Preface

The products described in this manual are manufactured by Baldor Electric Company, Ft. Smith, AR, USA. Dodge is a registered trademark of Baldor Electric Company.

This manual, combined with Installation Instruction Manuals listed below, is intended to provide basic information on the safe operation and maintenance of ATEX approved DODGE elastomeric couplings marketed under the following designs:

- Para-Flex Installation Instruction Manual
- D-Flex Installation Instruction Manual

These instructions do not cover all details or variations in equipment nor provide every possible contingency or hazard to be met in connection with installation, operation, and maintenance. Should further information be desired or should particular problems arise which are not covered in these manuals, the matter should be referred to your local Baldor-Dodge representative.

DODGE elastomeric couplings are manufactured under the guidelines of the ATEX directive 2014/34/EU. Compliance with this declaration and certification requires selection of the EPDM or neoprene element for D-Flex couplings. These elements can be identified by their black color and are additionally provided with the ATEX marking on a label attached to the product. Hytrel D-Flex coupling elements are not ATEX certified. Hytrel elements are identified by their bright orange color. ATEX certification applies to all elements available for Para-Flex couplings.

DODGE elastomeric couplings are suitable for ATEX Category 2 and M2, Group II and I, for gas and dust environments and are also suitable for ATEX category 3 for all gas or dust environments with ignition temperatures higher than $T_5 = 100^\circ C$.

**Supplemental Instructions**

For the Installation, Operation of ATEX Approved:
- Para-Flex Couplings
- D-Flex Couplings

An adhesive label indicating ATEX certification will be attached to the product and will be similar to the following:

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Tamb -30°C to +50°C

II 2 GDc T5

Sira 04 ATEX 9358

DODGE COUPLINGS

MFG. BY BALDOR ELECTRIC COMPANY   FT. SMITH, AR   USA
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**Hazardous Area Use**

For hazardous area use, the following potential ignition hazards have been identified:

- Impact to outer enclosures
- Buildup of electrical charge in the elastomeric element
- Heat generation
- Contact with stationery parts either by coupling failure or incorrect installation

These potential hazards have been addressed by the materials and design of the coupling and rely on correct installation and maintenance, as detailed in the equipment instructions.

**WARNING:** These couplings are designed to operate with surface temperatures below $100^\circ C$ when properly installed and selected. Excessive temperatures greater than $80^\circ C$ is a result of an abnormal operating condition caused by:

- Improper installation - refer to installation manual for proper procedures
- Excessive misalignment - re-align coupling / shaft
- Failure if the coupling element - replace elastomeric element
- Excessive speed - re-evaluate application and selection
- Excessive vibration - determine source, re-evaluate application

If applied in a Division 1 or Zone 1 environment this excessive temperature may cause ignition of hazardous materials.

In hazardous environments DODGE elastomeric couplings should not be considered as fail safe or "break-away" power transmission devices. Overloads imposed to these devices could cause irreparable damage, shall be considered an explosive hazard, could create projectiles, and / or could cause torque transmission interruptions. The coupling shall be sized and used to the stated torque capabilities of the unit as published in the DODGE PT Components Engineering Catalog. Any assistance needed in selection shall be referred to a Baldor Electric Representative.

**Additional Instructions for Safe Installation and Use**

Because of the possible danger to persons(s) or property from accidents which may result from the improper use of products, it is important that correct procedures be followed. Products must be used in accordance with the engineering information specified in the catalog. Proper installation, maintenance and operation procedures must be observed. The instructions in the instruction manuals must be followed. Inspections should be made as necessary to assure safe operation under prevailing conditions. Proper guards and other suitable safety devices or procedures as may be desirable or as may be specified in safety codes should be provided, and are neither provided by Baldor Electric nor are the responsibility of Baldor Electric. This unit and its associated equipment must be installed, adjusted and maintained by qualified personnel who are familiar with the construction and operation of all equipment in the system and the potential hazards involved. When risk to persons or property may be involved, a holding device must be an integral part of the driven equipment beyond the speed reducer output shaft.
• All rotating parts should be guarded to prevent contact with foreign objects which could result in sparks, ignition, and/or damage to the bearing.

• Couplings should be periodically inspected for normal wear, dust / dirt buildup or any similar scenario that would impeded heat dissipation.

• Increasing levels of vibration and noise could indicate the need for inspection, repair or replacement of the coupling or element.

• Electrical sparks are a source of ignition. To reduce this risk, proper electrical bonding and grounding is required.

• Overloading may result in breakage or damage to the coupling or other equipment. As a result, the coupling could become an explosion hazard. Damaged coupling components or elements must not be operated in a hazardous environment.

• If thrust loading or axial movement is anticipated, the DODGE Para-Flex coupling is the desired unit for use as it has the design capability of accepting this movement up to 5/16". Couplings are not intended to be used as thrust bearing members.

• Coupling guards should have minimum of 3/4" clearance over D-Flex type couplings and 2" clearance over Para-flex style couplings. (3" clearance for Para-flex style couplings greater than 16" outside diameter).
EU Declaration of Conformity

The undersigned, representing the following supplier and the following authorized representative:

Baldor Electric Company
5711 R. S. Boreham, Jr. Street
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901 USA

ABB Automation Products GmbH
Oberhausener Straße 33
40472 Ratingen, Germany

This declaration is issued under the sole responsiblity of the manufacturer.
herewith declare that the Products

Couplings

Dodge Paraflex, Dodge D-Flex Equipment Group I, Category M2
c / Equipment Group II Category 2 GD c T5 T amb - 30°C to +50°C

are in conformity with the provisions of the following EC Directive(s) when installed in accordance with the installation instructions contained in the product documentation:

94/9/EC and 2014/34/EU1 ATEX

Note 1: 94/9/EC applies until April 19, 2016, 2014/34/EU applies from April 20, 2016

and that the standards and/or technical specifications referenced below have been applied:

EN 13463-1:2009 Non - Electrical Equipment For Potentially Explosive Atmospheres -Method And Requirements
EN 13463-5:2011 Non - Electrical Equipment For Potentially Explosive Atmospheres – Part 5 Protection by constructional safety 'c'

Notified Body:
Sira Certification Services Ltd
Unit 6
Hawarden Industrial Park
Hawarden
DEESIDE
CH5 3US

Certificate: SIRA 04ATEX9358

Supplier: L. Evans Massey
Manager Standards and Certification
Date: 1 April 2016

Authorised Representative: Michael Klein
Regional Sales and Marketing Manager Central Europe
Date: 1 April 2016