

Unions

Unions join two pieces of tubing of the same OD. Select the union with the bore that matches the ID of the tubing. If the IDs are different, choose the union with a bore which matches the smaller tube bore. Standard material is 300 series stainless steel.

- **Internal** unions have female threads and a fitting detail for zero volume fittings. The nuts have male (external) threads.
- **External** unions have male threads, requiring a nut with internal threads.
- **External/internal** unions have male threads on one end and female threads on the other, for connecting a standard zero dead volume fitting to an existing tube which already has an external nut made up on it.

Internal fittings are almost always the best with tubing of 1/8" OD or smaller. They make a stronger connection and offer the lower volume necessary for high performance instrumentation. Also, because 1/16" external fittings have very thin, easily distorted walls, they are not as durable as 1/16" internal fittings. In sizes larger than 1/8", external fittings are generally easier to make up because of less thread friction.



Bulkhead versions can be mounted through an instrument panel or bracket. The fitting body is undersized so that it bites into the panel when the mounting nut is tightened, eliminating the need for a lock washer. An O-ring can be installed between the body and the panel to allow operation in purged environments. Typically the mounting nut goes inside the instrument, so that the long threaded portion will be out of sight. In the external/internal bulkhead unions, the mounting nut is on the side with the Valco internal fitting.

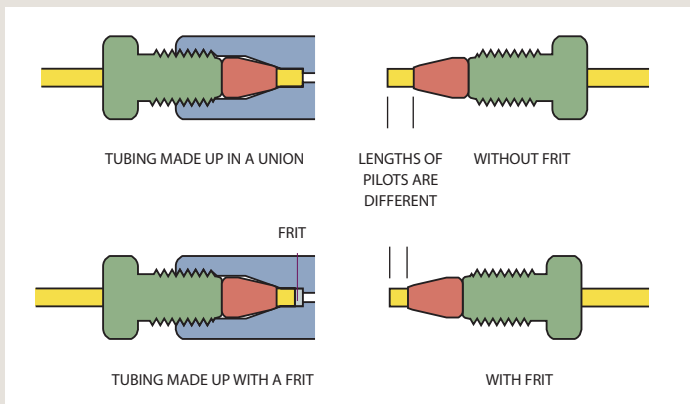


2009 #60

TECH TIP

Filtering capability can be added to a union by inserting a screen or frit in it before making up the fittings. However, when a fitting detail has a screen or frit in it, the pilot depth is reduced, so that the ferrule makes up closer to the tube end than it otherwise would. If that tube is used in any other Valco fitting, it will introduce unswept volume. Our filter design takes this into account, allowing our fittings to remain truly interchangeable.

Filters pages 50-52
Frits and screens. 53

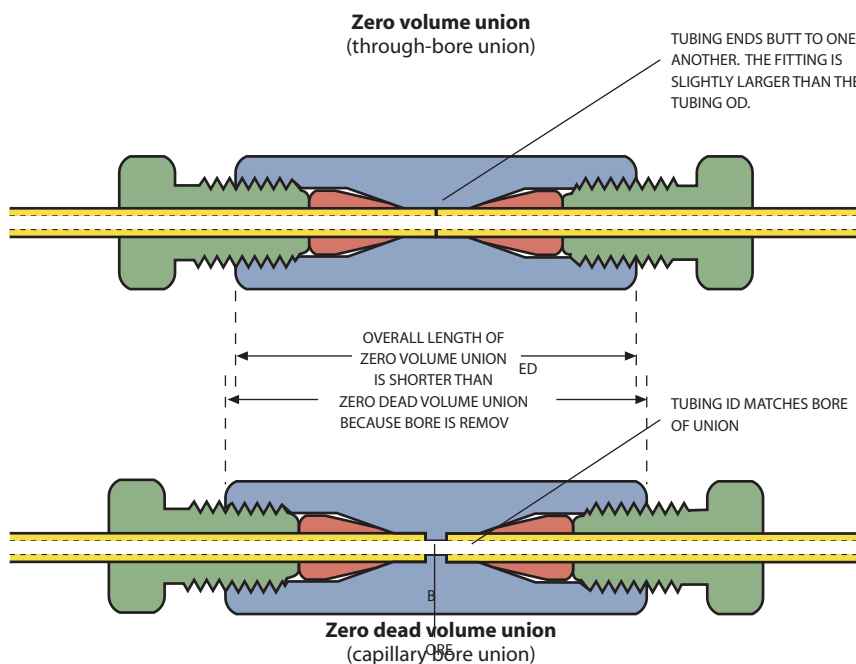


0.25 mm	= .010"
0.50 mm	= .020"
0.75 mm	= .030"
1.0 mm	= .040"
1.5 mm	= .060"
2.0 mm	= .080"
4.6 mm	= .180"
6.0 mm	= .236"
6.4 mm	= .253"
7.0 mm	= .275"
10.0 mm	= .400"
27.0 mm	= 1.08"
1/32"	= 0.8 mm
1/16"	= 1.6 mm
1/8"	= 3.2 mm
1/4"	= 6.4 mm
3/8"	= 9.5 mm
1/2"	= 12.7 mm

Zero Volume vs. Zero Dead Volume

A true zero volume fitting is one in which no part of the fitting actually becomes a part of the flow path. The only Valco fittings which fit this description are our through-bore unions, which allow tubing to butt end-to-end. (So these are only zero volume if the tube ends are perfectly square.)

All other fittings are designed with zero *dead* volume: that is, there is no volume introduced by the fitting which is not cleanly swept.



MORE INFORMATION

Reducing unions to connect two tubes with different ODs p 29-31
 Unions with 1/4-28 fittings 72

TECH TIP

Through-bore Union Installation

Because the tubing will pass all the way through a through-bore union, we suggest making up the first tube in a standard Valco fitting to establish the proper length of tubing extending beyond the ferrule. Install this made-up connection in the through-bore union; then the second tube can be butted against it for a zero volume connection.



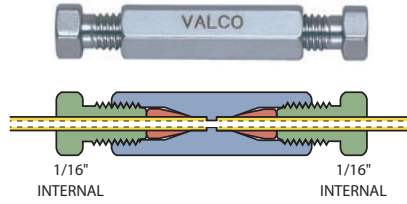
Unions

Internal unions – stainless steel

Standard material is 300 series stainless. Also available in Hastelloy C, gold-plated stainless, and titanium.

Standard internal unions

Tubing			
OD	Bore	Prod No	Price
1/32"	0.15 mm	ZU.5XC	
	0.25 mm	ZU.5	
	0.50 mm	ZU.5L	
	1/32"	ZU.5T	
1/16"	0.15 mm	ZU1XC	
	0.25 mm	ZU1C	
	0.50 mm	ZU1M	
	0.75 mm	ZU1	
	1.0 mm	ZU1L	
	1/16"	ZU1T	
1/8"	0.75 mm	ZU2	
	2.0 mm	ZU2L	
	1/8"	ZU2T	
1/4"	0.75 mm	ZU4	
	4.6 mm	ZU4L	
	1/4"	ZU4T	



Internal union – metal
Standard bore version (ZU1)
Ends of tubing seat squarely at bottoms of fitting details

Bulkhead internal unions

Tubing				Bulkhead panel hole diameter
OD	Bore	Prod No	Price	
1/32"	0.15 mm	ZBU.5XC		5/16"
	0.25 mm	ZBU.5		5/16"
	0.50 mm	ZBU.5L		5/16"
	1/32"	ZBU.5T		5/16"
1/16"	0.15 mm	ZBU1XC		5/16"
	0.25 mm	ZBU1C		5/16"
	0.50 mm	ZBU1M		5/16"
	0.75 mm	ZBU1		5/16"
	1.0 mm	ZBU1L		5/16"
	1/16"	ZBU1T		5/16"
1/8"	0.75 mm	ZBU2		7/16"
	2.0 mm	ZBU2L		7/16"
	1/8"	ZBU2T		7/16"
1/4"	0.75 mm	ZBU4		5/8"
	4.6 mm	ZBU4L		5/8"
	1/4"	ZBU4T		5/8"



Bulkhead internal union – metal
(ZBU1)

MORE INFORMATION

Internal unions, high pressure PEEK . . . p 57,65

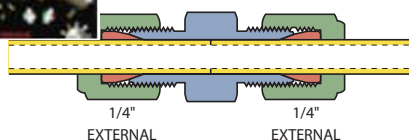
For special materials and/or smaller bores:

Microvolume connectors offer a complete range of 1/32" and 1/16" unions in various metals and polymers, with bore sizes ranging from .006" (0.15 mm) to .040" (1.0 mm). Refer to pages 22-23.

0.25 mm	=	.010"
0.50 mm	=	.020"
0.75 mm	=	.030"
1.0 mm	=	.040"
1.5 mm	=	.060"
2.0 mm	=	.080"
4.6 mm	=	.180"
6.0 mm	=	.236"
6.4 mm	=	.253"
7.0 mm	=	.275"
10.0 mm	=	.400"
27.0 mm	=	1.08"
1/32"	=	0.8 mm
1/16"	=	1.6 mm
1/8"	=	3.2 mm
1/4"	=	6.4 mm
3/8"	=	9.5 mm
1/2"	=	12.7 mm

5/16"	=	.312"	=	7.9 mm
3/8"	=	.375"	=	9.5 mm
7/16"	=	.437"	=	11.1 mm

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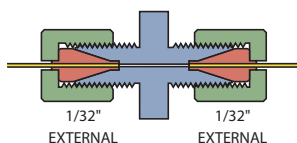


External union
Through-bore version
(EU4T)

Ends of tubing butt together

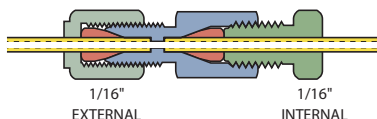


Bulkhead external union
(EBU2L)



1/32" external union
(EU.5)

For use with GC capillary columns



External/internal union
Standard bore
(EZU1)

Adapts existing external fittings
to Valco zero volume internal fittings



Bulkhead external/internal union
(EZBU1)

External unions

Standard material is 300 series stainless. Also available in Hastelloy C and gold-plated stainless.

Note: Because 1/16" external fittings have very thin, easily distorted walls, they are not as durable as 1/16" internal fittings. We recommend the use of external/internal unions (below) when connecting to an installed external nut.

Tubing OD	Bore	Standard		Bulkhead		Bulkhead panel hole diameter	
		Prod No	Price	Prod No	Price		
1/16"	See note above						
1/8"	1.0 mm	EU2		-		-	
	2.0 mm	EU2L		EBU2L		5/16"	
	1/8"	EU2T		EBU2T		5/16"	
1/4"	2.0 mm	EU4		EBU4		7/16"	
	4.6 mm	EU4L		EBU4L		7/16"	
	1/4"		EU4T		EBU4T		7/16"

External unions – 1/32" ultra low mass

The 1/32" external union is specially designed for use with capillary columns in GC. It is very low mass and does not require wrenches to seal. Use *only* with one-piece fused silica adapters, since metal ferrules will distort the detail. Order fused silica adapters separately (page 16). Standard material is 300 series stainless.

Bore	Prod No	Price
0.25 mm	EU.5	
0.50 mm	EU.5L	
1/32"	EU.5T	

External/internal unions

Standard material is 300 series stainless. Also available in Hastelloy C and gold-plated stainless.

Tubing OD	Bore	Standard		Bulkhead		Bulkhead panel hole diameter
		Prod No	Price	Prod No	Price	
1/32"	0.25 mm	EZU.5		-		-
	0.50 mm	EZU.5L		-		-
1/16"	0.25 mm	EZU1C		EZBU1C		5/16"
	0.50 mm	EZU1M		EZBU1M		5/16"
	0.75 mm	EZU1		EZBU1		5/16"
	1/16"	EZU1T		EZBU1T		5/16"
1/8"	1.0 mm	EZU2		EZBU2		7/16"
	2.0 mm	EZU2L		EZBU2L		7/16"
	1/8"	EZU2T		EZBU2T		7/16"