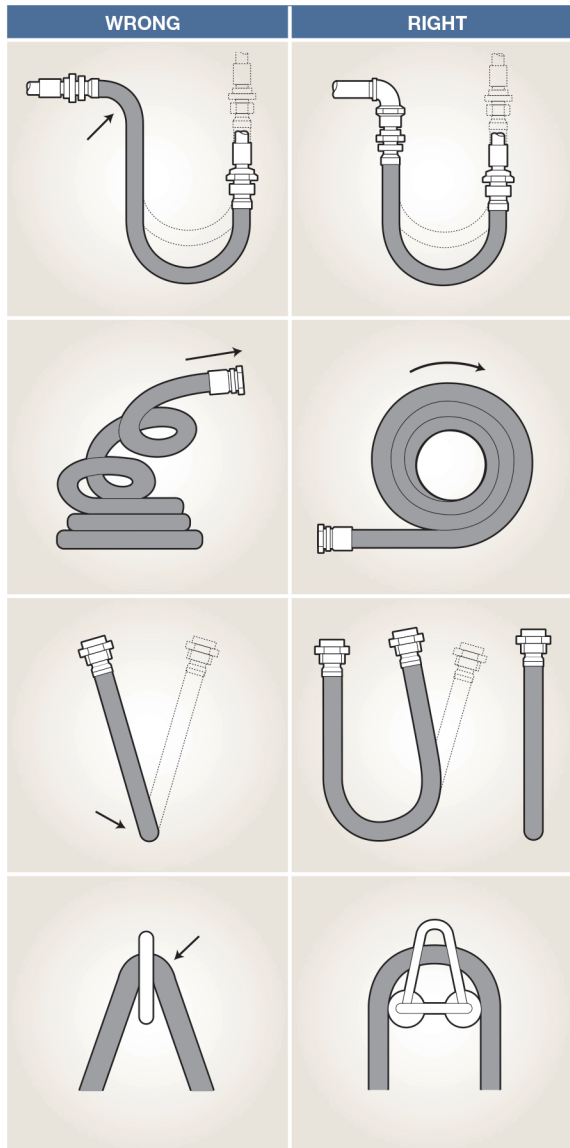


## TAKING FLEXIBLE HOSE ASSEMBLIES OUT OF SERVICE



FHA's which have been taken out of service for a temporary period to be subsequently re-used at another time, should always have the media drained from the hose. The FHA should also be cleaned and flushed if required.

The FHA should then be stored in clean, dry conditions. FHA's of rubber and composite construction should be kept in a cool atmosphere protected from direct sunlight.

FHA's which have been identified as being unfit for purpose should have the end couplings removed, and the main carcass of the hose marked as 'Scrap'. It should then be disposed of in line with regional disposal segregation procedures, taking into account decontamination requirements.

**For additional advice regarding installation, maintenance and the safe operational use of Flexible Hose Assemblies, please contact a member of the Dixon Sales Team**

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**BE SAFE - ALWAYS SPECIFY DIXON PRODUCT**

*Note: Poor installation reduces hose life and can be potentially hazardous*



The Right Connection®

## Flexible Hose Assembly Installation, Maintenance & Safety Guidelines

**Provided the correct and full conditions of use have been given at the time of order placement and the assembly is subsequently installed within its design parameters, the flexible hose assembly (FHA) or pressure equipment can give many years of satisfactory service life. To help maximise this service life the following guidelines should be followed.**

### 1. Integrity

The integrity of FHAs is very dependant on the correct selection of hose product and adherence to the installation procedures. Dixon suggest that all personnel required to install, inspect and maintain FHAs should be formally authorised, and fully conversant with the appropriate installation, test and maintenance procedures, failure criteria etc.

### 2. Safety Considerations

- FHAs should not be used where it is safer to install permanent pipework.
- Design – FHA's suitability with systems piping and equipment.
- Application – suitability of the FHA in relation to media, pressures, temperature and when used in suction applications, ability to withstand vacuum.
- External Environment - FHAs should only be used for duties for which they are approved.
- Installation - FHAs should be adequately supported and installed to the manufacturer guidelines, as applicable and consistent with the best practice principles contained within this guidance document.
- Length – FHAs should be kept to a minimum, consistent with flexibility and required function.
- Electricity – dangers of static electricity in the application and effects on all components associated with FHAs continuity requirements.

### 3. Vibration/Movement

FHAs may eliminate the transmission of vibration or movement in a specific application. FHAs will only efficiently eliminate the transmission of vibration, movement or noise if the adjacent pipework is properly anchored on the downstream side of the hose. In the worst cases, failure to ensure this can lead to uncontrolled movement of the FHAs and premature failure.

### 4. Misalignment

FHAs should not be used as a remedy for poor design or installation, eg to correct misalignment of rigid components.

### 5. Degradation

Degradation of FHAs can be accelerated due to heat, environmental conditions or contamination of the outer coverings and braids due to chemicals, ultraviolet light, ozone, salt, water etc. It should be noted that the fluid composition could change over the expected lifecycle.

**Note:** Heat tracing and insulation can considerably accelerate any corrosion mechanisms.