



D-Track Re-Entry Procedure (ZT05-98-003)

Background

Zippertubing's D-Track product was designed as a heavy-duty wire harnessing jacket system that provides installation ease through the use of a side entry design combined with a highly flexible material and an extremely strong closure mechanism. The closure mechanism is designed to provide high closure strength (35 lbs/in typical) yielding a jacket that remains closed in service and maintains a system free from outside contamination.

Re-Entry Anticipated

On rare occasions the user may find that he needs to re-open a D-Track tubing jacket that has been closed. If the user anticipates numerous re-entry cycles (as might occur during prototype development) then the jacket should not be fully closed until all work is complete. One or both ends should left un-zipped over the last 2.0" of the tubing to provide easy re-entry access (Figure 1). With the ends left open, the user can simply pull the track halves apart to re-open the tubing.

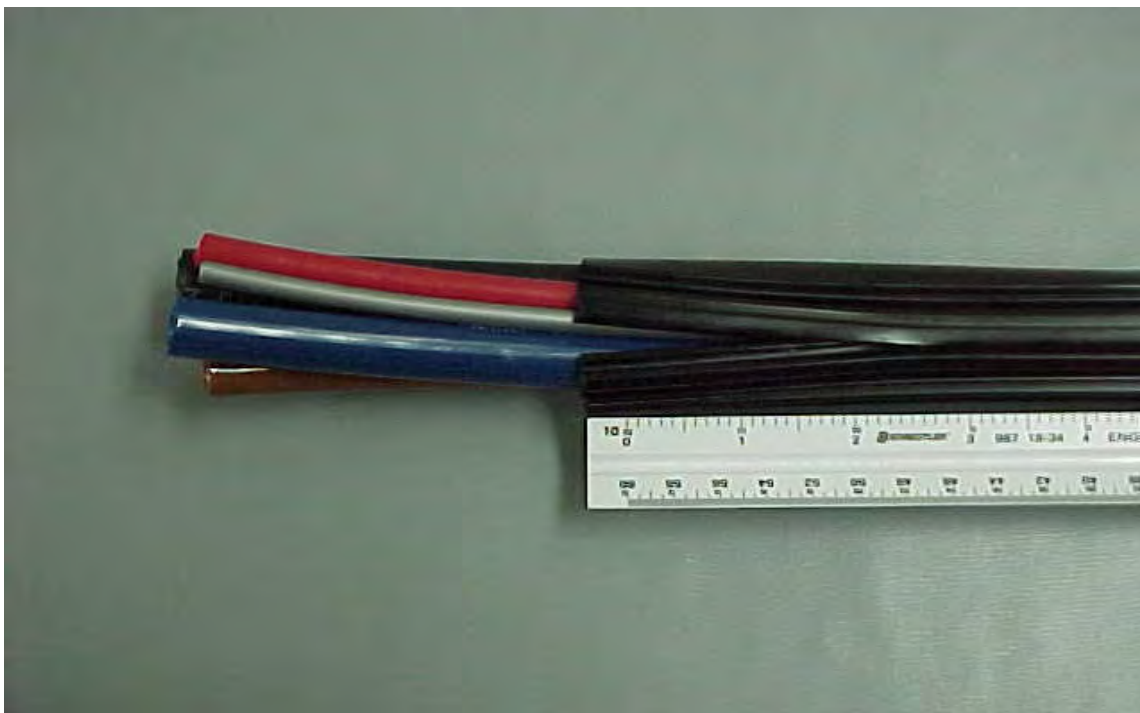


Figure 1.

Opening a Fully Closed Jacket

If re-entry is required after the entire D-Track jacket has been fully closed then the re-opening process should begin at the end of the tubing. Follow the steps shown below to separate the track interlock mechanism and then peel the track apart as necessary to gain access.

Step1. Examine the closed end of the D-Track tubing's interlock mechanism. Locate the notch between the track halves (Figure 2).



Figure 2.

Step 2. Use a 1/4" wide blade type screwdriver to open the interlock mechanism. Care should be taken to avoid damaging the interlock mechanism or the components contained within the tubing assembly.

Approximately 3/8 to 1/2" inch back from the end of the tubing, insert the blade of the screwdriver into the track notch. Work the blade so that the top catch is lifted off the arrowhead barb (Figure 3).



Figure 3.

Step 3. Hold the tubing assembly so it will not move. Continue holding pressure on the screwdriver so it does not squirt out of the interlock mechanism. Rotate the screwdriver to the vertical position. This will push the arrowhead barb out of the locking channel side. As the barb is released from the channel release the inward pressure on the screwdriver so as not to force it into the blade into the cables or hoses contained within the tubing jacket (Figure 4).



Figure 4.

Step 4. Once the two halves of the track are separated, remove the screwdriver and grasp the two track halves with you thumb and index fingers and pull the two halves apart approximately one inch (Figure 5).



Figure 5.

Step 5. With the track separated, reposition you thumb and index fingers to grasp a larger amount of the tubing on each side of the track. Continue to separate the tubing into a flat sheet as required (Figure 6).



Figure 6.