

HIGH-PERFORMANCE CERAMICS CERAMIC-TO-METAL ASSEMBLIES

Physical-technical applications impose high requirements on the materials used. Our ceramic-to-metal assemblies have been optimally designed to meet these challenges.

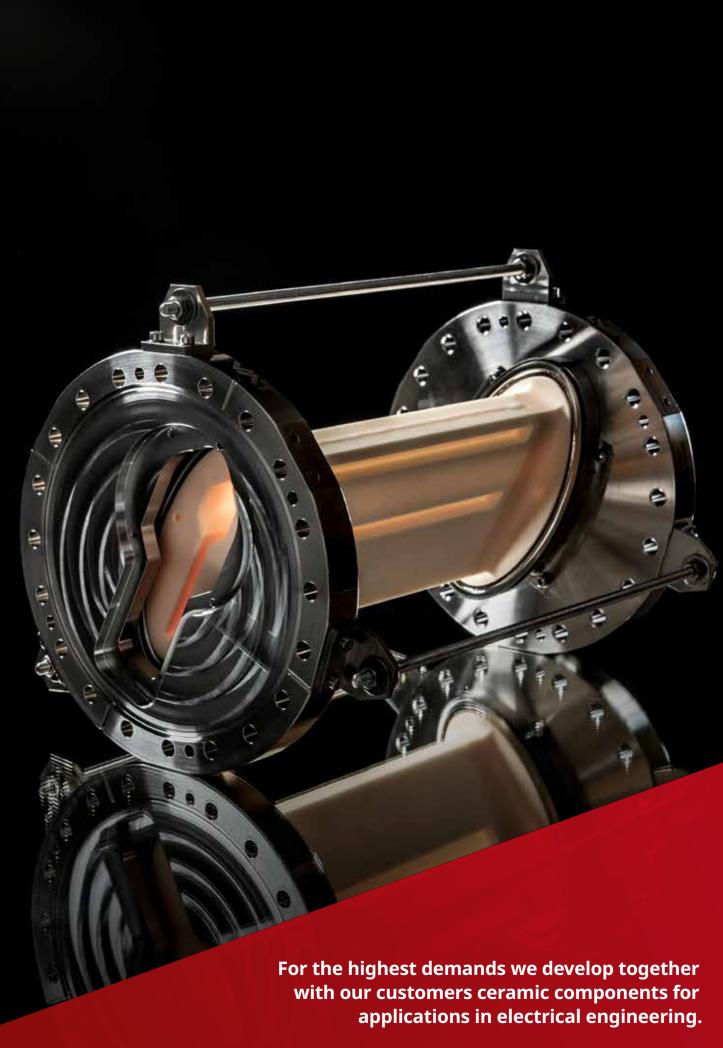
Ceramic-to-metal assemblies combine the excellent properties of each individual material i.e. ceramic and metal into one single component:

- ▶ The high-performance ceramic part guarantees electrical insulation and dimensional stability.
- ▶ The metal component features electrical conductivity and weldability.
- ▶ The hard-soldered ceramic-to-metal joint exhibits mechanical strength and vacuum tightness.

We develop ceramic-to-metal assemblies for high-voltage and high-current applications, as well as for measuring and control technology, industrial applications, reactor construction and research. Our years of experience as a manufacturer of prototypes and standard components guarantee superior solutions to accomplish a variety of tasks.

ADVANTAGES

- Operational safety
- Reliability
- Long service life
- Mechanical strength
- ▶ High thermal shock resistance
- Good thermal conductivity
- ▶ High electrical volume and surface resistance
- ▶ High dielectric strength
- ▶ Low dielectric loss at high frequencies
- ▶ Low cross section for neutron absorption when used in nuclear technology
- Many ceramic-to-metal assemblies are available with non-magnetisable metal parts



COMPONENTS FOR VACUUM TECHNOLOGY

New technologies are founded on tradition. Manufacturing processes under high vacuum challenge materials.



Single feedthroughs made of F99.7



Multiple feedthroughs made of F99.7



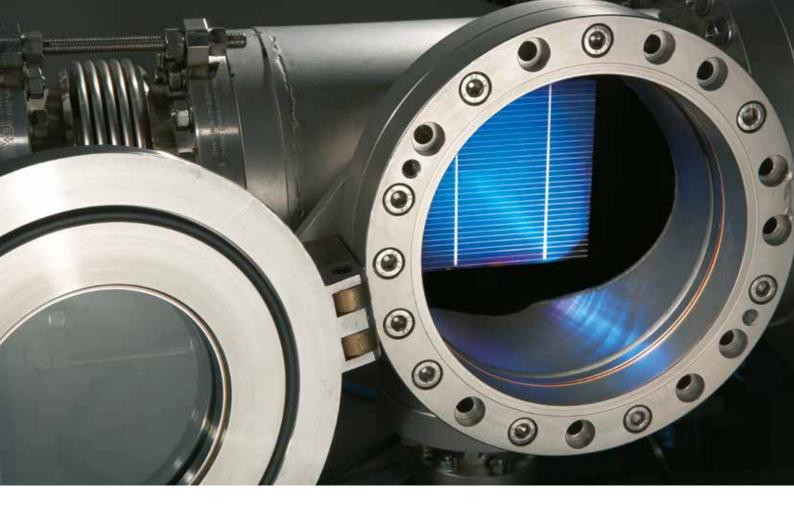
Feedthroughs with welded flange made of F99.7

FEEDTROUGHS

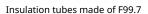
The ultra-high vacuum imposes new requirements on conventional materials and joining techniques. Components made of high-performance ceramics meet these challenges and show their strength in vacuum applications.

Electrical feedthroughs made of ceramic-to-metal assemblies allow transmission of high currents, high voltages or the smallest measurement signals between the vacuum chamber and the exterior. Ceramics provide reliable separation of areas with different potentials.

The good electrical insulation of the material combined with high mechanical strength is an important requirement for efficient feedthroughs.









Pin insulators made of F99.7

INSULATORS AND INSULATION TUBES

Insulators and insulation tubes made of F99.7 and F99.7 hf can be fitted with ribs and glazed on the outside. The rib structure increases the creepage distance, leading to higher dielectric strength when used in atmospheric applications. The glaze facilitates handling and cleaning of the component.

Depending on the construction, our insulation tubes are suitable for cryogenic applications using liquid helium or liquid nitrogen at temperatures ranging from -271°C to 450°C.

Operating temperature: 580°C to 675°C (high temperature). As standard, the insulation tubes are tested for vacuum tightness and can be fitted with different flange types such as CF, KF or COF.

COMPONENTS FOR RADIOLOGY AND MEDICAL ENGINEERING

Because of their excellent properties Kyocera aluminium oxide ceramics have been used in medical technology for many decades. In both X-ray technology and radiation oncology, ceramic-to-metal assemblies allow reliable diagnoses and safe treatment of the patient.



Precise diagnosis with minimum radiation exposure.







Rotary piston X-ray tube made of F99.7

Housing for X-ray image intensifier made of F99.7

Anode ceramic made of F99.7

The X-ray tube is the core of computerised tomography. It allows the medical professional to make a precise diagnosis while keeping radiation exposure to a minimum. The X-ray tube and X-ray image intensifier, made of oxide ceramics, are key components and indispensable for modern X-ray diagnostics. Our oxide ceramic products are the result of decades of experience combined with intense research and development and customised implementation.

The X-ray image intensifier using KYOCERA Fineceramics Europe GmbH components is one of the most outstanding examples of successful and sustainable collaboration with our customers. The product has been tested over many years and has proved efficient in practice. It is now used in radiological applications throughout the world. The Heidelberg Ion-Beam Therapy Centre (HIT), designed as the first German institute for clinical radiation therapy and currently the only therapy unit for heavy ions in Europe, relies on our high-performance ceramics.

COMPONENTS FOR SEMI-CONDUCTOR INDUSTRY

The computer industry is based on microchips. Only high-performance ceramics allow the use of this technology.



Precision in the µm range.



Test plate made of silicon nitride



Wafer fixing plate made of F99.7

TESTING

With the trend towards the development and manufacture of even smaller chips, there is no way around KYOCERA Fineceramics Europe GmbH products. After all, computer components must be measured and checked in the μm range before initial operation. Material properties such as high dimensional stability at high temperatures turn our ceramic components into high-precision components.

POSITIONING

High-performance ceramics are used in handling and positioning systems for wafer manufacturing because they are highly resistant to temperature, have excellent electrical properties and are dimensionally stable.

COMPONENTS FOR RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT AND MICROSCOPY

Focussing units in electron microscopes require tolerances of just a few μm allowing different specimens from research and technology to be inspected at maximum resolution and depth of field.



High dimensional stability and best electrical insulation.







Focussing unit made of F99.7

Insulation component made of F99.7

Single and multiple feedthroughs made of F99.7

The vacuum system in electron microscopes allows the electron to travel freely without unnecessary scattering caused by collisions with gas molecules and enables efficient use of the electron source. The ultra-high vacuum imposes new requirements that conventional materials are unable to meet.

Focussing units in electron microscopes require tolerances of just a few µm allowing different specimens from research and technology to be inspected at maximum resolution and depth of field. Minimum leakage and desorption rates are decisive for the functionality of the microscope. Components made of high-performance ceramics guarantee best measurement results due to their dimensional stability and excellent insulating properties.

Components made of oxide ceramics show their strength in vacuum applications. Minimum outgassing and leakage rates at best possible electric insulation and thermal resistance guarantee highest reliability in spectroscopy and microscopy.

COMPONENTS FOR PHYSICAL AND MEDICAL FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

Metallised oxide ceramics are the solution for many demanding physical-technical applications. Oxide ceramics are therefore indispensable for medical engineering as well as for research and development.



Source: Heidelberg University Hospital / HIT

Minimum outgassing and absorption rates.







Kicker chamber Ø 150 x L 300 mm with TiN coating made of F99.7; manufactured for Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire (CERN) Insulator for ion source Ø $580 \times L$ 145 mm made of F99.7; manufactured for Cornell University

High-voltage insulator Ø 560 x L 450 mm made of F99.7; manufactured for Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics

PARTICLE ACCELERATOR

Oxide ceramics are the ideal material for demanding applications in physical fundamental research, particle physics and materials research. Its material properties meet the very highest demands even under extreme conditions. Vacuum chambers made of high-performance ceramics are used in accelerator units. They are used in fast-pulsed bending magnets to contribute to the injection and extraction of particles.

The requirements imposed on components made of oxide ceramics during operation are very demanding. Sufficient mechanical strength and high durability guarantee safe operation.

Components made of ceramic-to-metal joints are outstanding due to excellent properties such as maximum electric insulation, absolute tightness even when exposed to extreme pressure and vacuum conditions, exceptional corrosion and temperature resistance at temperatures exceeding 350 °C. Unlike metallic parts, ceramic components prevent the shielding of the rapidly changing external magnetic fields. Ceramics do not heat up when exposed to eddy currents. The additional coating on the inner surfaces of the ceramic chambers, e.g. Ti or TiN, ensures that image currents are reliably discharged and minimises secondary electron emission.

CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIAL SELECTION

Construction affects approximately 70% of manufacturing costs. As a result, the construction has the task of providing the customer with a product that meets his or her requirements while at the same time ensuring competitive product manufacturing prices.

This means in particular:

- a) Implementation of required property features using simple solutions and standardised primary products
- b) Construction suited to ceramics
- c) Construction suited to production

The choice of ceramic and metal materials suitable for joining requires comprehensive knowledge of application conditions. Table 1 gives an overview of the main requirements imposed on the three constituents of joining, i.e. ceramic, joining area and metal.

Joint constructions are designed in accordance with geometric requirements of the user and the thermal suitability of the selected materials (see table 3 (p. 17)).

Table 2 shows some basic types of joint constructions which are frequently used for feedthroughs and insulating parts.

The ceramic-to-metal joint is designed in such a way that the metal part, once brazed, exerts compressive stress on the ceramic part. Construction type 1 comes close to the specified target. When it comes to external brazing, metal alloys (Ni42, NiCo 2918) or metals with a coefficient of thermal expansion (CTE) higher than that of ceramics are preferred. These alloys are also suited for internal brazing; however, the CTE of other metals should be lower than that of ceramics. Metals such as copper are an exception, as these materials exhibit a high ductility and are used for internal brazing despite of their high CTE. Adapted alloys or ductile metals with wall thicknesses up to 1 mm are used for external brazing. Larger diameters require the use of moveable shaped parts. If these are magnetisable, e.g. a Ni42 flange of type 1c is subsequently welded to a stainless steel flange (see Figure 11 (p. 22)).

Properties		Main focus on:		
		Ceramic	Joining area	Metal
Electric	Breakdown voltage Sparkover voltage Creepage distance Dielectric constants Resistance			
Magnetic				
Thermal	Application temperature Thermal shock resistance		:	
Mechanic	Strength		-	
Geometric	Dimensional tolerance Surface roughness	:		•
UHV tightness	HE leakage rate			

Table 1: Main requirements

If circumference or internal brazing is required on both ends of a tube, a groove is cut into the ceramic (type 1b). The advantage of this construction is that it keeps brazing equipment to a minimum and allows the individual brazed parts to be mounted easily.

The use of construction type 1 is often limited to brazed diameters smaller than 50 mm when using non adapted metals, because the difference in the CTE of ceramics and metal at brazing temperature is too high. In such cases, construction type 2 is often used.

The same applies when brazing larger metal parts made of austenitic steel via a ductile intermediate copper layer, as this type of construction allows great mobility of the metal parts on the front edge of the ceramic part.

Compact constructions of type 3 are manufactured using adapted metal alloys or ductile metals. The mechanical safety of such a joint is increased by using a ceramic compensation ring of type 3b.

Feedthroughs are exposed to high mechanical stress and require that only compressive stresses occur inside the ceramic. If this construction principle is taken into consideration, highly resistant feedthroughs can be manufactured.

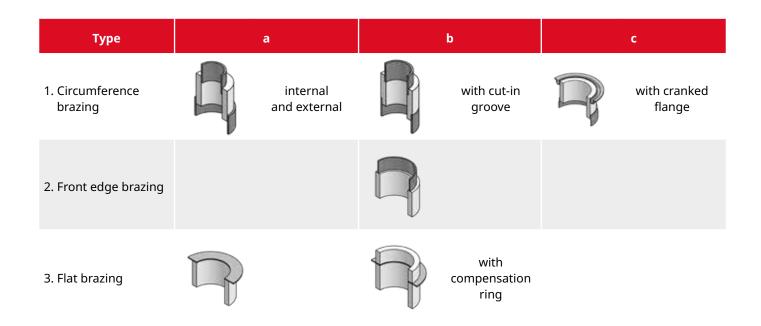


Table 2: Basic types of joint constructions

BRAZING TECHNOLOGY

With the exception of some products, usability requires material-bonded and highly vacuum-tight joining of ceramic parts with each other and with metal parts. Various joining techniques can be used to achieve this.

GLASS BRAZING

Glass brazing is appropriate for gas-tight joining of ceramic components. This joining technique is characterised by a very good general chemical resistance and operating temperatures up to approx. 1,100 °C. These joints achieve strength values up to 100 MPa at room temperature (in accordance with DVS German Welding Society, Guideline 3101).

A coefficient of thermal expansion adjusted to the ceramic and the glass braze is decisive for the quality of the glass-braze joint. There is great freedom of design with regard to geometries, however, a suitable braze reservoir and an adequate brazing gap in the construction must be guaranteed. This joining technique is based mainly on the use of glass brazes with a thermal expansion matched to that of ceramics as glass shows no metallic ductile properties.



Fig. 1: Glass-brazed ozone generator



Fig. 2: Curved vacuum chamber with glass-brazed ceramic-to-ceramic joints bending angle: 15°, L 3,200 mm

BRAZING OF METALLISED CERAMICS

Components made of high-performance ceramics are generally metallised using the molybdenum-manganese procedure (MoMn procedure) and subsequent nickelplating (see fig. 5a). The starting point for this process is a compound of molybdenum and manganese. The compound is applied to the ceramic surface to produce a firmly bonded metallised coating through a firing process. As the majority of commercial vacuum hard solders do not wet the metallised surface, it is nickel-plated using a galvanic or autocatalytic method. The component can be brazed on this base metallised coating.

Metallisation allows for brazing at temperatures above 1,000 °C under protective gas atmosphere and/or in the vacuum. A silver-copper eutectic alloy is used as a standard brazing material. Brazing materials with increased melting properties are applied when higher requirements are imposed on the operating temperature, corrosive properties and use of metals that are hardly wetted by the silver-copper eutectic alloy. Table 3 gives an overview of available brazing alloys. Our metallised ceramics are available with galvanic coating such as Au, Ni or Cu to allow for the use of soft solders at low temperatures.

Brazing material	Brazing temperature (°C)	
Ag Cu 28	780	
Ag Cu 26,6 Pd 5	800 - 850	
Ag Cu 21 Pd 25	900	
Au Ni 18	950	
Cu Ge 10	1,000	
Au Cu 65	1,020	
Au	1,070	

Table 3: Brazing materials and brazing temperatures

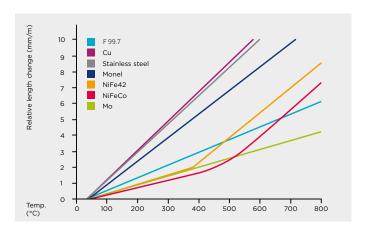


Fig. 3: Thermal expansion characteristics of metallic materials and F99.7 ceramics

BRAZING TECHNOLOGY

Ceramic components prepared using this metallisation process can be hard-soldered with thermally adapted metal components such as NiFe 42 (e.g. VACODIL), NiFeCo (e.g. VACON 10/70), Ti, Mo, CU, etc. Figure 3 shows the coefficients of thermal expansion of different metals compared to that of F99.7.

Figure 4 shows the cross-section of a joining area of a F99.7/AgCu28/1.3917 compound. Tensile tests show that this material combination results in strength values exceeding 100 MPa (in accordance with DVS German Welding Society, Guideline 3101). If the construction is appropriate, these strengths can also be achieved using active brazing.

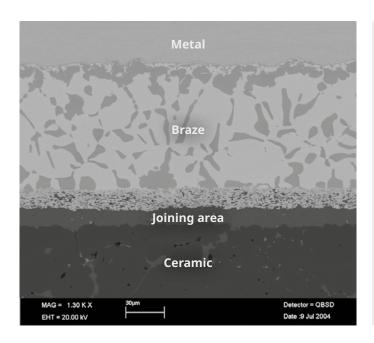


Fig. 4: Cross-section through metallised and hard-soldered $\mathrm{Al_2O_3}$ ceramic

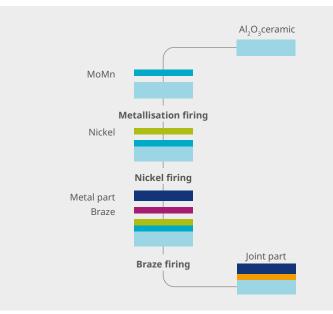


Fig. 5a: Schematic view of MoMn-brazing method

ACTIVE BRAZING

Active brazing (see fig. 5b) is based on the use of brazing materials with a low oxygen-reactive metal content such as Ti, Zr, or Hf. They contribute to wetting of Al_2O_3 thus eliminating the need for prior metallisation. The strength values of directly brazed Al_2O_3 ceramics/Ni42 joints achieve values similar to those of brazed and metallised joints. Figure 6 shows a further example of a joining area of a ZrO_2 ceramic and steel joint brazed with AgCu26, 5Ti3.

Although active brazing is attractive from a technical and economical point of view, its use with feedthroughs is restricted because the braze does not flow into the brazing gap but remains in the braze deposit. However, these restrictions can be avoided when the constructions take this particularity into consideration.

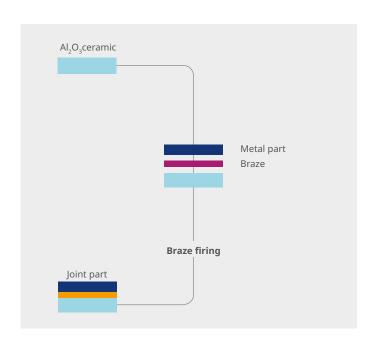


Fig. 5b: Schematic view of active brazing

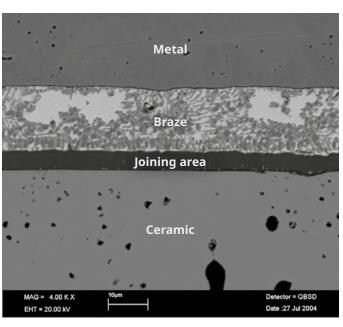


Fig. 6: Cross-section through an active-brazed ${\rm ZrO}_2$ ceramic

OPERATING VOLTAGE AND CURRENT-CARRYING CAPACITY

OPERATING VOLTAGE

Specification of flashover voltage values refers to the distance between two voltage-carrying electrodes under normal conditions (1,013 mbar, 50% relative humidity) where no flashover occurs. Their values increase 3-4 times in a vacuum of approximately 10-6 mbar. High pressures of suitable dry gases or the use of insulating oils can also contribute to such an increase. The values also depend on the electrode geometry. If the ceramic body covers the electrodes, the flashover voltage depends only on creepage distance; the operating voltage can be removed from the diagram (see fig. 7).

CURRENT-CARRYING CAPACITY

The current-carrying capacity of the feedthroughs depends mainly on the type of conductor used. The specifications in the diagram (see fig. 8) are intended as general values. In specific cases, heat dissipation of the insulator must be taken into consideration.

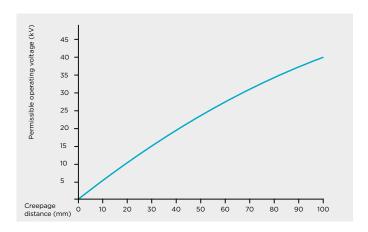


Fig. 7: Permissible operating voltage as a function of creepage distance

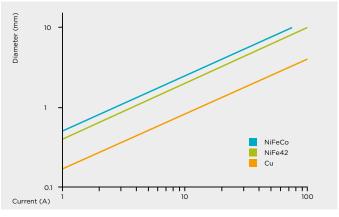


Fig. 8: Current-carrying capacity of different materials as a function of wire diameter

ELECTRICAL RESISTANCE AND BENDING AND COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH

ELECTRICAL RESISTANCE

When comparing the specific electrical resistance of different insulating ceramics as a function of temperature, highly pure ceramics show very good insulating properties even at higher temperatures (see fig. 9). While this high electrical resistance (approximately $10^{14}\,\Omega$ cm at room temperature for F99.7) results to a large extent from the lack of alkali, porcelain and other ceramic insulating bodies contain electric charges which are easy to move. Our ceramic-to-metal assemblies are made of F99.7 material. To avoid the effects of contamination on the surface of oxide ceramics, our ceramic-to-metal assemblies can be given a glaze with high melting points.

BENDING AND COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH

The compressive strength of ceramics is higher than that of metals at any temperature range. Although lower at room temperature, their bending strength exceeds that of metals above 700 °C. The reason for this behaviour is that the elasticity and fracture limits of ceramic materials coincide and occurring stress cannot be reduced by plastic flow. Unlike metals, our ceramics show no significant loss in strength at higher temperatures (see fig. 10).

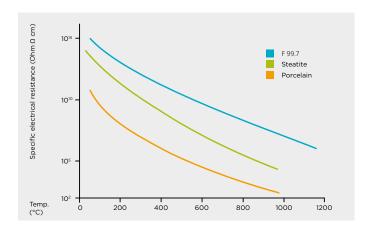


Fig. 9: Specific electrical resistance of different ceramic insulating materials as a function of temperature

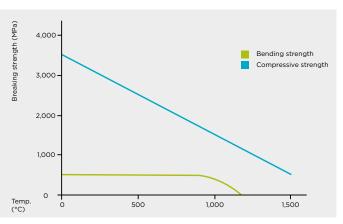


Fig. 10: Bending and compressive strength of F99.7 as a function of temperature

CONSTRUCTION CHARACTERISTICS

TEMPERATURE RESISTANCE

Hard-soldered metal-to-ceramic joints are particularly suitable for use at higher temperatures up to 600 °C in the vacuum or protective gas. Depending on size and design, the thermal shock resistance of ceramic-to-metal assemblies is approx. 180 °C. A heating up and cooling down rate of 5 °C/min. is a generally accepted reference value.

CONSTRUCTION NOTES

While installing ceramic-to-metal assemblies made of high-performance ceramics, it is important to keep thermal stresses occurring during welding or brazing away from the ceramic-to-metal mating surfaces. This can be taken into consideration by using suitable design, flanges or appliances for heat dissipation.

Ceramic-to-metal assemblies are generally tested with mass spectrometer leak testing using helium as test gas with a sensitivity of approx. 10-9 mbar l/sec. External partners are available for compressive strength tests of ceramic-to-metal assemblies. Feedthroughs are exposed to high mechanical stress and require that only compressive stresses occur inside the ceramic. Taking into consideration this construction principle allows for manufacturing of highly resistant feedthroughs.

Unless otherwise indicated, general dimensional tolerances in accordance with DIN 2768 medium (metal) and DIN 40680 medium (ceramics) apply.

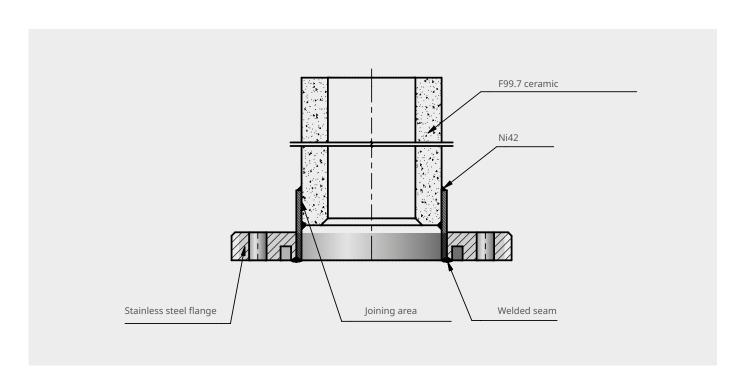


Fig. 11: Example for construction of ceramic insulation tube with flange connection

HINTS FOR HANDLING

Introduction

Cleanliness is a priority when handling vacuum equipment. The use of clean, lint- and powder-free gloves (vinyl) is recommended at all times. Internal surfaces of vacuum equipment should never be touched without gloves, as fingerprints will contaminate the system.

Kyocera uses only highly pure materials because raw material manufacturing processes can influence a

material manufacturing processes can influence a material's compatibility with vacuum applications.

These hints give you important information about the handling and cleaning of ceramic-to-metal assemblies.

Hints for ceramic-to-metal components

- Flange-mounting is the preferred method of installation for ceramic-to-metal components. They may also be welded directly to a chamber if a flange connection is not feasible. Please take care to avoid undue stress on the ceramic and the brazing point during the welding process.
- Quality control of ceramic-to-metal components consists of visual, mechanical inspection of dimensions and leak checking, as shown in the production drawing, certifi cates and inspection protocols.

Packing

- Protect knife-edges and sealing surfaces with clean plastic flange caps. Alternatively, wrap them in a double layer of PE-foil.
- During transport, fix movable components (e.g. bellows and rotating flanges).
- UHV cleaned ceramic-to-metal components are sealed in PE bags with desiccants and/or nitrogen. Alternatively, they can be wrapped in a double layer of PE-foil.

Avoiding contamination

- Avoid contamination of the components during the assembly and welding processes.
- Mount and weld in a clean room that is separate from the mechanical manufacturing.
- Wear clean, lint- and powder free gloves (vinyl) during the assembly.

Avoiding stress on ceramic-to-metal components

- ▶ Do not expose the ceramic-to-metal components to impact loads, bending or thermal stress.
- ▶ Please take care to avoid undue stress on the ceramic and the brazing point during the welding process.

Welding

- ▶ Possible welding methods are:
- Electron beam and laser welding (a minimum distance of 5 mm to the brazing point is recommended)
- Metal inert-gas (MIG) and tungsten inert-gas (TIG) (a minimum distance of 10 mm to the brazing point is recommended)
- The minimum distance also depends on the construction and complexity of the ceramic-to-metal assembly. Please contact us for any additional information.
- ▶ Alternative cooling methods, e.g. copper clamp to protect the brazing point from too much thermal energy.

Brazed joints

- Braze joints only under vacuum or shielding gas atmosphere.
- Only if we know the temperature of the subsequent welding processes, we can use the correct prebrazing material.

Cleaning ceramic-to-metal components

- Clean in a laboratory washing machine by rinsing with alkaline detergent and deionised water.
- Use an ultrasonic bath with deionised water and alkaline detergent.
- Perform the ultrasonic cleaning cycles (e.g. 3 times for 5 min), interrupted by short rinsing periods (at least 1 min).
- ▶ Use clean alcohol (e.g. clean isopropanol or similar) to remove surface water or clean glazed surfaces.
- Dry by blowing off with dry, oil-free compressed air or hot air.
- ▶ Bake-out up to 250 °C (recommended 180 °C; rate of temperature 5 K/min).
- Clean vacuum parts that will be assembled into larger units in advance. Clean the parts after mechanical processing, taking into account the UHV cleaning requirements.

MATERIAL PROPERTIES

Properties	Standard	Specification	Unit	F99.7
Main component			-	α - Al ₂ O ₃
Content			[%]	> 99.5
Colour			-	ivory
Density ($\rho_{_{\mathrm{b}}}$)	DIN EN ISO 18754		[g/cm³]	≥ 3.90
Open (apparent) porosity (π_a)	DIN EN ISO 18754		[vol%]	0
Average size of crystallites ($g_{\scriptscriptstyle m mll}$)	ISO 13383-1	A1	[µm]	10
Mechanical characteristics				
Vickers Hardness (HV1.0)	DIN EN ISO 14705	Procedure A	[GPa]	17.3
Compressive strength ($\sigma_{_{\mathrm{c,m}}}$)	DIN ISO 17162		[MPa]	2,500
Flexural strength ($\sigma_{_{\mathrm{f,4}}}$)	DIN EN 843-1	Four-Point-Bending	[MPa]	350
Young's modulus of Elasticity (<i>E</i>)	EN 843-2	dynamic	[GPa]	380
Poisson's ratio (μ)	EN 843-2	resonance	[-]	0.24
Fracture toughness ($K_{1c, SEVNB}$)	DIN EN ISO 23146	SEVNB	[MPa·m ^{0.5}]	5
Weibull modulus (m)	EN ISO 20501		[-]	>10
Thermal characteristics				
Max. service temperature (T_{max})		in air	[°C]	1,950
Thermal conductivity (λ)	DIN EN ISO 18755	20 °C	[W/(m·K)]	34.9
Specific heat capacity (c_p)	DIN EN 821-3	20 °C	[J/(g·K)]	900
Mean coefficient of linear thermal expansion (\vec{a})	DIN EN ISO 17562	20 -1,000 °C	[10 ⁻⁶ /K]	8.2
Thermal shock resistance	DIN EN 820-3	R ₁ , Type A, in water	[°C]	180
Electrical characteristics				
Dielectric strength	DIN EN 60243-1		[kV/mm]	> 30
Volume resistivity (ρ)	DIN EN 62631-3	20 °C	[Ω·cm]	10 ¹⁵
Relative permittivity ($\varepsilon_{_{\rm r}}$)	DIN EN IEC 62631-2-1	70 MHz 180 MHz 30 – 40 GHz	[-]	10 9.9 9.8
Dielectric dissipation factor (tan (δ))	DIN EN IEC 62631-2-1	70 MHz 180 MHz 30 – 40 GHz	[10 ⁻⁴ /K]	270 150 20

F99.7 hf	FZT	FZM Mg-PSZ	DEGUSSIT FZY
α - Al_2O_3	Al ₂ O ₃ , ZrO ₂	ZrO ₂ , MgO	ZrO ₂ , Y ₂ O ₃ , Al ₂ O ₃
> 99.5	> 99.5	> 99.7	> 99.7
white	white	yellow	white
≥ 3.90	≥ 4.10	≥ 5.70	≥ 5.60
0	0	0	0
20	5	50	30
16.1	18.4	12.0	13.7
2,500	3,000	2,000	2,000
350	460	500	400
380	360	207	200
0.22	0.24	0.31	-
3.5	3.3	6.3	-
≥10	>15	>15	-
1,950	1,700	900	1,700
34.9	25	3	2.5 (100 °C)
900	850	400	400
8.2	8.3	10.6 (20 - 900 °C)	10.9
	-	-	-
> 30	-	-	-
1014	-	1010	1010
9.8 9.8 9.8	-	-	-
3.8 2.5 1.4	-	-	-

The values and information contained in this document are based on our current state of knowledge and are provided without any representation or warranty as to specific properties, completeness, accuracy, or suitability for a particular purpose. The stated values are derived from typical test samples under laboratory conditions and may vary depending on design, shape, manufacturing process, and application. Prior to any use, the suitability of the material for the intended purpose must be checked independently and if necessary, appropriate tests must be carried out. We reserve the right to modify this document and the values contained herein without prior notice. Liability claims are excluded, unless mandatory statutory provisions, particularly in cases of death, bodily injury, intent, or gross negligence, prohibit a more extensive limitation of liability.

Other materials and data are available at www.kyocera-fineceramics.de.

ABOUT KYOCERA





The global Kyocera corporation - a strong partner.

Headquarters: Kyoto, Japan

Foundation: 1959

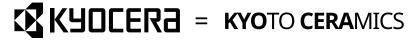
Employees: over 80,000 worldwideEuropean headquarters: Esslingen, Germany

European

production sites: Mannheim, Germany

Selb, Germany Erfurt, Germany (further subsidiaries in

Europe)



KYOCERA – it all began with ceramics

KYOCERA Fineceramics Europe GmbH is a subsidiary of KYOCERA Europe GmbH, which has been successful in Europe for over 50 years. The Kyocera Group is one of the world's leading providers of high-performance ceramic components for the technology industry, offering over 200 different ceramic materials, as well as state-of-the-art technologies and services tailored to the specific needs of each market.

KYOCERA Fineceramics Europe GmbH has grown steadily in recent years – and is now one of the leading European suppliers of customised solutions made of technical ceramics. Working in partnership, we develop and manufacture products that offer our customers added value in their respective markets and secure their technological lead in the long term. We are committed to this every day.

We have also been active in the field of environmental technology for 30 years. Our solutions for treatment of exhaust air and waste water from chemical laboratories and industrial processes are known worldwide under the FRIDURIT brand.

Throughout Europe, we are represented by three production and development sites in Mannheim, Selb and Erfurt (Germany), as well as six sales offices – in Mannheim, Selb, Esslingen, Neuss (Germany), Rungis (France) and Frimley (United Kingdom).

Our business partners benefit from the fact that we think and work across divisions within the Kyocera Group. Because innovations and real milestones can only be achieved together – across industries and national borders.

This is what we believe.

About the KYOCERA Group

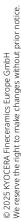
KYOCERA Europe GmbH is a company of the KYOCERA Corporation headquartered in Kyoto/Japan, a renowned supplier for semiconductor, industrial and automotive components as well as electronic components, printing and multifunction systems, and communications technology. Kyocera is one of the most experienced technology producers, with more than 65 years of industry expertise. The Kyocera Group comprises of around 300 subsidiaries.

Kyocera aims to create a better future for the world, using the power of technology to solve issues we face as a global society. This ambition is rooted in our Kyocera Management Rationale: to contribute to the advancement of society and humankind.

We will continue to work together with people around the world to solve issues critical to society leveraging all of the technologies and management capabilities we have accumulated during our 60-plus year history.

The company also takes an active interest in cultural affairs. The Kyoto Prize, a prominent international award, is presented each year by the Inamori Foundation established by Kyocera founder Dr Kazuo Inamori to individuals worldwide who have contributed significantly to the scientific, cultural, and spiritual betterment of humankind.







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