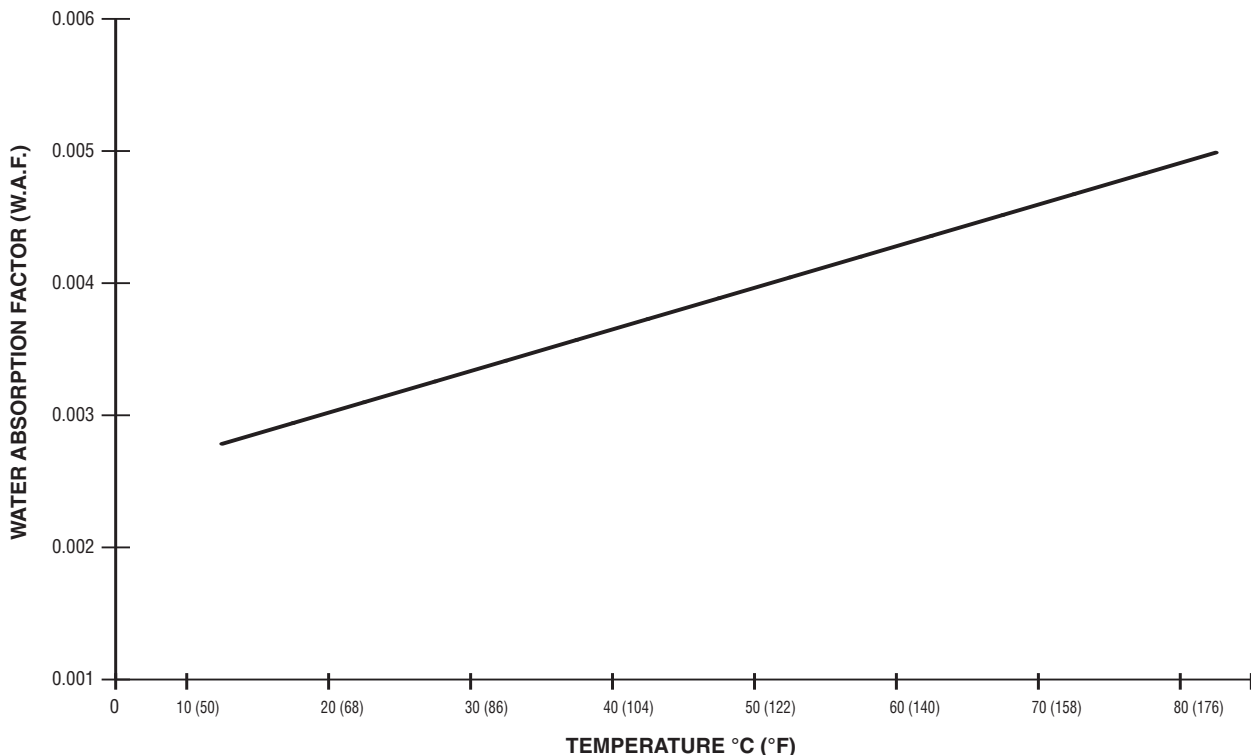
If ThorPlas bearings are machined at a temperature that is significantly different from 21°C (70°F), use the Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program or contact Thordon Bearings to see if the thermal expansion allowance requires adjustment.

## f) Absorption Allowance

The diametrical water absorption allowance for ThorPlas is based upon the bearing wall thickness and it is calculated as 0.15% of the wall thickness. For a ThorPlas bearing with wall thickness of 12.7 mm (0.500"), the expected diametrical water absorption is 0.04 mm (0.0015"). This same absorption allowance should be used for bearings lubricated with oil or grease.

Water absorption also varies slightly with variations in maximum operating temperature. Figure 11 can be used as a guideline for manually calculating extra absorption allowances when the maximum operating temperature is higher than the standard 21°C (70°F) temperature.

**Figure 11: Water Absorption Factor (W.A.F.)  
for Various Water Temperatures**



# APPLICATION DESIGN

## g) Machining Tolerances

**Figure 12: ThorPlas Machining Tolerances**

### A- Bearing OD Machining Tolerances

METRIC:		
Bearing OD	Bearing Length	Tolerance on OD (mm)
Up to 150mm	up to 100mm	+/-0.03
	above 100mm	+/-0.05
150 to 250mm	up to 150mm	+/-0.05
	150 to 250mm	+/-0.07
250mm and up	maximum L/D of 1:1	+/-0.07
IMPERIAL:		
Bearing OD	Bearing Length	Tolerance on OD (in.)
Up to 6.00"	up to 4.00"	+/-0.001
	above 4.00"	+/-0.002
6.00" to 10.00"	up to 6.00"	+/-0.002
	6.00" to 10.00"	+/-0.003
10.00" and up	maximum L/D of 1:1	+/-0.003

### B- Bearing WALL THICKNESS Machining Tolerances

METRIC:		
Bearing OD	Bearing Length	Tolerance on Wall (mm)
Up to 150mm	up to 100mm	+0.00 -0.03
	above 100mm	+0.00 -0.05
150 to 250mm	up to 150mm	+0.00 -0.05
	150 to 250mm	+0.00 -0.07
250mm and up	maximum L/D of 1:1	+0.00 -0.07
IMPERIAL:		
Bearing OD	Bearing Length	Tolerance on Wall (in.)
Up to 6.00"	up to 4.00"	+0.000 -0.001
	above 4.00"	+0.000 -0.002
6.00" to 10.00"	up to 6.00"	+0.000 -0.002
	6.00" to 10.00"	+0.000 -0.003
10.00" and up	maximum L/D of 1:1	+0.000 -0.003

### C- Bearing LENGTH Machining Tolerances

METRIC:	
Bearing Length	Tolerance on LENGTH (mm)
Up to 150mm	+0.00 -0.25
	+0.00 -0.50
150 to 250mm	+0.00 -1.00
250mm and up	+0.00 -1.00
IMPERIAL:	
Bearing Length	Tolerance on LENGTH (in.)
Up to 6.00"	+0.000 -0.010
	+0.000 -0.020
6.00" to 10.00"	+0.000 -0.040
10.00" and up	+0.000 -0.040

### D- ThorPlas Washer Tolerances

METRIC:	
Bearing Dimension	Tolerance (mm)
OD	+0.00 -1.00
	+1.00 -0.00
Thickness	+/-0.50
IMPERIAL:	
Bearing Dimension	Tolerance (in.)
OD	+0.000 -0.040
	+0.040 -0.000
Thickness	+/-0.020



## **h) Minimum Installed Clearance**

The minimum installed clearance for a ThorPlas bearing is the sum of the following parameters:

Recommended Running Clearance  
+  
Thermal Expansion Allowance  
+  
Water Absorption Allowance

As indicated above, the I.D. of a bearing is calculated by adding the bore closure (if applicable), running clearance, thermal expansion allowance and absorption allowance to the maximum shaft diameter. When the bearing is fitted into the housing, the bore closure occurs, so that allowance is not a factor. Once installed, Minimum Installed Clearance is the sum of running clearance, thermal expansion allowance and absorption allowance.

Minimum Installed Clearance is used as an important final check before putting the bearing into service. If the measured clearance after fitting is less than the Minimum Installed Clearance, then there is a high probability that the bearing will fail. The problem should be fixed before the bearing enters service. Do not expect the bearing to “conform” in service.

## **i) Machined Bearing O.D.**

The machined bearing O.D. is the maximum housing diameter + interference as calculated in section 4.b). The bearing O.D. machining tolerances for various sizes are shown in Figure 12.

## **j) Bearing I.D. and Wall Thickness**

The machined bearing I.D. is calculated as follows:

Maximum Shaft Diameter  
+  
Bore Closure  
+  
Running Clearance  
+  
Thermal Expansion Allowance  
+  
Water Absorption Allowance

The bearing I.D. is to be used as a reference only. Machining the O.D. and wall thickness controls the installed clearances better. To determine the wall thickness value, use the calculated machined O.D. and the calculated machined I.D. and use the following equation:

$$\text{Machining Wall Thickness} = \frac{\text{Calculated O.D.} - \text{Calculated I.D.}}{2}$$

The machining tolerances for ThorPlas bearing wall thicknesses are presented in Figure 12.

## **k) Bearing Length**

In addition to wall thickness, bearing length must be calculated with sufficient allowances for axial thermal expansion and water absorption.

### **k.1 Axial Thermal Expansion**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thermal Allowance} &= \\ &\text{Housing Length} \times \alpha \times (T_{\max} - T_{\text{standard}}) \\ \text{where } \alpha &= \text{Thermal Coefficient of Expansion} \\ &= \text{Housing Length} \times 0.000046 \times (T_{\max} - T_{\text{standard}}) \\ &\text{for } \mathbf{metric} \text{ results} \end{aligned}$$

**or**

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{Housing Length} \times 0.000025 \times (T_{\max} - T_{\text{standard}}) \\ &\text{for } \mathbf{imperial} \text{ results} \end{aligned}$$

### **k.2 Axial Absorption Allowance**

The axial absorption allowance is 0.15% of housing length.

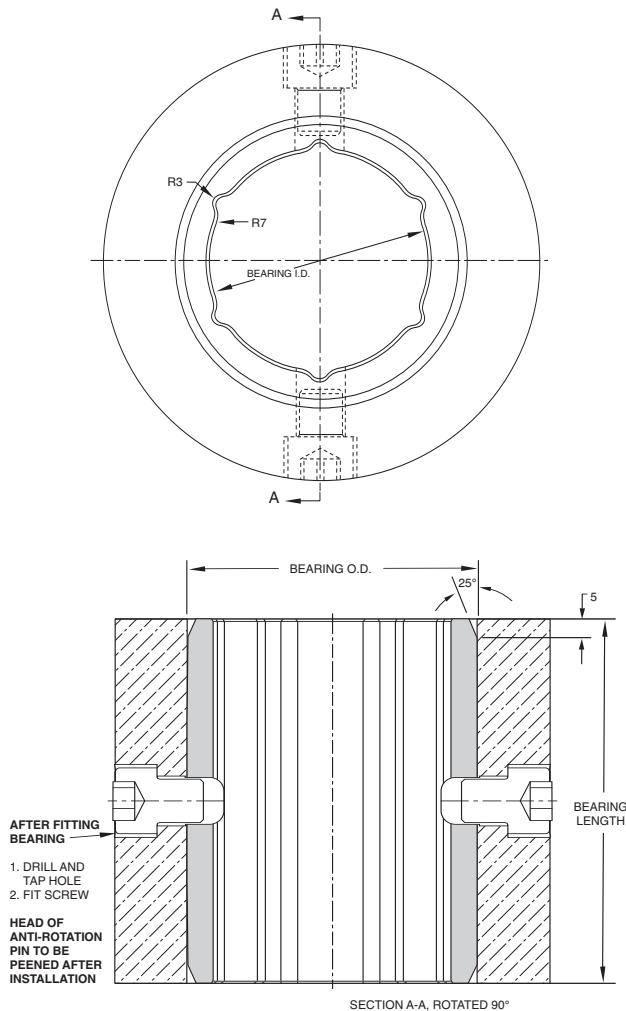
# APPLICATION DESIGN

## l) Bearing Retention

ThorPlas bearings operating at temperatures above 70°C (158°F) should be installed with anti-rotation devices as well as interference. Although interference is normally sufficient to prevent rotation of a bearing in its housing, at higher temperatures there is the risk that the bearing could lose some of its interference. To prevent the bearing from turning under these circumstances, Thordon recommends that radial pins be fit through the housing wall into a hole in the bearing. The hole in the bearing should be through the wall, as shown in Figure 13, so that the pin does not bottom out. Pins that are fit into blind holes can cause deformation on the inside diameter of the bearing.

The length of the pin should penetrate to minimum of half the bearing wall thickness. A minimum of two pins should be fit, preferably placed diametrically opposite each other.

**Figure 13: Bearing Retention with Anti-Rotation Pins**



## m) Using the Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program

A computer program is available to calculate the sizing of ThorPlas bearings. It takes into account all of the factors covered in the application design section of this manual and greatly simplifies the calculation process. The program is available from your Thordon distributor or Thordon Bearings Inc.

The Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program is, however, only as reliable as the information entered. As with manual dimension calculations, the same care must be taken to ensure that all inputs are correct. Detailed help screens are available throughout the program if you have questions regarding a specific topic.

Using the Thordon Bearing Sizing Calculation Program is the preferred method of calculating dimensions for ThorPlas bearings. The following are examples of the Sizing Program used to calculate typical bearing dimensions.

**Note:** The values calculated from the Bearing Sizing Calculation Program may be slightly different than those calculated manually using this manual due to differences resulting from inaccuracies in reading values from the graphs, etc. In general, the bearing sizing program is more accurate than the manual calculation process.

# APPLICATION DESIGN

## SAMPLES USING THORDON BEARING SIZING CALCULATION PROGRAM

### i) METRIC EXAMPLE – Wicket Gate Bearing

#### Given Data

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Type of Service            | Wicket gate (Industrial oscillating rotation) |
| 2. Grade of Thordon           | ThorPlas                                      |
| 3. Lubrication                | Water   |
| 4. Type of Installation       | Interference Fit                              |
| 5. Shaft Diameter             | 150mm +0.000/-0.040                           |
| 6. Housing Diameter           | 175mm +0.040/-0.000                           |
| 7. Housing Length             | 100mm   |
| 8. Operating Temperatures     | Min. -2°C Max. 35°C                           |
| 9. Machine Shop Ambient Temp. | 21°C  |

Once the information above is entered, the Bearing Sizing Calculation Program gives the following results:

Thordon Bearings Sizing Calculation Program V 2006.2 Printed Date: 12/6/2006		THORDON BEARINGS INC. 3225 Malvern Drive, Burlington, Ontario, Canada L7M 1A9 Tel: 905-335-1440 Fax: 905-335-0399 www.thordonbearings.com	
<b>General Information</b>			
Thordon Distributor:	THORDON HEAD OFFICE		
Customer:			
Project Reference:	THORPLAS® ENGINEERING MANUAL		
Calculated By:	I. MUSCHTA		
Checked By:			
Comments:	METRIC CALCULATIONS		
Drawing Number:			
MRF Number:			
<b>Results</b>			
-> ATTENTION ->			
Method of axial retention must be considered.			
	Designed at 21 °C	Machined at 21 °C	
Machined Bearing Inside Diameter:	151.14	151.14 mm	(For reference only)
Machined Bearing Outside Diameter:	175.88	175.88 mm	+0.05, -0.05
Calculated Machined Bearing Length:	99.79	99.79 mm	+0.00, -0.25
Bearing Wall Thickness:	12.37	12.37 mm	+0.00, -0.05
Amount Of Interference:	0.84 mm		
Bore Closure Factor:	1.081		
Bore Closure Amount:	0.92 mm		
Minimum Installed Diametrical Clearance:	0.22 mm		
Diametric Running Clearance:	0.15 mm		
Diametric Thermal Expansion:	0.03 mm		
Diametric Absorption Allowance:	0.04 mm		
Axial Thermal Expansion:	0.06 mm		
Axial Absorption Allowance:	0.15 mm		
Pressure on Bearing:	25.181 MPa		
Outside Diameter After Dry Ice Cooling:	175.27 mm		
Note: Forced press required after Dry Ice cooling. Never immerse a ThorPlas® bearing in Liquid Nitrogen!			
<b>Input Data</b>			
Dimension Scale:	Metric		
Temperature Scale:	Celsius		
Maximum Operating Temperature:	35 °C		
Minimum Operating Temperature:	-2 °C		
Machine Shop Ambient Temperature:	21 °C		
Maximum Shaft Diameter:	150.00 mm		
Maximum Housing Diameter:	175.04 mm		
Minimum Housing Diameter:	175.00 mm		
Housing Length:	100.00 mm		
Type of Lubrication:	Water		
Grade of Thordon Used:	ThorPlas®		
Type of Service:	Int. Oscillating Rotation		
Type of Installation:	Interference Fit		
Load on Bearing:	38500 kg		
Shaft RPM:	0		

# APPLICATION DESIGN

## ii) IMPERIAL EXAMPLE - Wicket Gate Bearing

### Given Data

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. Type of Service            | Wicket gate (Industrial oscillating rotation) |
| 2. Grade of Thordon           | ThorPlas                                      |
| 3. Lubrication                | Water   |
| 4. Type of Installation       | Interference Fit                              |
| 5. Shaft Diameter             | 6.500" + 0.000/-0.002"                        |
| 6. Housing Diameter           | 7.500" + 0.002/-0.000"                        |
| 7. Housing Length             | 6.000"  |
| 8. Operating Temperatures     | Min. 28°F Max. 95°F                           |
| 9. Machine Shop Ambient Temp. | 70°F  |

Once the information above is entered, the Bearing Sizing Calculation Program gives the following results:

Thordon Bearings Sizing Calculation Program V 2006.2 Printed Date: 12/11/2006		THORDON BEARINGS INC. 1225 Mainway Drive, Barrie, Ontario, Canada L7M 1A6 Tel: 905-335-1400 Fax: 905-335-0206, www.thordonbearings.com	
<b>General Information</b>			
Thordon Distributor:	THORDON HEAD OFFICE		
Customer:			
Project Reference:	THORPLAS® ENGINEERING MANUAL		
Calculated By:	I. MUSCHTA		
Checked By:			
Comments:	IMPERIAL CALCULATIONS		
Drawing Number:			
MIP Number:			
<b>Results</b>			
= ATTENTION =			
Method of axial retention must be considered.			
	Designed at 69.8 °F	Machined at 69.8 °F	
Machined Bearing Inside Diameter:	6.549	6.549 in	(For reference only)
Machined Bearing Outside Diameter:	7.538	7.538 in	+0.003, -0.003
Calculated Machined Bearing Length:	5.987	5.987 in	+0.008, -0.020
Bearing Wall Thickness:	0.495	0.495 in	+0.006, -0.003
Amount Of Interference:	0.036 in		
Bore Closure Factor:	1.100		
Bore Closure Amount:	0.039 in		
Minimum Installed Diametrical Clearance:	0.009 in		
Diametric Boreing Clearance:	0.007 in		
Diametric Thermal Expansion:	0.001 in		
Diametric Absorption Allowance:	0.002 in		
Axial Thermal Expansion:	0.004 in		
Axial Absorption Allowance:	0.009 in		
Pressure on Bearing:	2176.72 psi		
Outside Diameter After Dry Ice Cooling:	7.512 in		
Note: Forced press required after Dry Ice cooling. Never immerse a ThorPlas® bearing in Liquid Nitrogen!			
<b>Input Data</b>			
Dimension Scale:	Imperial		
Temperature Scale:	Fahrenheit		
Maximum Operating Temperature:	95 °F		
Minimum Operating Temperature:	28.4 °F		
Machine Shop Ambient Temperature:	69.8 °F		
Maximum Shaft Diameter:	6.500 in		
Maximum Housing Diameter:	7.502 in		
Minimum Housing Diameter:	7.500 in		
Housing Length:	6.000 in		
Type of Lubrication:	Water		
Grade of Thordon Used:	ThorPlas®		
Type of Service:	Ind. Oscillating Rotation		
Type of Installation:	Interference Press Fit		
Load on Bearing:	84802 lb		
Shaft RPM:	0		

## n) Step-by-Step Manual Calculations

### i) Metric Example

#### Given Data

1. Type of Service	Wicket gate (Industrial oscillating rotation)
2. Grade of Thordon	ThorPlas
3. Lubrication	Water
4. Type of Installation	Interference Fit
5. Shaft Diameter	150mm +0.000/-0.040
6. Housing Diameter	175mm +0.040/-0.000
7. Housing Length	100mm
8. Maximum Ambient Temperature	35°C
9. Maximum Bearing Pressure	>25MPa
10. Lubrication	Water

#### Interference

##### Step 1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Interference from Figure 9} &= 0.05 + .0045 \times \\ &\quad \text{Housing Diameter} \\ &= 0.05 + .0045 \times 175 \\ &= 0.84\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

#### Bearing O.D.

##### Step 2

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bearing O.D.} &= \text{maximum housing diameter} \\ &\quad + \text{interference} \\ &= 175.04 + 0.84 \\ &= 175.88\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{With machining tolerance} \quad 175.88\text{mm} \pm 0.05\text{mm}$$

#### Bore Closure

##### Step 3

The bore closure effect on the bearing I.D. is 110% of the interference.

$$\text{Bore closure} = .84 \times 1.10 = 0.92\text{mm}$$

#### Running Clearance

##### Step 4

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Running clearance for} \\ \text{oscillating motion} &= 0.10\% \text{ of shaft diameter} \\ &= .001 \times 150 = 0.15\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

#### Thermal Expansion Allowance

##### Step 5

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thermal expansion allowance} \\ &= 2 \times \text{W.T.} \times \alpha \times (T_{\text{max}} - 21^\circ\text{C}) \\ &= 2 \times 12.5 \times 0.000046 \times (35-21) \\ &= 0.02\text{mm} \longrightarrow 0.03\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

(minimal allowance of 0.03mm used for safety margin)

#### Water Absorption Allowance

##### Step 6

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The water absorption allowance is 0.15\% of wall thickness} \\ &= 2 \times 0.0015 \times 12.5 \\ &= 0.0375\text{mm or approx. } 0.04\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

#### Machined Bearing I.D.

##### Step 7

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The machined bearing I.D. is the shaft diameter} \\ \text{plus the sum of steps 3 to 6} \\ \text{(bore closure + running clearance + thermal expansion} \\ \text{allowance + water absorption allowance)} \\ &= 150 + 0.92 + 0.15 + 0.03 + 0.04 \\ &= 151.14\text{mm (for reference only)} \end{aligned}$$

#### Minimum Installed Clearance

##### Step 8

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimum Installed Clearance (for checking)} \\ &= \text{running clearance} + \text{thermal expansion allowance} \\ &\quad + \text{water absorption allowance} \\ &= .15 + 0.03 + 0.04 \\ &= 0.22\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

#### Bearing Length

##### Step 9

In calculating the length of a ThorPlas bearing, allowances must be made for axial thermal expansion and water absorption.

##### Axial thermal expansion

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{housing length} \times \text{coefficient of thermal expansion} \times \\ &\quad \text{temperature difference} \\ &= 100 \times 0.000046 \times (35 - 21) \\ &= 0.06\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

##### Axial absorption allowance is 0.15% of housing length

$$\begin{aligned} &= 100 \times 0.0015 \\ &= 0.15\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

##### Machined bearing length

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{housing length} - \text{axial thermal expansion} \\ &\quad \text{allowance} - \text{axial absorption allowance} \\ &= 100 - 0.06 - 0.15 \\ &= 99.79\text{mm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{With machining tolerance} = 99.79\text{mm} \pm 0.00/-0.25\text{mm}$$

# APPLICATION DESIGN

## ii) Imperial Example

### Given Data

1. Type of Service	Wicket gate (Industrial oscillating rotation)
2. Grade of Thordon	ThorPlas
3. Lubrication	Water
4. Type of Installation	Interference Fit
5. Shaft Diameter	6.500" + 0.000/-0.002"
6. Housing Diameter	7.500" + 0.002/-0.000"
7. Housing Length	6.000"
8. Maximum Ambient Temperature	95°F
9. Maximum Bearing Pressure	> 2000 psi
10. Lubrication	Water

### Interference

#### Step 1

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Interference from Figure 9} &= 0.002" + .0045" \times \\ &\quad \text{housing diameter} \\ &= 0.002" + .0045" \times 7.5" \\ &= 0.036" \end{aligned}$$

### Bearing O.D.

#### Step 2

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bearing O.D.} &= \text{maximum housing diameter} \\ &\quad + \text{interference} \\ &= 7.502" + 0.036" \\ &= 7.538" \\ \text{With machining tolerance} &= 7.538" \pm 0.003" \end{aligned}$$

### Bore Closure

#### Step 3

The bore closure effect on the bearing I.D. is 110% of the interference.

$$\text{Bore closure} = 0.036 \times 1.10 = 0.039"$$

### Running Clearance

#### Step 4

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Running clearance for} \\ \text{oscillating motion} &= 0.10\% \text{ of shaft diameter} \\ &= .001 \times 6.5" \\ &= 0.0065" \text{ or approx. } 0.007" \end{aligned}$$

### Thermal Expansion Allowance

#### Step 5

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thermal expansion allowance} \\ &= 2 \times \text{W.T.} \times \alpha \times (T_{\text{max}} - 70^\circ\text{F}) \\ &= 2 \times .5 \times .000025 \times (95-70) \\ &= 0.001" \end{aligned}$$

### Water Absorption Allowance

#### Step 6

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The water absorption allowance is 0.15\% of wall thickness} \\ &= 2 \times 0.0015 \times 0.5 \\ &= 0.002" \end{aligned}$$

### Machined Bearing I.D.

#### Step 7

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The machined bearing I.D. is the shaft diameter} \\ \text{plus the sum of steps 3 to 6} \\ \text{(bore closure + running clearance + thermal expansion} \\ \text{allowance + water absorption allowance)} \\ &= 6.5" + 0.039" + 0.007" + 0.001" + 0.002" \\ &= 6.549" \text{ (for reference only)} \end{aligned}$$

### Minimum Installed Clearance

#### Step 8

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Minimum Installed Clearance} \\ &= \text{running clearance} + \text{thermal expansion allowance} + \\ &\quad \text{water absorption allowance} \\ &= 0.007" + 0.001" + 0.002" \\ &= 0.010" \end{aligned}$$

### Bearing Length

#### Step 9

In calculating the length of a ThorPlas bearing, allowances must be made for axial thermal expansion and water absorption.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Axial thermal expansion} \\ &= \text{housing length} \times \text{coefficient of thermal expansion} \times \\ &\quad \text{temperature difference} \\ &= 6" \times 0.000025 \times (95-70) \\ &= 0.004" \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Axial absorption allowance is 0.15\% of housing length} \\ &= 6 \times 0.0015 \\ &= 0.009" \end{aligned}$$

#### Machined bearing length

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{housing length} - \text{axial thermal expansion allowance} - \\ &\quad \text{axial absorption allowance} \\ &= 6" - 0.004" - 0.009" \\ &= 5.987" \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{With machining tolerance} = 5.987" \pm 0.000/-0.020"$$

# MACHINING INSTRUCTIONS

## 5. Machining Instructions

### a) General Machining

ThorPlas is easily machined to fine tolerances. ThorPlas can be milled, sawed, planed, drilled, tapped and threaded. Depending on bearing sizes, allow for 25 to 40 mm (0.984" to 1.575") of material length for chucking and holding the part to any standard lathe.

Guidelines for safe machining:

- Use sharp tools (carbide grade) with fast speed rates
- Provide good support to the part without over-clamping (to avoid cracking)
- Avoid sharp corners/edges
- Adequate material cuttings removal during machining
- Coolants may be considered for drilling holes

Typical cutting speeds for ThorPlas are between 150 to 300 m/min (492 to 985 fpm).

**Figure 14: Typical Cutting Speeds for Machining ThorPlas**

Diameter	RPM
200 mm (7.874")	350
300 mm (11.811")	300
400 mm (15.750")	200
500 mm (19.685")	150
600 mm (23.622")	100

Cutting Feeds used for rough turning are 0.38 mm to 0.5 mm (0.015" to 0.020") per revolution. For finish turning, 0.12 mm to 0.25 mm (0.005" to 0.010") per revolution are recommended.

As mentioned, fine tolerances can be achieved for ThorPlas, as shown earlier in Figure 12 on page 14.

### b) Groove Cutting

Water grooves, when required, are normally broached using a custom-made boring bar on the lathe. The boring bar and tools should be designed to produce the dimensions given in Figures 6 and 7 in Section 3 (e). The following custom made tool bits can be ordered from Thordon Bearings or your Thordon distributor using the appropriate Part Numbers:

F99TB003: Toolbit with profile to machine 3mm (0.118") radius groove with 7 mm (0.276") radius edge

F99TB004: Toolbit with profile to machine 4mm (0.157") radius groove with 7 mm (0.276") radius edge

### c) Chamfers

Chamfers should be machined on the O.D. of each end of the bearing to facilitate installation following guidelines in Figure 14 and the dimensions in Figure 15.

**Figure 15: Dimensions for Machining Chamfers**

#### METRIC:

Bearing Length	Chamfer Detail
Below 25 mm	1.5 mm x 25°
25 mm to 100 mm	3.0 mm x 25°
Over 100 mm	5.0 mm x 25°

#### IMPERIAL:

Bearing Length	Chamfer Detail
Below 1 inch	1/16" x 25°
1 inch to 4 inches	1/8" x 25°
Over 4 inches	1/4" x 25°

As shown in Figure 16, break all corners and deburr all sharp edges on the O.D. and I.D.

**Figure 16: Chamfer on ThorPlas bearings**



# MACHINING INSTRUCTIONS

## d) Step-By-Step Machining Process

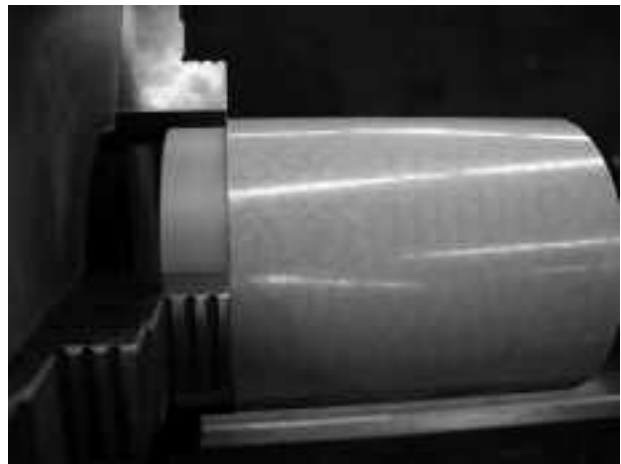
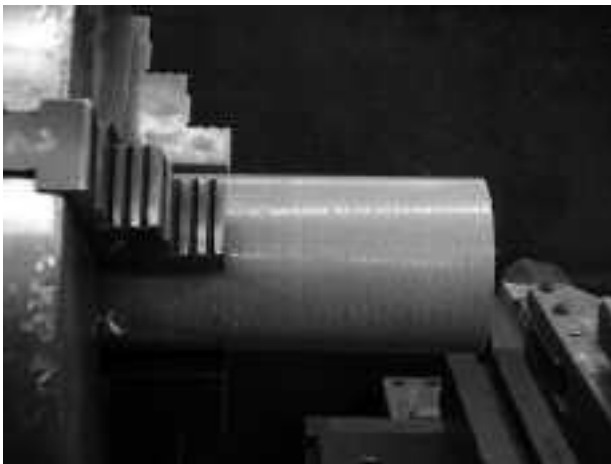
Steps 1 through 7 illustrate the machining process for ThorPlas in a standard lathe.

**Step 1.** Cut part allowing extra length for chucking, parting off and facing. Typically chucking lengths of 25mm (1") are sufficient for bearings up to 152mm (6") O.D.

For large parts - O.D. in excess of 152mm (6"), thin wall bearings and/or for parts with tighter than standard tolerances, an internal plug or "chucking ring" is recommended to support the bearing in the chuck jaws.

**Step 2a.** Set the part in the chuck jaws as shown below. These figures show a piece with sizes of 76.2mm O.D. x 25mm I.D. (3" x 1") squared in the chuck using a three-jaw configuration. Use light to moderate clamping forces. Do not over clamp as this can cause stresses in the material resulting in cracking.

**Step 2b.** For parts needing a metal chucking ring, machine slightly the O.D. to clean uneven surfaces and machine the I.D. so that the chucking ring has a slight interference with the ThorPlas - interference of 0.03mm (0.001"). Typical thickness of chucking rings vary from 12mm (0.5") for small parts to as high as 25mm (1.0") for parts with O.D. values in excess of 250mm (10"). Figures below show a ThorPlas bearing, size of 152mm (6.0") O.D., where a chucking ring is used for extra support.





# MACHINING INSTRUCTIONS

**Step 3.** Sharp and smooth tool bits will ensure the best finish when machining ThorPlas. The photo below illustrates the tools used to machine ThorPlas – the bit on the left is used for machining the I.D. while the bit on the right is used for the O.D.

**Note:** Cutting feeds for rough turning are 0.38 to 0.50mm (0.015" to 0.020") per revolution. For finish turning, 0.12 to 0.25mm (0.005" to 0.010") feeds are recommended.

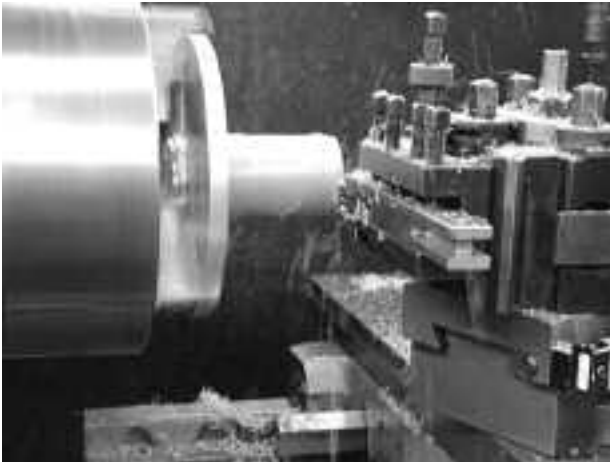


**Step 4.** Proceed to machine bearing I.D. using the tool bit and the boring bar. Clearing of chips or shavings from bearing I.D. is important to reduce heat build up and to obtain desired tolerances. Finish the bearing O.D. **prior** to routing the grooves using the round edge tool shown below.



# MACHINING INSTRUCTIONS

**Step 5.** Machine the bearing O.D. using the appropriate tool.



**Step 6.** Part bearing to length using the parting tool. Support the bearing as the cut is made so that it does not fall. As shown below, fine streamers are collected after machining ThorPlas.



**Step 7.** Include chamfers on the end of the bearings to ease installation. Use Figure 15 for proper dimension of chamfers based on bearing size.



## ***e) Machining Tolerances***

Machining Tolerances are found in Figure 12 on page 14.

# INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

## 6. Installation Guidelines

### a) Freeze Fit Installations

As mentioned previously, the preferred method of fitting ThorPlas bearings is using an interference freeze fit.

A combination of freeze fitting and press in installation is recommended for bearings with high interference.

Cooling of the bearings can be achieved by placing them in a freezer or using dry ice.

**CAUTION:** Use of liquid nitrogen or significant quantities of dry ice in closed or poorly ventilated areas should be avoided. The boiled off gases tend to displace the existing oxygen and can be fatal.

#### *Using Liquid Nitrogen*

Liquid nitrogen may be used if a cooling box is used to prevent the bearing from direct contact with the liquid.

**Never immerse a ThorPlas bearing directly into liquid nitrogen as cracking of the bearing can occur as the bearing warms up.**

**Step 8.** Wood cooling box with insulation.



The metal drum is used to pour liquid nitrogen. The metal rod supports the basket keeping the ThorPlas bearing away from the liquid nitrogen.

**Step 9.** Basket holding bearing away from liquid nitrogen.



**Step 10.** Lid to minimize evaporation of liquid nitrogen.



#### *Using Dry Ice*

Cooling of ThorPlas bearings can be achieved by placing them directly in dry ice. The combination of dry ice freezing and press-in assists in the installation of bearings with a high level of interference.

When using dry ice, allow 1 to 2 hours of cooling for sufficient reduction of the bearing O.D. for installation. Measure the bearing O.D. to establish the amount of cooling achieved before proceeding with the press in installation. Lead-in chamfers at the top of the housing (if not already present) and on one end of the bearing are recommended to assist in the installation of the bearings – see Figure 17 in following section.

For optimal performance, the following notes should be considered when evaluating the condition of the bearing housing:

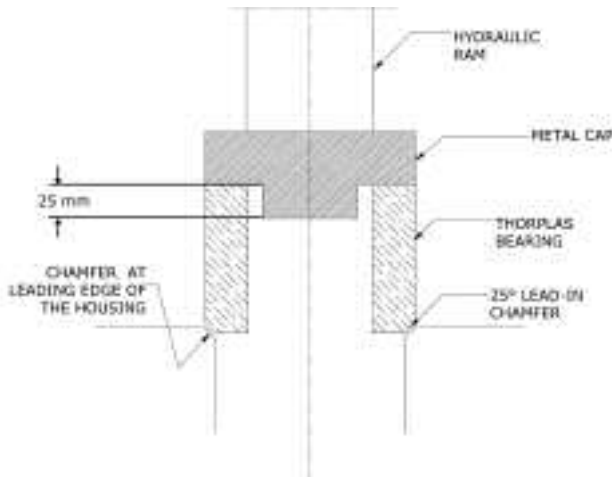
- The surface finish on the housing I.D. is not critical as there is no movement of the bearing O.D. after installation. However for best practices, the finish must not be too coarse. Remove any burrs or sharp edges.
- Machine the housing I.D. to an H7 tolerance or better for proper support along the whole ThorPlas bearing length.

# INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

## b) Press Fit Installations

ThorPlas may be easily press fit into housings where the L/D ratio < 1.5. A 25° chamfer on the O.D. will facilitate installation when using this method. A combination of cooling and press fit is adequate for most installations. See steps 11 through 14 for illustrations. For situations where the L/D ratio is greater than 2, consult Thordon Bearings for recommendations.

**Figure 17: Press in set up for ThorPlas**



**Note:** Caution should be taken, as direct impact on the material may cause fracture.

### Press Force Required

The force required to press a ThorPlas bearing into a housing without cooling the bearing would be:

#### a) METRIC EXAMPLE

$$F \text{ (kg)} = 0.0325 \times \text{Bearing O.D.} \times \text{Bearing Length}$$

Force required to press in a bearing with 100 mm O.D. and 50 mm length:

$$F = 0.0325 \times 100 \times 50 = 162.5 \text{ kg}$$

#### b) IMPERIAL EXAMPLE

$$F \text{ (lbs.)} = 47.2 \times \text{Bearing O.D.} \times \text{Bearing Length}$$

Force required to press in a bearing with 3" O.D. and 2" length:

$$F = 47.2 \times 3 \times 2 = 283 \text{ lbs.}$$

**Note:** For thin wall bearings and long bearings with L/D exceeding 2:1, freeze fitting is a preferred method to eliminate risk of buckling. When in doubt, please consult with Thordon Bearings Inc.

**Step 11.** Set up of bearing for press fit and initial push into housing.



**Step 12.** 75% of bearing length inside the housing.



**Step 13.** Bearing in housing.



### Mechanical Retention

When deemed necessary, radial pins or other mechanical means (consult Thordon Bearings) may be used to prevent the bearing from rotating in the housing.

## Appendix 1.

### Shaft and Housing Tolerances

METRIC:					
Shaft tolerances h7			Housing Tolerances H7		
Basic Sizes (mm)		Tolerance Value (mm)	Basic Sizes (mm)		Tolerance Value (mm)
Above	Up to and including		Above	Up to and including	
0	3	+0.000 -0.010	0	3	+0.010 -0.000
3	6	+0.000 -0.012	3	6	+0.012 +0.000
6	10	+0.000 -0.015	6	10	+0.015 -0.000
10	18	+0.000 -0.018	10	18	+0.018 -0.000
18	30	+0.000 -0.021	18	30	+0.021 -0.000
30	50	+0.000 -0.025	30	50	+0.025 -0.000
50	80	+0.000 -0.030	50	80	+0.030 -0.000
80	120	+0.000 -0.035	80	120	+0.035 -0.000
120	180	+0.000 -0.040	120	180	+0.040 -0.000
180	250	+0.000 -0.046	180	250	+0.046 -0.000
250	315	+0.000 -0.052	250	315	+0.052 -0.000
315	400	+0.000 -0.057	315	400	+0.057 -0.000
400	500	+0.000 -0.063	400	500	+0.063 -0.000
500	630	+0.000 -0.070	500	630	+0.070 -0.000
630	800	+0.000 -0.080	630	800	+0.080 -0.000
800	1000	+0.000 -0.090	800	1000	+0.090 -0.000
1000	1250	+0.000 -0.105	1000	1250	+0.105 -0.000
1250	1600	+0.000 -0.125	1250	1600	+0.125 -0.000
1600	2000	+0.000 -0.150	1600	2000	+0.150 -0.000
2000	2500	+0.000 -0.175	2000	2500	+0.175 -0.000
2500	3150	+0.000 -0.210	2500	3150	+0.210 -0.000

IMPERIAL:					
Shaft tolerances h7			Housing Tolerances H7		
Basic Sizes (in.)		Tolerance Value (in.)	Basic Sizes (in.)		Tolerance Value (in.)
Above	Up to and including		Above	Up to and including	
0	0.118	+0.000 -0.0004	0	0.118	+0.0004 -0.000
0.118	0.236	+0.000 -0.001	0.118	0.236	+0.001 -0.000
0.236	0.394	+0.000 -0.001	0.236	0.394	+0.001 -0.000
0.394	0.709	+0.000 -0.001	0.394	0.709	+0.001 -0.000
0.709	1.181	+0.000 -0.001	0.709	1.181	+0.001 -0.000
1.181	1.969	+0.000 -0.001	1.181	1.969	+0.001 -0.000
1.969	3.150	+0.000 -0.001	1.969	3.150	+0.001 -0.000
3.150	4.724	+0.000 -0.002	3.150	4.724	+0.002 -0.000
4.724	7.087	+0.000 -0.002	4.724	7.087	+0.002 -0.000
7.087	9.843	+0.000 -0.002	7.087	9.843	+0.002 -0.000
9.843	12.402	+0.000 -0.002	9.843	12.402	+0.002 -0.000
12.402	15.748	+0.000 -0.002	12.402	15.748	+0.002 -0.000
15.748	19.685	+0.000 -0.003	15.748	19.685	+0.003 -0.000
19.685	24.803	+0.000 -0.003	19.685	24.803	+0.003 -0.000
24.803	31.496	+0.000 -0.003	24.803	31.496	+0.003 -0.000
31.496	39.370	+0.000 -0.004	31.496	39.370	+0.004 -0.000
39.370	49.213	+0.000 -0.004	39.370	49.213	+0.004 -0.000
49.213	62.992	+0.000 -0.005	49.213	62.992	+0.005 -0.000
62.992	78.740	+0.000 -0.006	62.992	78.740	+0.006 -0.000
78.740	98.425	+0.000 -0.007	78.740	98.425	+0.007 -0.000
98.425	124.016	+0.000 -0.008	98.425	124.016	+0.008 -0.000

# WARRANTY

## LIMITED WARRANTY AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY FOR THORDON BEARINGS INC. ('TBI')

(a) Basic Terms. TBI provides a limited warranty on the Goods of its own manufacture sold by it to the Buyer thereof, against defects of material and workmanship (the "Limited Warranty").

(b) Coverage. This Limited Warranty covers the repair or replacement or the refund of the purchase price, as TBI may elect, of any defective products regarding which, upon discovery of the defect, the Buyer has given immediate written notice. TBI does NOT warrant the merchantability of its product and does NOT make any warranty express or implied other than the warranty contained herein.

(c) Third Party Products. Accessories, equipment and parts not manufactured by TBI are warranted or otherwise guaranteed only to the extent and in the manner warranted or guaranteed to TBI by the actual manufacturer, and then only to the extent TBI is able to enforce such warranty or guarantee.

(d) Limited Liability. TBI's liability for any and all claims, damages, losses and injuries arising out of or relating to its performance or breach of any contract of sale of goods and the manufacture, sale delivery, re-sale, repair, or use of any goods, shall NOT exceed the agreed price of such Goods. The Buyer's remedy shall be at TBI's option, the replacement or repair of the Goods. This shall be the Buyer's sole, exclusive and only remedy against TBI. IN NO EVENT SHALL TBI BE LIABLE FOR INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO LOSS OF PROFITS, BUSINESS, GOODWILL, INCURRING OF MACHINERY DOWNTIME, DESTRUCTION OR LOSS OF ANY CAPITAL GOODS, LIABILITY FOR PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, PROPERTY DAMAGE AND ANY OTHER TYPE OF DAMAGES WHETHER SIMILAR TO OR DIFFERENT FROM THIS LISTING.

(e) Latent Defects. In cases of defects in materials or workmanship or defects arising from the selection of material or processes of manufacturer, such defects must be apparent in the Goods within three (3) months, after delivery and acceptance of the Goods to the Buyer.

(f) Exclusions. TBI shall, as to each aforesaid defect, be relieved of all obligations and liability under this Limited Warranty if:

1. The Goods are operated with any accessory, equipment or part not specifically approved by TBI and not manufactured by TBI or to TBI's design and specifications, unless the Buyer furnishes reasonable evidence that such installation was not a cause of the defect; provided, that this provision shall not apply to any accessory, equipment or part, the use of which does not effect the safety of the Goods;

2. The Goods shall not be operated or maintained in accordance with TBI's written instructions as delivered to the Buyer, at any time or from time to time, unless the Buyer furnishes reasonable evidence that such operation or maintenance was not a cause of the defect;

3. The Goods shall not be operated or maintained under normal industry use, unless the Buyer furnishes reasonable evidence that such operation was not a cause of the defect;

4. The Goods shall have been repaired, altered or modified without TBI's written approval or, if the Goods shall have been operated subsequent to its involvement in an accident or breakdown, unless the Buyer furnishes reasonable evidence that such repair, alteration, modification, operation, accident or breakdown was not a cause of the defect; provided, however, that this limitation insofar as it relates to repairs, accidents and breakdowns, shall NOT be applicable to routine repairs or replacements or minor accidents or minor breakdowns which normally occur in the operation of a machine, if such repairs or replacements are made with suitable materials and according to standard practice and engineering;

5. The Buyer does not submit reasonable proof to TBI that the defect is due to a material embraced within TBI's Limited Warranty hereunder.

(g) Warranty Term. This Limited Warranty made by TBI contained in these Terms and Conditions, or contained in any document given in order to carry out the transactions contemplated hereby, shall continue in full force and effect for the benefit of the Buyer, save and except, no warranty claim may be made or brought by the Buyer after the date which is twelve (12) months following delivery and acceptance of the Goods pursuant to this Contract.

(h) Expiration and Release. After the expiration of this Limited Warranty's period of time, as aforesaid, TBI shall be released from all obligations and liabilities in respect of such warranty made by TBI and contained in this Contract or in any document given in order to carry out the transactions contemplated hereby.

# CUSTOMER FOCUSED TO SUPPORT YOUR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE NEEDS

**SUPPLY AND SERVICE:** Geared to provide quick response to customer needs, Thordon Bearings understands the importance of fast delivery and reduced down time. Thordon marine and industrial bearings can be designed, produced to the exact requirements of the customer and shipped quickly.

**DISTRIBUTION:** With Thordon bearings specified all around the world, an extensive distribution network has been established in over 100 countries. Inventories of common bearing sizes are stocked by local Thordon Distributors and are backed up by large regional and head office Thordon stocks.

**APPLICATION ENGINEERING:** Thordon Bearing's engineers work closely with customers to provide innovative bearing system designs that meet or exceed the technical requirements of the application.

**MANUFACTURING:** Thordon's modern polymer processing facility is staffed with experienced and dedicated employees. Bearings up to 2.2 m (86") in diameter have been supplied and bearings up to 1.5 m (60") O.D. can be machined in-house.

**QUALITY:** Thordon Bearings Inc. is a Canadian company manufacturing to ISO 9001:2008 Quality System requirements. With over 40 years experience in polymer

bearing design, application engineering and manufacturing, Thordon marine and industrial bearings are recognized world-wide for both quality and performance.

**RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT:** Thordon bearings are being continuously tested by our Bearing Test Facility. The Facility evaluates new designs and applications before they are put into service. Ongoing testing not only allows for design refinements, but ensures quality and performance after installation. Our polymer laboratory evaluates new and modified polymers in a continuing quest to improve Thordon bearing performance and searches for new polymer bearing solutions.

Your local Thordon Distributor

**THORDON**  
THORDON BEARINGS INC.

3225 Mainway, Burlington, Ontario L7M 1A6 Canada

Tel: (905) 335-1440 Fax: (905) 335-4033

E-mail [info@thordonbearings.com](mailto:info@thordonbearings.com)

[www.thordonbearings.com](http://www.thordonbearings.com)



TP2010 05/10 3,000  
PRINTED IN CANADA



ISO 9001:2008  
CGSB  
Registration #93649