

## **Friction bearing universal joints for packaging applications**

*Marlborough, MA, May 2022.* Friction bearing universal joints are available from Ruland in a wide variety of sizes, styles and materials, giving packaging equipment designers the widest range of standard universal joints to choose from. Components are manufactured to tight tolerances for higher accuracy, torque capabilities and durability when compared to commodity-style universal joints.

Components are selectively heat-treated and ground for higher strength compared to competitor friction-bearing universal joints, giving them a precise and prolonged life. Single universal joints are best suited for space-constrained applications with angular misalignment up to 45 degrees. Double universal joints are designed for applications with a wide distance between shafts or those in need of extreme angular misalignment accommodation up to 90 degrees.

Friction-bearing universal joints from Ruland can be equipped with nitrile boot covers for abrasion and oil resistance. Boots offer increased protection of the universal joints and can be packed with grease and sealed, giving the joints infinite life to reduce machine downtime. Boots also prevent harmful contaminants from getting into the joint that could otherwise compromise its function.

Friction bearing universal joints are precision manufactured from alloy steel for high torque ability or stainless steel for better corrosion resistance. They are available in bore sizes ranging from 3/16 inch to 2 inches or 5 mm to 35 mm.

Ruland universal joints are available bored, bored with set screw, or bored with keyway and set screw. They are also available with no bore, allowing the user to custom-machine their own bore size or geometry. With over 3000 pre-machined options to choose from, Ruland has the largest off-the-shelf range of universal joints available in the market, giving users the ability to design with a standard part. Universal joints offered by Ruland are manufactured in the United States by Belden Universal and then bored and finished by Ruland for customer convenience.

**Summary:**

- Over 3000 standard options to choose from
- Friction bearing universal joints have high torque capacity
- Single styles for compact installations and double styles for high misalignment
- Sold by Ruland and manufactured in the United States by Belden Universal for strict control of processes

**Picture:**

Friction bearing type pin-and-block universal joints, manufactured from alloy steel for high strength or stainless steel for better corrosion resistance, are designed for applications with moderate to high torque requirements for a wide variety of industries



**About Ruland:**

Ruland Manufacturing Co., Inc. is a privately owned family company founded in 1937. Ruland has carefully and responsibly manufactured high performing shaft collars, rigid couplings, and motion control couplings for the past 40 years. Ruland's product line was recently expanded to include a variety of machine components from select manufacturers that align with Ruland's performance and quality standards.

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*TPR International would be grateful for a copy of the publication with this article.*