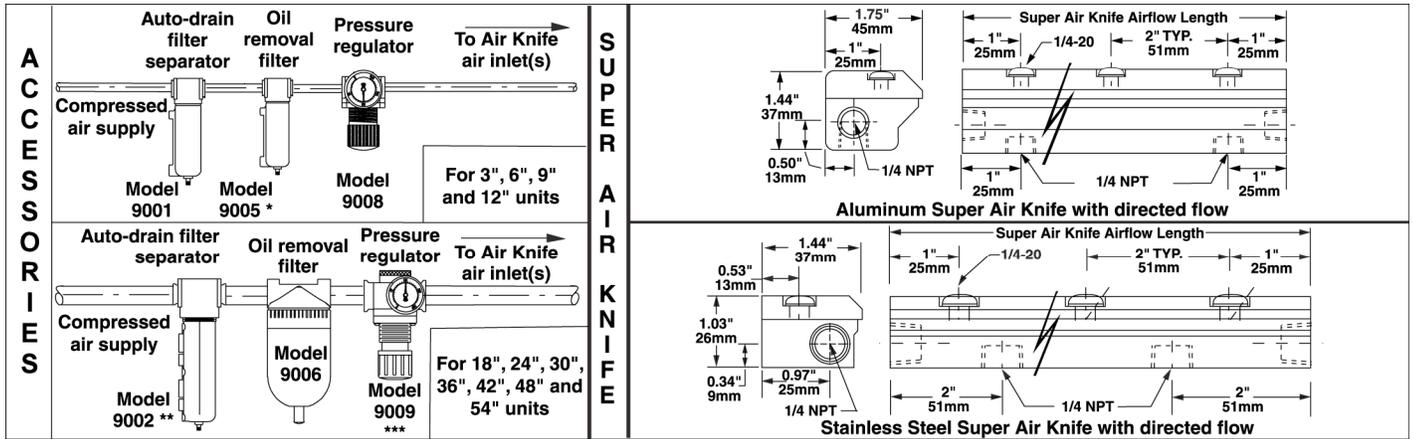


## SUPER AIR KNIFE INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE



- \* Use Model 9006 Oil Removal Filter for Super Air Knives longer than 6" (152mm)
- \*\* Use Model 9032 Auto Drain Filter with 18" 459mm and 24" (610mm) Super Air Knives
- \*\*\* Use Model 9033 Pressure Regulator with 18" (459mm) and 24" (610mm) Super Air Knives

### COMPRESSED AIR LINE SIZES

Compressed air lines should be sized to hold pressure drops to a minimum. Do not use restrictive fittings or undersized lines that can "starve" the Super Air Knife by causing excessive line pressure drop.

The following table (below left) shows the recommended infeed pipe sizes. If compressed air hose is used, always go one size larger than the recommended pipe size due to the smaller I.D. of hose. (Example: Consider 1/2" I.D. hose the equivalent of 3/8" pipe.)

For 24" (610mm) and longer Air Knives, it is best to supply both ends. Model 9076 and 9077 Universal Air Knife Plumbing Kits (sold separately) provide the appropriate size hose and fittings for coupling inlets on the same Super Air Knife. The standard gap setting is .002" (.05mm). For larger gap settings, it is best to supply both ends of the Air Knife in order to maintain uniform flow. (see Super Air Knife Shim Set)

**SUPER AIR KNIFE  
RECOMMENDED INFEED PIPE SIZES**  
Single Air Knife Installation

**SUPER AIR KNIFE RECOMMENDED  
MANIFOLD AND INFEED PIPE SIZES**  
Multiple Air Knife Installation

Super Air Knife Length	Model Numbers	Infeed Pipe Size Length of Run			Web Width	Min. Manifold Size	Infeed Pipe Size Length of Run		
		10' (3m)	50' (15.2m)	100' (30.5m)			10' (3m)	50' (15.2m)	100' (30.5m)
3" (76mm)	110003, 110003SS, 110003SS-316	1/4"	3/8"	1/2"	60" (1.5M)	1"	1"	1-1/4"	1-1/4"
6" (152mm)	110006, 110006SS, 110006SS-316	1/4"	3/8"	1/2"	84" (2.13M)	1"	1"	1-1/4"	1-1/2"
9" (229mm)	110009, 110009SS, 110009SS-316	3/8"	1/2"	3/4"	102" (2.6M)	1-1/4"	1-1/4"	1-1/4"	1-1/2"
12" (305mm)	110012, 110012SS, 110012SS-316	3/8"	1/2"	3/4"	120" (3M)	1-1/4"	1-1/4"	1-1/2"	2"
18" (457mm)	110018, 110018SS, 110018SS-316	1/2"	3/4"	1"					
24" (610mm)	110024, 110024SS, 110024SS-316	1/2"	3/4"	1"					
30" (762mm)	110030, 110030SS, 110030SS-316	3/4"	1"	1"					
36" (914mm)	110036, 110036SS, 110036SS-316	3/4"	1"	1-1/4"					
42" (1067mm)	110042, 110042SS, 110042SS-316	3/4"	1"	1-1/4"					
48" (1219mm)	110048, 110048SS, 110048SS-316	3/4"	1"	1-1/4"					
54" (1372mm)	110054, 110054SS, 110054SS-316	3/4"	1"	1-1/4"					

### MANIFOLD SYSTEMS

Sometimes, a long continuous sheet of air is needed. When the required length exceeds the standard Super Air Knife lengths, they can be manifolded. Inlets in the bottom of the Super Air Knife are provided for this purpose. The table (above right) shows the recommended manifold sizes for various web lengths.

## **COMPRESSED AIR SUPPLY**

The Super Air Knife has compressed air inlets on each end and on the bottom. Lengths 24" (610mm) and longer should be supplied at two inlets (opposite ends) to maintain a balanced airflow. An additional center inlet is provided on the bottom of the 48" (1219mm) and 54" (1372mm) lengths.

With proper filtration and separation of dirt, moisture and oil from the compressed air supply, the Super Air Knife will operate for years with no maintenance required. Use a 10 micron or smaller filter separator on the compressed air supply. Use Model 9001 Automatic Drain Filter Separator for units up to 12" (305mm), Model 9032 for 18" (457mm) & 24" (610mm) units and Model 9002 for all other units larger than 24" (610mm). To prevent problems associated with oil, use an oil removal filter. Use Model 9005 Oil Removal Filter for units up to 6" (152mm), Model 9006 Oil Removal Filter for units longer than 6" (152mm). The oil removal filter should be used downstream from the automatic drain filter separator. Filters should be used close to each Super Air Knife, within 10 to 15' (3 to 4.6m) is best.

The Super Air Knife is designed to use normal shop air supplies up to 100 PSIG (6.9 BAR). For infinite control of flow and force, pressure may be regulated. Use Model 9008 Pressure Regulator for lengths up to 12" (305mm), Model 9033 Pressure Regulator for 18" (457mm) and 24" (610mm) lengths and Model 9009 Pressure Regulator for lengths over 24" (610mm).

## **USING THE SUPER AIR KNIFE**

The Model 9060 Universal Air Knife Mounting System (included in deluxe kits or sold separately) can be articulated into any position to provide secure, precise positioning for any air knife. The Super Air Knife can also be supported by the compressed air pipe or by using the ¼-20 threaded holes on the bottom.

The force (combination of mass flow and velocity) of a Super Air Knife is reasonably constant up to a 12" (305mm) distance. Force is lower at distances greater than 12" (305mm). However, many applications are successful at 18" (457mm), 24" (610mm) or more.

The high velocity airstream thickens as it flows away from the Super Air Knife. At 6" (152mm), it is 3" (76mm) thick and at a 12" (305mm) distance, 5" (127mm) thick. If the application requires a thin "knife" of air, mount the Super Air Knife close. This gives a high velocity, thin sheet of air that has lower mass flow. As the distance from the product surface to the Super Air Knife increases, the thickness of the sheet of air increases, velocity decreases and mass flow increases. By moving the Super Air Knife in and out from the material, the optimum operating distance may be determined.

## **SUPER AIR KNIFE SHIM SET**

Force and flow through the Super Air Knife may be easily increased by adding shims to open the air gap. The Super Air Knife is supplied with a .002" thick shim installed. It sets the air slot to a .002" opening. To increase the air gap, use a shim set (included with the Super Air Knife Kits). A shim set includes shims of .001" (.03mm), .003" (.08mm) and .004" (.1mm) thickness for aluminum models or (3) .002" (.05mm) thickness shims for stainless steel models. By changing and stacking them, gaps may be set from .001" to .010" (.03 to .25mm) for aluminum Super Air Knives and .002" to .008" (.05 to .20mm) for stainless steel. Individual shims are available. When increasing the air gap, be sure the piping, valves, filter and regulator is sized to meet the new air volume requirement (SCFM/SLPM).

To change shims, remove the assembly bolts. Inspect the Super Air Knife and shim(s) to assure no dust, dirt or chips are on matching surfaces or in the plenum chamber. Replace or add a shim(s), and re-tighten bolts to 7.5 ft. lbs. Note that mating parts (body & cap) do not align flush. The flat surface of the cap extends past the body to direct the airflow in a perfectly straight line. The air opening cannot be dead-ended, which meets OSHA requirements.

## **TROUBLESHOOTING & MAINTENANCE**

**If There Is A Reduction In Flow Or Force From The Super Air Knife**, check the pressure by installing a gauge in one of the unused inlets. Large pressure drops are possible due to undersized lines, restrictive fittings and clogged filter elements.

**For replacement or repair filter and regulator parts, contact EXAIR at 1-800-903-9247 or techhelp@exair.com. Call (513) 671-3322 for outside the US and Canada.**

## **CLEANING**

If contaminants have clogged the Super Air Knife, inspect the unit by disassembling. The Super Air Knife consists of two component parts and between them is a shim that sets the gap the compressed air exhausts through. This shim is usually .002" (.05mm) thick although thicker shims can be used. Inspect each part for dust or dirt contamination and a possible oil film in the area of the slotted nozzle. Clean each part and re-tighten bolts.

Occasionally, there is a build up which occurs on the face of the Super Air Knife as a result of vapors in the atmosphere. Clean this surface with a solvent and a clean rag. To prevent contaminants from getting pushed back into the slot, perform this procedure with a small amount of compressed air passing through the Super Air Knife.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact:

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