



GX* Annular Blowout Preventer

Expect more closures, stripping and uptime. One packing unit can do it all.

Applications and Benefits

Drilling contractors have called the GX “the best annular in the business” for one reason: exceptional uptime. Its single packing unit has provided continuous service for as long as a year, and it has continued to hold pressure after exposure to extreme temperatures and extensive stripping. The GX can strip and seal on all pipe sizes and achieve complete shutoff. In the field and in laboratory tests, GX units have:

- Passed an ABS-witnessed, 10,000 psi API pressure test at 270°F (132°C)
- Stripped more than 30,000 ft of 6⁵/₈” drill pipe with 8³/₄” tool joints
- Stripped 300,000 ft of 5” drill pipe with 6³/₈” tool joints before failure
- Held pressure in the field after 328 closing cycles plus stripping

Key Features

Well suited for surface and subsea operations, the GX makes maintenance easy and lengthens the time between packing unit changes and shop repairs. The key to these benefits is a simple design that includes:

- A single packing unit that closes on any size pipe or an open hole—and handles stripping
- Only two moving parts, the piston and packing unit, for less wear
- A latched head for fast, easy access to the packing unit and wear seals
- A replaceable wear plate that eliminates metal-to-metal contact between the packing unit inserts and BOP head
- A pressure balanced piston design that allows use in ultra deep water
- An opening chamber head that prevents debris from falling in to the chambers when replacing the packing unit



The GE Oil & Gas GX Advantage

The packing unit for the GX annular BOP can hold full-rated working pressure after more closing cycles and stripping than any other unit available. The GX produces extra uptime from a significantly larger reservoir of engineered elastomer, and a BOP design that precisely controls the position of unique, flanged steel inserts.

When the GX closes, the packing unit rubber drives the inserts inward, where they quickly reach a fixed position and form a steel ring that prevents the elastomer from extruding upward under wellbore pressure. After the ring is formed, feedable elastomer

continues to flow inward around the inserts to create a seal on the drill string or open hole. Because the elastomer is primarily in compression, it resists tears, cuts and abrasions.

When stripping, the steel inserts again remain fixed. As various diameters of pipe and tool joints pass through the closed unit, the elastomer flows in and out. Even at higher wellbore pressures, the GX packing unit maintains precise control of seal-off tightness to permit a slight leak of drilling fluid that provides lubrication, enhances pull-through forces and further prolongs packer life.

Engineering Data

Bore (inches)			11.00	11.00	13.625	13.625	18.75
Working pressure (psi)			10,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
Hydraulic Operating Pressure (psi)			1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Gal. to Close (U.S. gal.)			17.3	30	15.5	24.1	58
Gal. to Open (U.S. gal.)			17.3	30	15.5	24.1	58
Stud to Flange Height (inches)	Flanged Bottom	5 m	-	-	52.32	-	-
		10 m	57.18	-	54.31	63.25	80.16
		15 m	59.44	74.38	-	65.38	82.50
Stud to Flange Weight (pounds)	Flanged Bottom	5 m	-	-	15,200	-	-
		10 m	21,200	-	15,860	28,000	52,250
		15 m	22,000	35,500	-	28,885	54,360
Clearance Diameter (inches)			60.38	67.12	58.00	64.50	84.00

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