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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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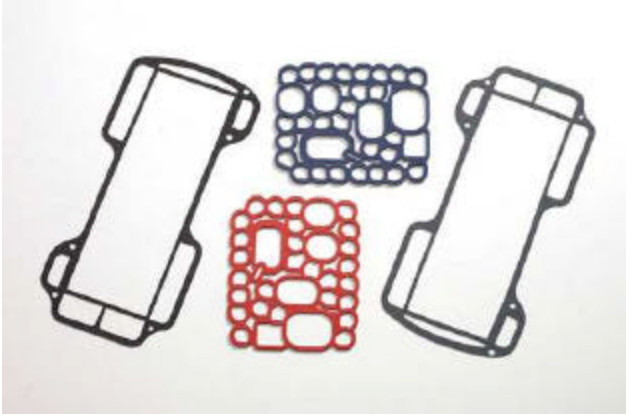
Water Jet Cutting of Rubber Gaskets for Fast-Turn Prototypes



Philadelphia, Pa. - Stockwell Rubber Company announces their water jet cutting capability used for manufacturing precision solid and sponge rubber gaskets. Stockwell's in-house capability uses high-pressure water to cut up to 2" thick sponge and 1" thick solid rubber. Water jet cutting provides a clean, accurate cut without edge concavity, as is often evident on thick die cut gaskets.

The production of water jet cut prototypes and initial production parts is rapid, especially when supplied with electronic drawing files in 2D dxf or dwg format. There is no need for tooling, which further shortens lead-time and saves initial cost, which is especially beneficial if gasket designs are subject to change. Water jet cutting is intended for prototyping and initial production runs from 1-1000 units. However, thicker materials (.25" to 2.00") with critical edge details, or designs with bolt holes too close to the edge of a gasket for die cutting, may run best on water jet, regardless of quantity.

Stockwell Rubber Company maintains a broad variety of solid silicone (.010” to .500” thick) and silicone foam and sponge (.032” to .750” thick). Poron® cellular urethane, closed cell neoprene and EPDM sponges, 3M VHB adhesives, and thermal management materials such as soft ‘gap fillers’, are also frequently water jet cut for the company’s high technology customer base. Stockwell’s on-site custom molding operations can mold both standard and special compounds in sheets from .020” to .500” thick, up to 14” x 14” to support fast-turn prototypes. Special compounds include electrically conductive silicone, thermally conductive silicone, FDA grade materials, and flame retardant compounds. These sheets can then be water jet cut to size to permit the evaluation of a two-dimensional design concept, prior to tooling up for compression or injection tooling of solid rubber components.

For complete information on this new capability or other molding and production capabilities contact Stockwell Rubber Company, Inc.

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