

AGE CONTROLS

In 1998, the Society of Aerospace Engineers (SAE) issued Aerospace recommended Practice (ARP) 5316. It was intended to fully replace MIL-HDBK-69C as the industry standard for the shelf life of elastomeric seals. It does not establish limitations for storage times in assembled components, nor does it in any way provide a guideline for the operating life span of a particular compound.

ELASTOMER FAMILY	ASTM Abbreviation	ARP 5316 Recommended Shelf Life
Aflas @	-	UNLIMITED
Butyl Rubber, Isobutylene Isoprene	IIR	UNLIMITED
Chloroprene (Neoprene @)	CR	15 YEARS
Epichlorohydrin (Hydrin @)	ECO	N/A
Ethylene Acrylic (Valmac @)	AEM	15 YEARS
Ethylene Propylene, EPDM or EP	EP	UNLIMITED
Fluoroelastomer	FMK	UNLIMITED
Fluorosilicone	FVMQ	UNLIMITED
Hydrogenated Nitrile, HNBR or HSN	HNBR	15 YEARS
Nitrile (Buna-N or NBR)	NBR	15 YEARS
Polyacrylate	ACM	15 YEARS
Polyurethane (polyester or Polyether)	AU / EU	5 YEARS
Silicone	VMQ	UNLIMITED
Styrene Butadiene (Buna-S)	SBR	15 YEARS

O-Rings should be stored in clean, dry, containers away from ozone, contaminants, sunlight, radiation at a temperature not exceed 120 F.