

**SKF**

# **SKF spherical roller thrust bearings for long lasting performance**



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The SKF brand now stands for more than ever before, and means more to you as a valued customer.

While SKF maintains its leadership as the hallmark of quality bearings throughout the world, new dimensions in technical advances, product support and services have evolved SKF into a truly solutions-oriented supplier, creating greater value for customers.

These solutions encompass ways to bring greater productivity to customers, not only with breakthrough application-specific products, but also through leading-edge design simulation tools and consultancy services, plant asset efficiency maintenance programs, and the industry's most advanced supply management techniques.

The SKF brand still stands for the very best in rolling bearings, but it now stands for much more.

**SKF – The knowledge engineering company**



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# Conquer misalignment and heavy axial and radial loads

1

Spherical roller thrust bearings are perfectly suited for heavy-duty applications, with axial loads or combined axial and radial loads. They are self-aligning and can accommodate low as well as high speeds. Due to their design, various degrees of stiffness can be arranged.

Versatility is a characteristic of spherical roller thrust bearings as they can contribute to space saving and cost effective designs. The following pages provide more detailed explanations about this bearing type and how it can be used.

## Where spherical roller thrust bearings are superior

By design, spherical roller thrust bearings are the only roller thrust bearings that can accommodate radial loads in addition to axial loads. This makes spherical roller thrust bearings an outstanding solution in applications where there are combined loads. This ability to accommodate combined loads enables economical, space saving designs that can also provide a high degree of stiffness under heavy load conditions. In addition to these unique benefits, spherical roller thrust bearings are also the only roller thrust bearings that can accommodate misalignment and shaft deflections.

Due to the contact angle in spherical roller thrust bearings, they can successfully replace taper roller bearings in a number of applications.

### Self-aligning

The spherical roller thrust bearing accommodates misalignment between the shaft and housing. This gives smooth, friction-free adjustment under virtually all operating conditions.

### Combined load carrier

The bearing is designed to accommodate very heavy axial loads in one direction or heavy combined axial and radial loads.

### Separable design

The mounting procedure is facilitated, as the bearing is separable. The shaft washer with cage and roller assembly and the housing washer can be mounted separately.



# The strength of SKF spherical roller thrust bearings

## Superior bearing service life

Smooth running and long service life are a result of the internal design that gives the raceways and rollers an optimized balance between contact pressure and friction.

SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are well proven in the field and are subject to continuous development to provide improved performance. The most recent example has been the introduction of the SKF Explorer bearings, opening up new application horizons.

## Wide speed range

Low internal friction permits the bearings to operate from very low to very high speeds. Speeds up to three times the reference speed are possible depending on the bearing arrangement, the application and operating conditions.

## Robust design

SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are designed for heavy-duty operating conditions and are therefore highly reliable. Made from SKF's unique XBITE steel, these bearings exhibit excellent wear and fracture toughness characteristics. XBITE steel also provides high dimensional stability up to 200 °C.

## Combined load carrier

Spherical roller thrust bearings can accommodate radial loads up to 55 % of the simultaneously acting axial load. This means that one spherical roller thrust bearing can be used instead of a combination of a radial and a thrust bearing.

### Benefits

- Compact bearing arrangement
- Reduced arrangement weight
- Reduced arrangement cost

## Self-aligning excellence

Depending on the operating conditions and bearing series, SKF spherical roller thrust bearings can accommodate misalignment of up to 3 degrees between the shaft and housing without adversely affecting bearing performance.

### Benefits

- Less sensitive to shaft misalignment
- Lower operating temperature
- Long service life
- High reliability

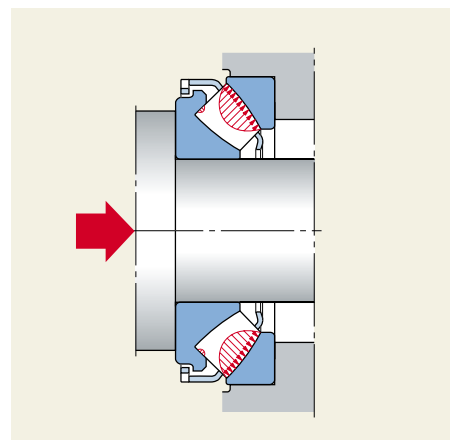
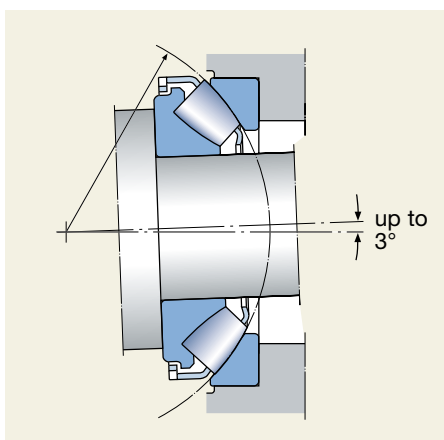
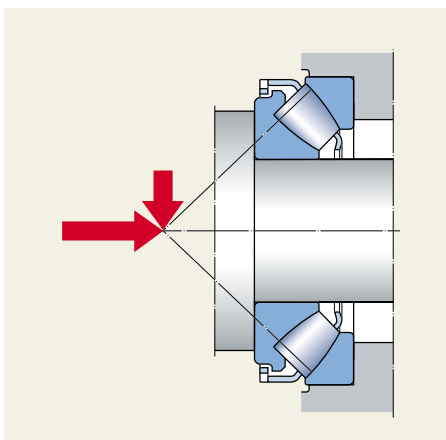


## Virtually eliminate edge loading

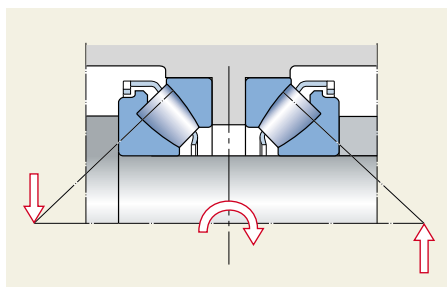
High load carrying capability and minimized risk of edge loading is obtained by an optimal relationship between the rollers and the raceways.

### Benefits

- Long bearing service life
- High reliability



## Customer benefits

**When stiffness counts**

By design, spherical roller thrust bearings have very high axial and radial stiffness. In addition, high moment stiffness can be achieved when two spherical roller thrust bearings are mounted in a back-to-back arrangement. This is due to the long distance between the pressure centres, where the loads are acting.

*Benefits*

- Low bearing arrangement deformation for axial and radial loads
- Low bearing arrangement deflection for bending moment
- Compact design

**Cool running at high speeds ...**

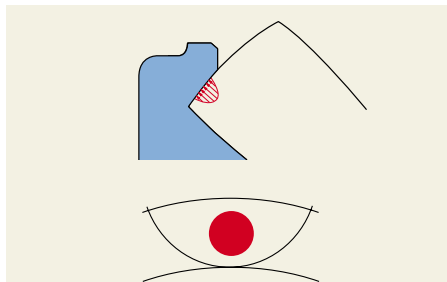
Specially designed spherical roller end/flange contacts reduce stress and optimise lubrication to decrease friction allowing the bearing to run cooler even in high-speed applications.

**... and exceptionally low friction at low speeds**

The favourable roller end/flange contact is also very beneficial for low speed performance.

*Benefits*

- High machine output
- High reliability
- Minimized maintenance cost
- Reduced energy consumption



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**Heavy-duty performance cages**

SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are designed for heavy-duty conditions. The robust metallic cages have been designed to take full advantage of the lubrication in the sliding contacts even under poor lubrication conditions.

*Benefits*

- Suitable for high as well as low-speed applications
- Accommodate high temperatures.

**Long service life**

Trouble-free operation is one of the cornerstones in the SKF design philosophy. The latest example of this is SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings.

*Benefits*

- More reliable operation
- Fewer bearing replacements
- Lower maintenance cost

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## Setting new standards with SKF Explorer bearings

SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings are the result of an intensive effort by an international team of SKF scientists and engineers. The result is a new performance class for SKF spherical roller thrust bearings that provides significantly longer service life and smoother running.

- **Steel**

Improved, ultra-clean steel provides longer bearing service life under heavier loads.

- **Heat treatment**

Unique SKF heat treatment process significantly improves wear resistance and fracture toughness.

- **Manufacturing**

Refined precision manufacturing processes allow the production of bearings that run smoother and have improved lubrication of the contacting surfaces.

- **Internal geometry**

A fine-tuned micro-geometry of the rolling contacts provides better load distribution and reduced friction.

SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings provide higher performance for the same size as explained in more detail starting on **page 8**.





# Unrivalled range

The SKF standard range of spherical roller thrust bearings starts with a 60 mm bore diameter and goes up to a 1 600 mm bore. Larger sizes can be supplied on request.

## Three bearing series ...

The standard bearings cover an extensive dimension range in three ISO Dimension Series, 292, 293 and 294. They satisfy the important selection criteria

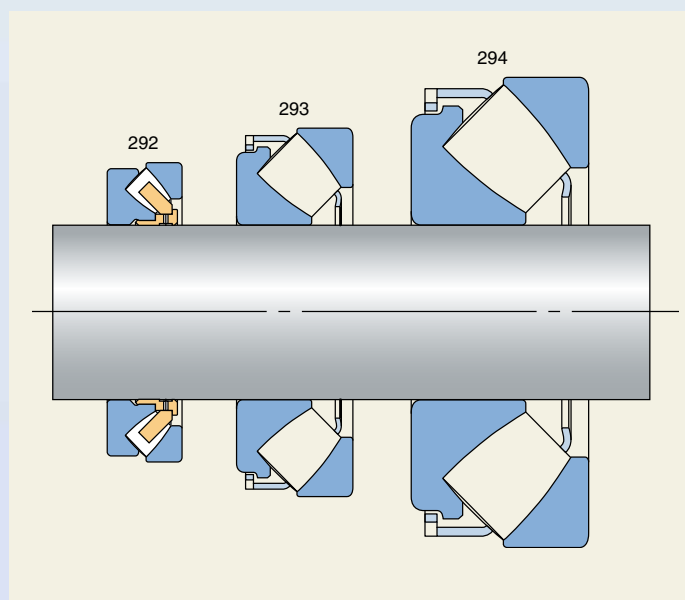
- load carrying capacity
- rotational speed
- space in the application.

When very high load carrying capacity is required, bearings from the 293 and 294 series are suitable. The small cross section of the 292 series bearings have favourable speed, space and weight characteristics.

## ... means cost efficiency for a wide range of equipment

Smaller and more cost effective equipment can be designed for longer bearing service life or higher output as a result of the high combined load carrying capacity of SKF spherical roller thrust bearings.

These bearings can operate at high speeds even under heavy load conditions.





# SKF Explorer – the new performance class for spherical roller thrust bearings

Having invented the spherical roller thrust bearing some sixty years ago, SKF has been the leading manufacturer of these bearings ever since.

Now SKF specialists in different disciplines have combined their experience and know-how resulting in a large step forward in bearing technology.

We are proud of having made tomorrow's bearing technology available for our customers today. SKF Explorer bearings represent a significant breakthrough in performance. By studying the interrelationship between each bearing component, SKF scientists were able to maximize the effects of internal load distributions, lubrication and minimize the effects of friction, wear, and contamination.

The SKF Explorer performance class is the result of years of intensive research by an international team of SKF scientists and engineers. It incorporates a number of improvements.

- **An improved material**

The improved steel used in SKF Explorer bearings is extraordinarily clean and homogeneous. It forms an ideal structure that contributes to an optimum stress distribution in the material.

- **The unique SKF heat treatment process**

To take advantage of the improved steel used for SKF Explorer bearings, SKF has developed a unique heat treatment process to improve the bearing's resistance to wear while retaining the temperature resistance and toughness of the bearing.

- **New precision manufacturing processes**

Improved manufacturing processes have enabled SKF to provide closer tolerances for all essential bearing parameters. In addition, SKF Explorer bearings have an improved surface texture to maintain an optimum oil film between the contact surfaces.

- **New bearing knowledge**

Sophisticated in-house software has enabled SKF design engineers to study internal bearing dynamics to an extent not previously possible. This has led the way to design refinements, which when implemented in SKF Explorer bearings, has allowed further optimization of the rolling element/raceway contacts.





## New performance class

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**The result: longer bearing service life**

All these improvements contribute to a significant increase in bearing service life and reliability. This can best be shown through calculation using the SKF Life Method. The properties of SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings are taken into consideration by

- increased basic dynamic load ratings and
- better resistance to contamination reflected by increasing the life modification factor  $a_{SKF}$ .

**Availability**

The popular small and medium size spherical roller thrust bearings in the 293 and 294 series are available as SKF Explorer bearings.

In the product table, the SKF Explorer bearing designations are printed in blue.

**Product designations**

SKF Explorer bearings have retained the designations of the earlier standard bearings, e.g. 29330 E. An SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearing is identified by the marking on the bearing and its box.

*The excellent performance of SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings can be exploited in different ways depending on the requirements*

## Increase service life of existing designs

Replace the existing bearing with an SKF Explorer bearing of equal size to:

- Increase life
- Increase machine uptime
- Increase safety factor
- Reduce maintenance costs

## Maintain power output of new designs

Use a smaller bearing of SKF Explorer quality to:

- Reduce overall machine dimensions to save on material costs and weight
  - Increase speeds
  - Achieve smoother, quieter operation
  - Reduce friction and energy consumption
  - Reduce lubricant usage

## Increase power output of existing designs

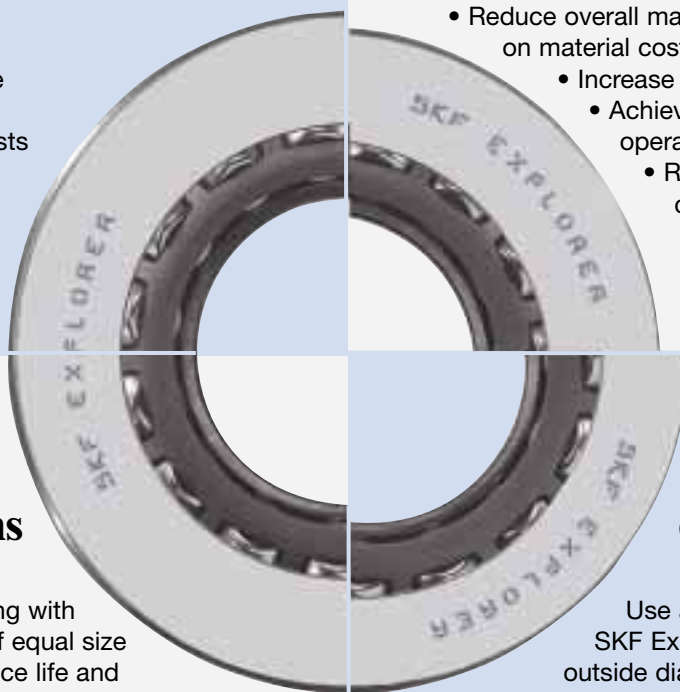
Replace the existing bearing with an SKF Explorer bearing of equal size maintaining the same service life and machine uptime to:

- Increase power density (output)
- Increase loads
- Avoid costly redesign

## Increase power density of new designs

Use a lower cross section SKF Explorer bearing with the same outside diameter to:

- Use a stronger or even hollow shaft
- Achieve a stiffer and more cost effective design
- Increase system life due to higher stiffness



# Where heavy combined loads must be accommodated

Long service life, high reliability, reduced maintenance and the possibility to “size-down” are all features of SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings.

In addition, the ability to accommodate very high axial loads or high combined loads make SKF spherical

roller thrust bearings indispensable in many applications.

SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are frequently used in the industries listed below. Other areas of usage include bridges, cranes, wind turbines, hydraulic and electric motors and robots.

## Industries

- Metalworking
- Plastics
- Marine
- Industrial gearboxes
- Pulp & paper
- Material handling
- Fluid machinery
- Mining & construction

## Requirements

- Reliability
- Long service life
- High load carrying capacity
- Insensitivity to misalignment
- Minimum maintenance
- Reduced operating costs
- Technical support

## Solution







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# Selection of bearing size

## Bearing life

The life-extending improvements embodied in SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings can best be understood using the SKF Life Method. This method constitutes an extension of the fatigue life theory developed by Lundberg and Palmgren and is better able to predict bearing life. The SKF Life Method was first presented as the SKF New Life Theory in 1989. For roller bearings

$$L_{nm} = a_1 a_{SKF} L_{10}$$

or

$$L_{nm} = a_1 a_{SKF} \left(\frac{C}{P}\right)^{10/3}$$

If the speed is constant, it is often preferable to calculate the life expressed in operating hours using

$$L_{nmh} = a_1 a_{SKF} \frac{1\,000\,000}{60\,n} \left(\frac{C}{P}\right)^{10/3}$$

where

$L_{nm}$  = SKF rating life (at 100 – n % reliability), millions of revolutions

$L_{nmh}$  = SKF rating life (at 100 – n % reliability), operating hours

$L_{10}$  = basic rating life (at 90 % reliability), millions of revolutions

$a_1$  = life adjustment factor for reliability (→ table 1)

$a_{SKF}$  = SKF life modification factor (→ diagram 1)

$C$  = basic dynamic load rating, kN

$P$  = equivalent dynamic bearing load, kN

$n$  = rotational speed, r/min

**Life adjustment factor  $a_1$**

## The $a_{SKF}$ factor

The  $a_{SKF}$  factor represents a very complex relationship between load, contamination and lubrication. Values of  $a_{SKF}$  can be obtained from **diagram 1** for different values of  $\eta_c$  ( $P_u/P$ ) and  $\kappa$ , where

$\eta_c$  = factor for contamination level

$P_u$  = bearing fatigue load limit

$P$  = equivalent dynamic bearing load

$\kappa$  = lubricant viscosity ratio

Detailed information about these factors are given in the SKF General Catalogue, the SKF Interactive Engineering Catalogue on CD-ROM or online at [www.skf.com](http://www.skf.com).

For non SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings, the values in black colour on the x axis should be used. For SKF Explorer bearings, the values in blue should be used. For SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings it has been found appropriate to multiply  $\eta_c$  ( $P_u/P$ ) by 1,4 as an expression of the life extending refinements of these bearings, and the blue values correspond to this.

**Diagram 1** is valid for lubricants without EP additives. If a lubricant containing such additives is used, reference should be made to the SKF General Catalogue or the SKF Interactive Engineering Catalogue on CD-ROM or online at [www.skf.com](http://www.skf.com).

**Table 1**

Reliability %	$L_{nm}$	$a_1$
90	$L_{10m}$	1
95	$L_{5m}$	0,62
96	$L_{4m}$	0,53
97	$L_{3m}$	0,44
98	$L_{2m}$	0,33
99	$L_{1m}$	0,21

## Equivalent dynamic bearing load

For dynamically loaded spherical roller thrust bearings, provided that

$$F_r \leq 0,55 F_a, \text{ then}$$

$$P = F_a + 1,2 F_r$$

If, however, the bearing is arranged so that it can compensate for radial and axial runout by relative movements between the washers, and provided

$$F_r \leq 0,55 F_a, \text{ then}$$

$$P = 0,88 (F_a + 1,2 F_r)$$

can be used.

If  $F_r > 0,55 F_a$ , please contact the SKF application engineering service.

## Equivalent static bearing load

For statically loaded spherical roller thrust bearings, provided

$$F_r \leq 0,55 F_a, \text{ then}$$

$$P_0 = F_a + 2,7 F_r$$

If  $F_r > 0,55 F_a$ , please contact the SKF application engineering service.

## Bearing arrangements with axial loads acting in both directions

The information above is valid for single bearings but when the thrust load changes direction, it is necessary to use two bearings, most often two spherical roller thrust bearings mounted in a back-to-back or face-to-face arrangement. In some cases the radial load is accommodated by a separate radial bearing and the spherical roller thrust bearings are radially free and spring preloaded (→ section “Typical bearing arrangements”, starting on **page 20**) to provide that the bearing, which is axially unloaded, is subjected



to the minimum requisite thrust load (→ section “Bearing data – general”, starting on **page 34**).

In such cases the equivalent bearing load is calculated for each bearing separately as for single bearings. The life of the pair is then calculated as a system life.

**Radial loads**

Because the raceways are at an angle to the bearing axis an axial force is induced when a spherical roller thrust bearing is subjected to a radial load. In cases where the bearings are radially located and subjected to combined loads with  $F_r > 0,55 F_a$ , this internal axial load must be considered when the equivalent load is calculated for each of the bearings.

To calculate the equivalent load in such cases please contact the SKF application engineering service.

**SKF Explorer bearings versus earlier SKF bearings – a comparison**  
The performance enhancements incorporated into SKF Explorer spherical roller thrust bearings can best be demonstrated by a life calculation comparison.

*Example*

The operating conditions for a 29332 E bearing in its earlier standard version and the new SKF Explorer version are:

- equivalent dynamic bearing load  $P = 126 \text{ kN}$
- viscosity ratio  $\kappa = 2$
- contamination factor  $\eta_c = 0,4$ .

Catalogue data:

- Earlier standard bearing
  - a basic dynamic load rating  $C = 1\ 010 \text{ kN}$
  - a fatigue load limit  $P_u = 375 \text{ kN}$
- SKF Explorer bearing
  - a basic dynamic load rating  $C = 1\ 180 \text{ kN}$
  - a fatigue load limit  $P_u = 375 \text{ kN}$

The lives of the two bearings are then calculated.

*Earlier standard bearing*

For  $\eta_c (P_u/P) = 0,4 (375/126) = 1,2$  and using the black values on the x axis in

**Bearing size**

**diagram 1** and  $\kappa = 2$

$a_{SKF} = 3,0$

so that the life becomes

$L_{10m} = a_{SKF} (C/P)^{10/3} = 3,0 (1\ 010/126)^{10/3}$

$L_{10m} = 3\ 092$  millions of revolutions.

*SKF Explorer bearing*

For  $\eta_c (P_u/P) = 0,4 (375/126) = 1,2$  using the blue values on the x axis in

**diagram 1** and  $\kappa = 2$

$a_{SKF} = 5,5$

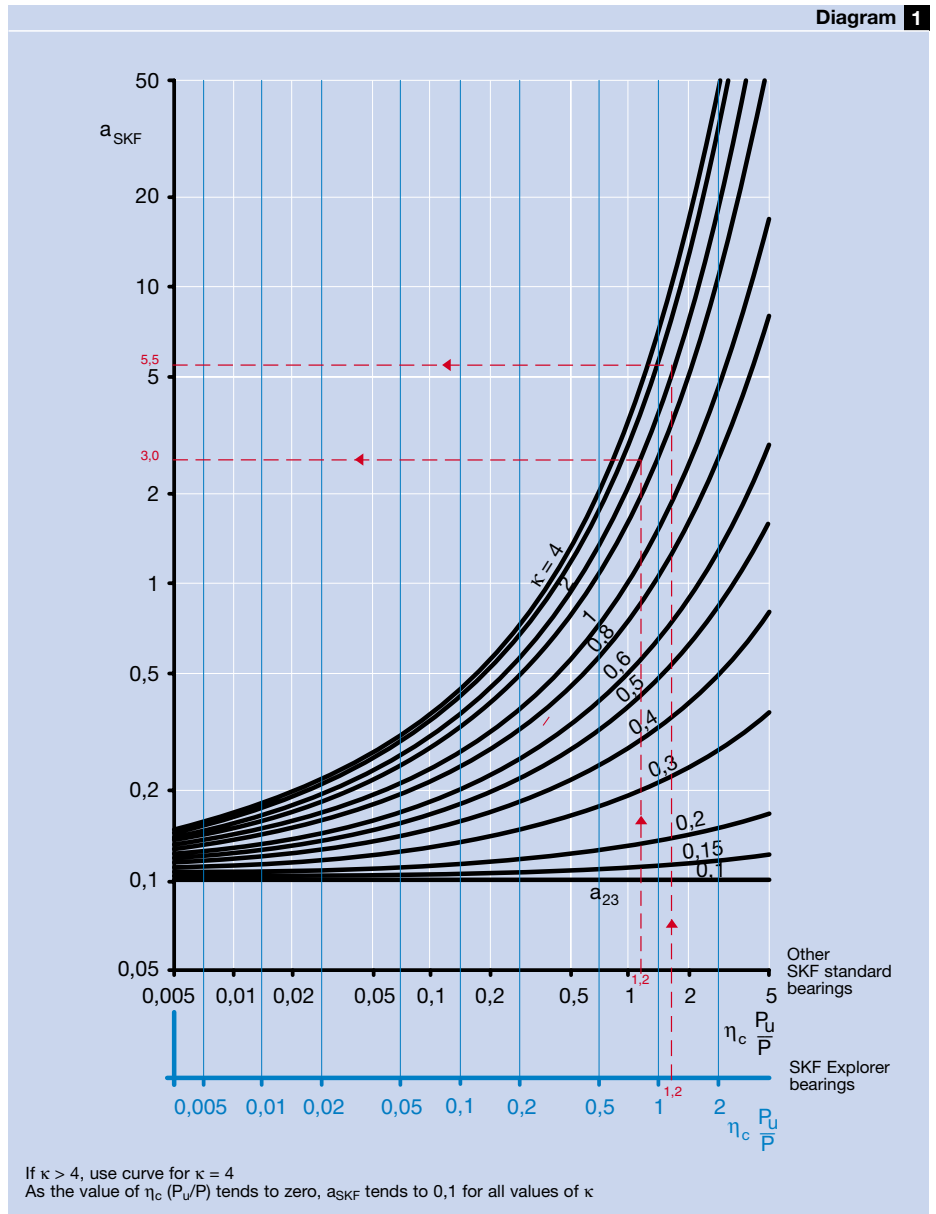
so that the life becomes

$L_{10m} = a_{SKF} (C/P)^{10/3} = 5,5 (1\ 010/126)^{10/3}$

$L_{10m} = 9\ 522$  millions of revolutions.

In this case, the life of the SKF Explorer bearing compared with that of the earlier standard bearing is  $9\ 522/3\ 092 = 3,08$  or three times longer.

**Factor  $a_{SKF}$  for spherical roller thrust bearings**





# Design of bearing arrangements

## Single direction thrust bearing arrangements

A single spherical roller thrust bearing can support a shaft together with a radial bearing when

- the thrust load is in one direction only
- the total axial load on the bearing is never lower than the requisite minimum axial load (→ **page 34**).

The spherical roller thrust bearing locates the shaft radially and axially in one direction (→ **fig 1**). A radial bearing provides radial location at the other end.

In cases where the shaft is supported by two radial bearings, the spherical

### Single direction thrust bearing arrangement for combined loads with a single spherical roller thrust bearing

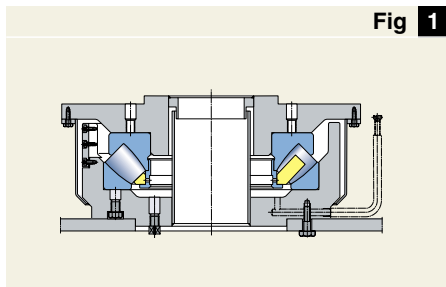


Fig 1

### Single direction thrust arrangement with single spring preloaded spherical roller thrust bearing and two radial bearings

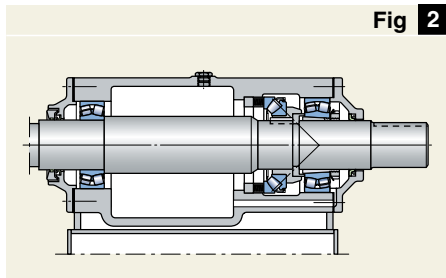


Fig 2

roller thrust bearing must be radially free. If the axial load can drop below the requisite minimum load the spherical roller thrust bearing should be spring preloaded (→ **fig 2**).

## Double direction thrust bearing arrangements

Two spherical roller thrust bearings mounted in pairs for thrust loads acting in both directions can be mounted in a face-to-face or back-to-back arrangement to eliminate the need for a radial bearing. By eliminating the radial bearing, any fretting and rubbing normally associated with conflicts between the radial and thrust bearing is avoided.

For very high axial loads a tandem arrangement can be used to distribute the load over the bearings (→ **fig 7** on **page 22**).

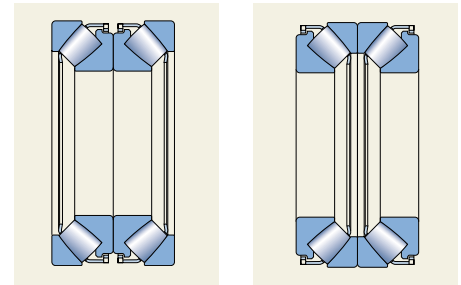
– *Without spring preloading*  
SKF spherical roller thrust bearings operating at moderate speeds can be mounted in pairs to locate the shaft both axially and radially without any axial spring preloading.

Like taper roller bearings SKF spherical roller thrust bearings can be mounted with an interference fit in the housing to avoid fretting corrosion that leads to wear.

Permissible axial clearance is given in the section “Axial clearance and preload”, starting on **page 16**.

Double direction spherical roller thrust bearing arrangements with axial clearance should incorporate the VU029 design feature.

– *With spring preloading*  
SKF spherical roller thrust bearings operating at high speeds should be spring preloaded to secure the requisite minimum load and avoid smearing (→ **fig 3**).



Face-to-face arrangement

Back-to-back arrangement

Spring preloaded arrangements can be either radially locating or radially free.

When the thrust bearing arrangement is radially free another bearing must be used for radial location. The thrust bearing housing washers must then be fitted with adequate radial clearance so that no radial load can act on the thrust bearings (→ **fig 3**). For the permissible misalignment of a few milliradians the following rules can be applied:

### Double direction spring preloaded thrust bearing arrangement – the spherical roller thrust bearings are radially free

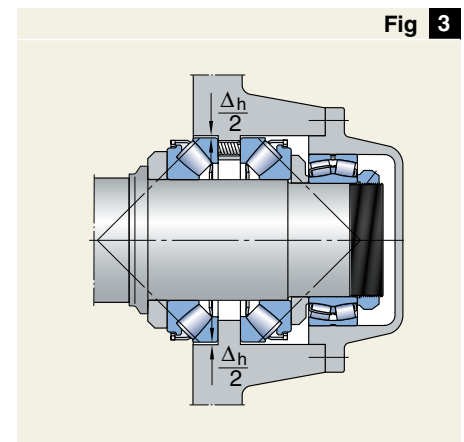
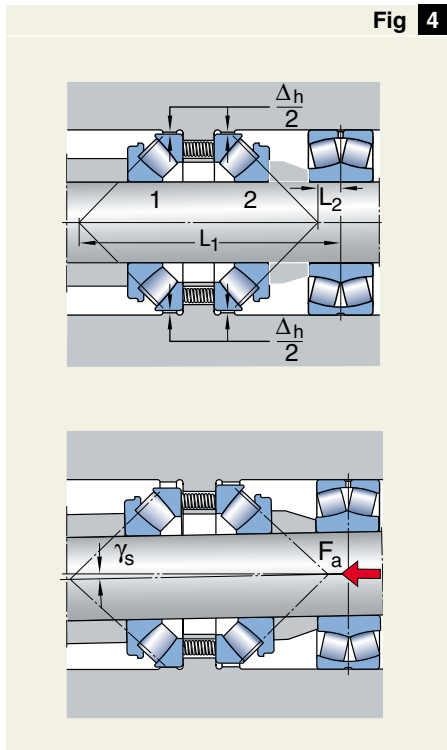


Fig 3

Fig 4



**Double direction, spring preloaded spherical roller thrust bearing arrangement, radially free**

Radial clearance  $\Delta_h \geq 0,5$  mm when  $D \leq 250$  mm.

Radial clearance  $\Delta_h \geq 0,002 D$  when  $D > 250$  mm.

If the maximum misalignment angle is known, then the required minimum radial clearance in the housing for each thrust bearing can be more precisely obtained from (→ fig 4):

$$\Delta_h > 2 L \sin\gamma_s + \Delta$$

where

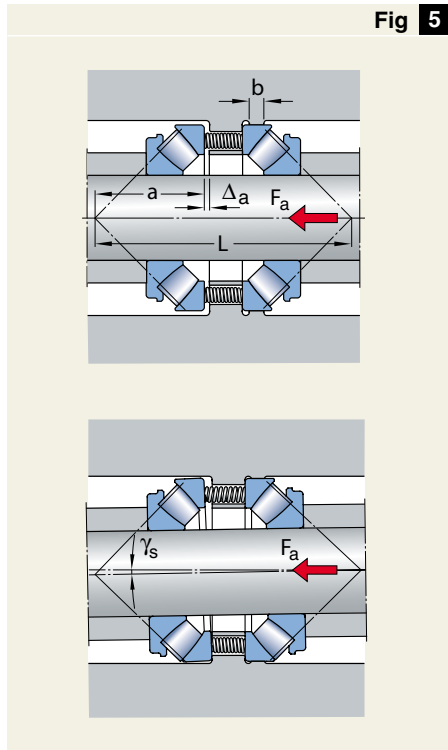
$\Delta_h$  = minimum radial clearance between the bearing and housing, mm

$L$  = distance between the centre of the radial bearing and the pressure centre of the thrust bearing ( $L_1$ , and  $L_2$  respectively), mm

$\gamma_s$  = angular misalignment of shaft, rad

$\Delta$  = the sum of the radial internal clearance and the housing clearance fit of the radial bearing, mm

Fig 5



**Double direction, spring preloaded thrust bearing arrangement with one bearing radially free and the other radially locating**

– One bearing radially locating one radially free

Arrangements where the axially loaded bearing is radially located and the other is radially free are frequently used (→ fig 5).

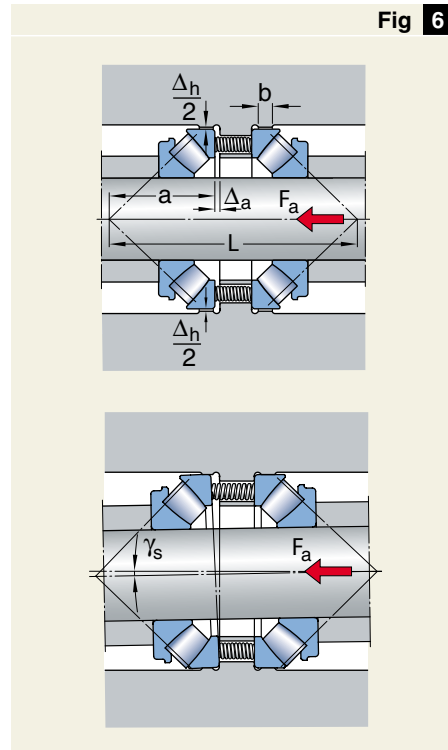
A radially free opposing spherical roller thrust bearing allows a high degree of misalignment, making it possible to utilize the paired arrangement's self-aligning features. As the housing washer is supported by springs it will tilt but there will be no sliding or rubbing motion between the washer and housing. However, it is important that the radial clearance in the housing is large enough so that the washer does not make contact with the housing. If the axial clearance  $\Delta_a$  in the housing is known, the permissible misalignment will be

$$\gamma_s = \frac{2 \Delta_a a}{L D}$$

where

$L$  = distance between the pressure centres of the bearings, mm

Fig 6



**Double direction, spring preloaded spherical roller thrust bearing arrangement where both bearings locate radially**

$a$  = distance between the pressure centre and housing washer face of the unloaded bearing, mm

$D$  = housing washer outside diameter, mm

$\Delta_a$  = housing axial clearance, mm

$\gamma_s$  = angular misalignment of the shaft, rad

The above equation is valid for both back-to-back and face-to-face bearing arrangements. To determine the necessary clearance the above formula for  $\Delta_h$  can be used, when omitting  $\Delta$ .

– Both bearings radially locating

If both bearings are radially locating, then a good conflict-free centring of the shaft is obtained because the axially loaded bearing also accommodates the radial load (→ fig 6).

If the axial and radial clearances are chosen in accordance with the following rules, this arrangement will accommodate misalignment without increasing bearing loads.

In this case the necessary radial movement of the least loaded bearing will be accomplished by the tilting of the housing washer rather than radial movement in the housing.

The requisite axial clearance for a particular shaft misalignment is calculated as follows

$$\Delta_a = \frac{\gamma_s D L}{2 a}$$

The corresponding requisite radial housing clearance is

$$\Delta_h = \frac{\gamma_s L}{a} \left( \frac{\gamma_s D L}{2 a} + b \right)$$

where

b = width of radial support, mm

## Axial clearance and preload

Depending on the application, the spherical roller thrust bearings in an arrangement can have an operational axial clearance or preload.

When a vertical application incorporates a single spherical roller thrust bearing, the load from the mass of the shaft acts as a preload on the spherical roller thrust bearing to locate the shaft radially and axially in one direction (→ fig 1 on page 14).

The radial bearing at the other end of the shaft must have a certain axial freedom to be able to accommodate thermal expansion and contraction of the shaft.

In applications where the shaft is supported by two radial bearings, the spherical roller thrust bearing must be mounted radially free. If the thrust load can drop below the requisite minimum load, the bearing should be spring preloaded (→ fig 2).

### Axial clearance

Axial clearance for a pair of spherical roller thrust bearings is defined as the total distance the shaft can be moved in the axial direction relative to the housing washers. Since the spherical roller thrust bearing is of separable design, the axial clearance can only be obtained after mounting and is deter-

Series	$\Delta_a/H^1$		
	Horizontal shaft	Vertical shaft	
		Unloaded housing washer <sup>2)</sup> – face down	Unloaded housing washer – face up
292	0,0012	0,0022	0
293	0,0010	0,0026	0,0001
294	0,0026	0,0038	0,0004

<sup>1)</sup>  $\Delta_a$  = residual axial clearance after mounting, mm  
 $H$  = height of one bearing, mm  
<sup>2)</sup> If  $F_r > 0,64 F_a$ , the rules for unloaded housing washer face up apply, if the shaft is vertical. However, the listed values are to be multiplied by two since, under radial loading, the clearance is shared equally by the bearings. With an arrangement design described in the section "A spherical roller thrust bearing combined with a thrust ball bearing" (→ fig 9 on page 23), the listed values are valid

Fig 8

### Recommendations for maximum axial clearance in relation to the bearing height for double direction thrust bearing arrangements without spring preloading – two spherical roller thrust bearings on a horizontal or a vertical shaft

mined by adjustment of the bearing against a second bearing which provides location in the other direction.

– *Double direction thrust bearing arrangements – two spherical roller thrust bearings on horizontal shaft*  
 The optimum roller end/flange contact in the spherical roller thrust bearing is maintained if its axial clearance is lower than the recommended maximum permissible value.

For bearing arrangements without spring loading, recommendations of the maximum axial clearance in relation to bearing height after mounting are shown in fig 8.

– *Double direction thrust bearing arrangements – two spherical roller thrust bearings on a vertical shaft*  
 For bearing arrangements without spring loading, recommendations of the maximum axial clearance in relation to bearing height after mounting are shown in fig 8.

For additional information please contact the SKF application engineering service.

– *Clearance changes due to temperature differences*  
 Generally the shaft and shaft washers have a higher operating temperature

than the housing and housing washers. This temperature difference influences the bearing operating clearance.

For a face-to-face arrangement the radial as well as the axial expansion will reduce bearing clearance.

For a back-to-back arrangement, radial expansion will reduce the clearance while axial expansion will increase the clearance in the bearing. By choosing a specific bearing distance, the radial and axial thermal expansion will cancel each other out so that the clearance will not be affected significantly.

### Axial preload

In some applications an axial preload is used to enhance the stiffness of the bearing arrangement, improve the accuracy of the shaft guidance or increase the service life of the bearings.

#### – Determining preload

Preload is expressed either as a force or as a displacement.

Empirical values for the optimum preload force can be obtained from proven designs and can be applied to similar designs. For new designs, however, SKF recommends calculating the preload force and when possible, verifying the calculations by testing. The reliability of the calculation depends on how well

the assumptions made regarding the temperature conditions in operation and the elastic behaviour of the associated components – especially the housing – coincide with the actual conditions.

When determining the mounting preload, the operational preload force required for an optimum combination of stiffness, bearing service life and reliability must be calculated first. Then the cold mounting preload can be calculated.

The appropriate preload at operating temperature depends on the bearing load. For a spherical roller thrust bearing exposed to a radial load, a force acting in the axial direction will be induced in the bearing. This force must be accommodated by another bearing facing in the opposite direction.

This load must be considered when the preload force is calculated (→ section “Radial loads” on **page 13**).

For spring preloaded spherical roller thrust bearings the total spring force and any loads from the mass of a vertical shaft need to be identified so that the load on the bearing is always equal to or larger than the requisite minimum axial load. Four springs can be used for smaller bearings but the number must be increased for larger bearings to provide proper support and prevent deformation of the housing washer.

To determine the appropriate value of the preload force and the number of springs for spring preloading please contact the SKF application engineering service.

#### Setting the required preload using the oil injection method and an SKF hydraulic nut

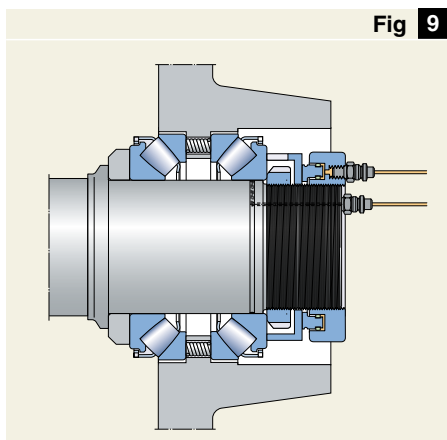


Fig 9

#### Setting clearance and preload

In face-to-face arrangements the clearance or preload is set by adjusting the housing washers, which in most cases have a clearance fit and are therefore easy to move. The required position is obtained by placing shims between the housing and cover.

For back-to-back arrangements the shaft washer, which generally has an interference fit, can be difficult to move into position. Here, use of the SKF oil injection method can facilitate the adjustment.

In case of preload, the oil injection method in combination with an HMV.. E type SKF hydraulic nut can be used (→ **fig 9**). When the washer has been heat mounted close to its correct position the preload force is applied to the shaft washer by means of a specific oil pressure in the hydraulic nut, while oil is injected between the washer and shaft. This pushes the washer into the correct position. The preload from the hydraulic nut must be maintained until the oil injection pressure has been released and the washer has obtained a full interference fit with the shaft.

However, to use the oil injection method the shaft needs to be prepared with the necessary ducts and grooves (→ section “Dismounting”, starting on **page 30**).

#### SKF spherical roller thrust bearing arrangement in a high-speed disc refiner, lubricated with circulating oil

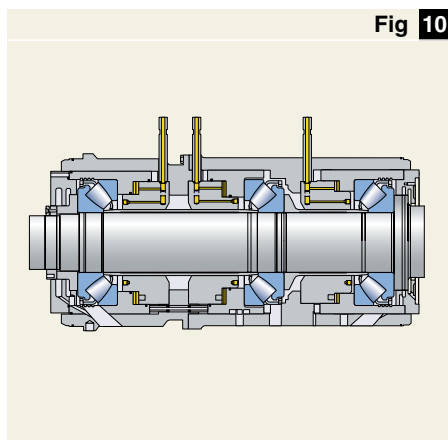


Fig 10

## High-speed bearing arrangements

SKF spherical roller thrust bearings have a built in capacity for high speed. With certain modifications to of the internal design and with special precautions regarding lubrication, cooling and preload, it is possible to operate the bearings at speeds up to three times greater than the catalogue reference speed (approximately one and a half times the limiting speed).

A bearing arrangement in a disc refiner for very high speed is shown in **fig 10**.

In this application a very heavy axial load is shared equally by two spherical roller thrust bearings mounted in tandem and preload applied by two hydraulic pistons. Prior to designing or operating any machine at speeds higher than the thermal reference speed, please consult the SKF application engineering service.

#### Back-to-back arrangements provide very high stiffness

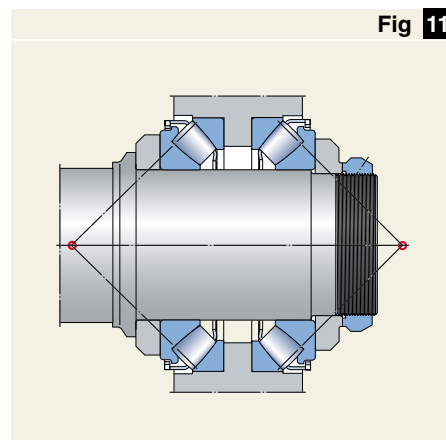


Fig 11

## Low-speed bearing arrangements

In applications such as vertical air preheaters and extruders, speeds can be as low as 0,5 to 5 r/min while loads can be as high as  $P = 0,1 C_0$ .

High viscosity oils with additives have proven to be effective for these types of applications. For additional information please contact the SKF application engineering service.

Low speed applications such as bridge and crane pivots are considered to be static applications and the bearings should be calculated with a static safety factor  $s_0 \approx 4$  or greater.

## Stiffness

Some machines require stiffer bearing arrangements than others. To meet those varied requirements, SKF spherical roller thrust bearings can be arranged for different levels of stiffness.

In back-to-back arrangements the pressure centres of the bearings will be far apart to provide a very stiff arrangement that accommodates bending moments as well as axial and radial loads (→ fig 11).

The face-to-face arrangement is not so stiff and can accommodate shaft deflections, due to the shorter distance between the pressure centres. However, it is equally stiff respectively for axial and radial loads (→ fig 12).

*Face-to-face arrangements can accommodate shaft deflection*

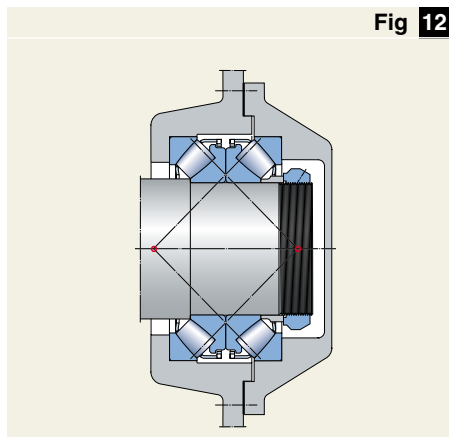


Fig 12

In face-to-face arrangements the bearings can be placed so their pressure centres coincide and the whole arrangement will be self-aligning, but with equal stiffness in both the axial and radial direction.

## Design of associated components

### Support of bearing washers

To optimize bearing performance under high axial loads it is vital that the bearing has supports strong enough to prevent deformation of the bearing washers.

The abutment dimensions  $d_{a \min}$  and  $D_{a \max}$  quoted in the product table, starting on page 36, apply for axial bearing loads  $F_a \leq 0,1 C_0$ .

If the bearings are subjected to heavier loads it may be necessary for the bearing washers to be supported across their entire width ( $d_a = d_1$  and  $D_a = D_1$ ).

At high loads,  $P > 0,1 C_0$ , the shaft washer bore must be fully supported by the shaft, preferably by an interference fit. Even the housing washer should be radially supported (→ fig 13).

For further information about dimensioning of washer supports please contact the SKF application engineering service.

*Shaft and housing dimensions for support of bearing washers*

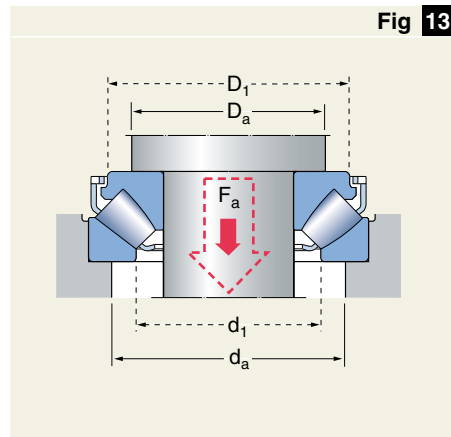


Fig 13

## Seals

The service life of a bearing depends to a large extent on the effectiveness of the seals. Seals prevent the entry of contaminants while retaining the lubricant.

The selection of a seal type depends on the operating conditions and environmental considerations such as:

- the type of lubricant,
- sliding velocity of the sealing surfaces,
- a vertical or horizontal shaft,
- the degree of misalignment,
- the type of contamination,
- thermal conditions.

Detailed information about selecting the seal type can be found in the SKF publication "CR Industrial Seals Handbook". However, some basic recommendations are given on the next page.

*Spring loaded CRW1 radial seal for oil lubricated arrangements*

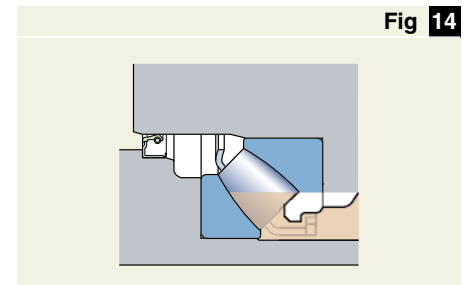


Fig 14

*V-ring seals are suitable to prevent ingress of contaminants*

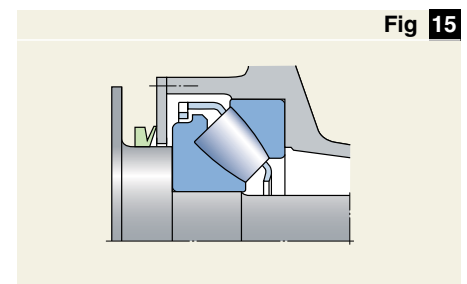


Fig 15



### Seals for grease lubrication

Lubricating greases are relatively easy to retain in the bearing arrangement. As a result, the demands on grease are generally moderate.

CR radial seals without a garter spring, HM and HMA types, are suitable for low sliding speeds. The seals should be arranged so the lip faces the bearing. V-rings or spring loaded radial seals e.g. CRW1 design, are equally suitable for retaining grease.

If frequent relubrication is required, the lip of at least one of the seals should be arranged away from the grease so that excess grease can escape via this lip.

More information about sealing arrangements is found in the section “Grease lubrication”, starting on **page 26**.

### Seals for oil lubrication

Lubricating oils are generally more difficult to retain in a bearing arrangement than greases. Therefore, spring-loaded radial seals are used almost exclusively, e.g. CR seals of the CRW1, CRWH1, HMS4 or HDS3 designs. Normally, CRW1 radial seals with a hydrodynamically formed seal lip are adequate (→ **fig 14**).

The CR Waveseal lip has a sinusoidally formed edge which induces a pumping action to the inside as well as the outside, irrespective of the shaft’s direction of rotation.

Due to their internal design, spherical roller thrust bearings create a pumping action which should be considered when selecting seals (→ section “Lubrication and maintenance”, starting on **page 24**).

### Contaminant exclusion

V-ring seals are very suitable to prevent ingress of contaminants. They rotate with the shaft, act as flingers and seal against a surface, which is at a right angle to the shaft (→ **fig 15**). Radial seals, i.e. CRW1 design, which are primarily intended to prevent ingress of contaminants, should be mounted with the lip pointing away from the bearing.

# Typical bearing arrangements

To fully utilize the features of spherical roller thrust bearings they must be properly applied. One of the advantages of spherical roller thrust bearings is that they can accommodate radial as well as axial loads. This is why a single spherical roller thrust bearing is frequently used in some applications to accommodate the combined loads.

Correctly applied, the bearing will then work smoothly as long as  $F_r \leq 0,55 F_a$ , if the bearing must accommodate a heavy radial load,  $F_r > 0,55 F_a$ , the bearing should be combined with another bearing. This second bearing can be a spherical roller thrust bearing but other bearing types can be used. In applications where a spherical roller thrust bearing is mounted radially free and axial loads may not meet requisite minimums, springs must be used to preload the bearing.

Some typical bearing arrangements incorporating spherical roller thrust bearings are shown below.

## Single direction thrust bearing arrangements

### Bearing arrangement with a single spherical roller thrust bearing, radially guided on a vertical shaft

When a spherical roller thrust bearing is axially loaded with at least the minimum requisite bearing load it can be used as a single bearing to accommodate both radial and the axial loads (→ fig 1). The bearing at the other end of the shaft, however, should be a radial bearing.

This arrangement is suitable when the axial load always acts in one direction. Typical applications are electric motors, crane pivots and bridges.

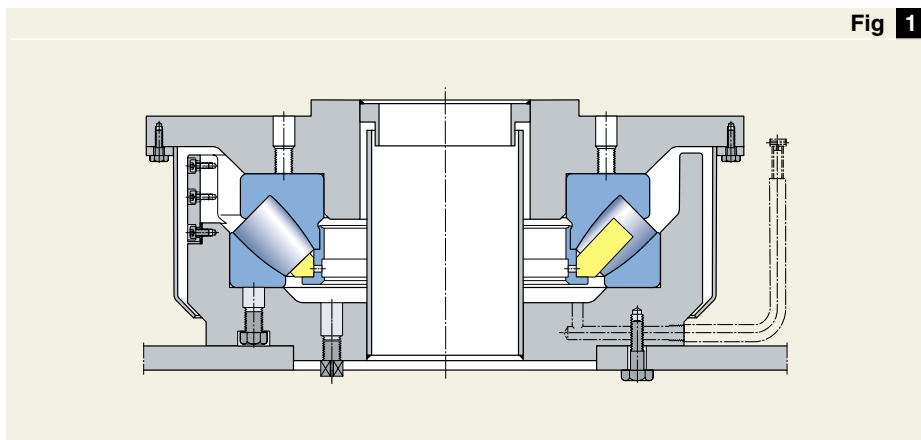


Fig 1

**Bearing arrangement with a single spherical roller thrust bearing, radially guided on a vertical shaft**

### Bearing arrangement with a single spherical roller thrust bearing, radially free on a horizontal or vertical shaft

In this example, the spherical roller thrust bearing is spring preloaded and carries the predominant axial load. The shaft is supported by two radial bearings of which one is locating in

the opposite direction (→ fig 2). This arrangement is suitable when the axial load in one direction is predominant. Typical applications are pinions, pumps and fans.

**Bearing arrangement with a single spherical roller thrust bearing, radially free on a horizontal or vertical shaft**

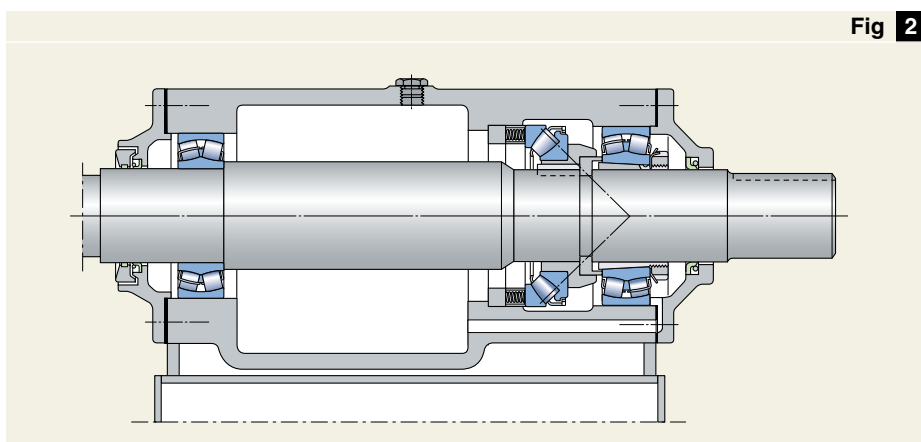


Fig 2

## Double direction thrust bearing arrangements

### Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings, radially free in a back-to-back or face-to-face arrangement

Bearings in either of these arrangements can carry axial loads in both directions. The minimum axial load is provided by spring preloading the housing washers. The radial loads are accommodated by a separate radial bearing (→ fig 3). The non-locating bearing at the other end of the shaft is a radial bearing.

This bearing arrangement is suitable for axial loads acting in both directions in combination with heavy radial loads and for relatively high speed applications. Typical applications are industrial gearboxes and rolling mills.

### Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings, radially located in a back-to-back or face-to-face arrangement

The housing washers of both bearings can be mounted with a loose fit or an interference fit in the housing. The bearings accommodate axial loads in both directions in combination with simultaneously acting radial loads. They are mounted with a certain internal axial clearance (→ fig 4).

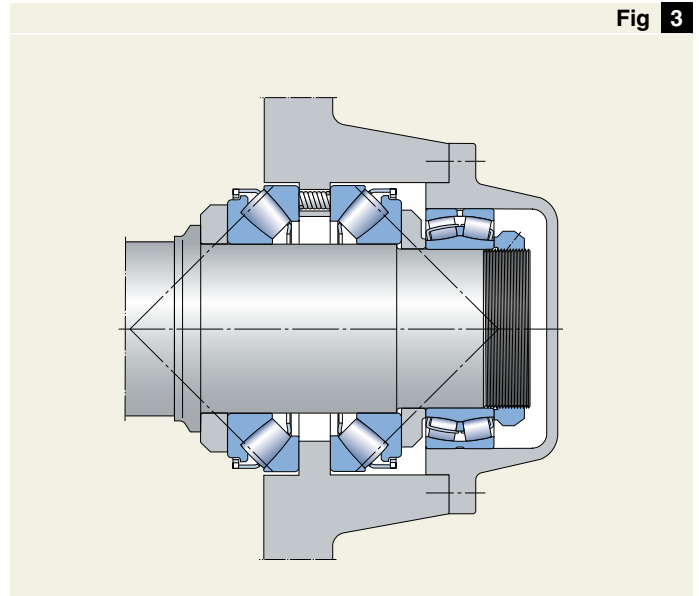
The non-locating bearing at the other end of the shaft is a radial roller bearing.

This arrangement offers a compact solution for applications where there are axial loads in both directions and simultaneously acting radial load. It is especially suitable for moderate speed applications. Typical applications are marine thrusters and large electric motors.

### Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings, one providing radial support and one radially free

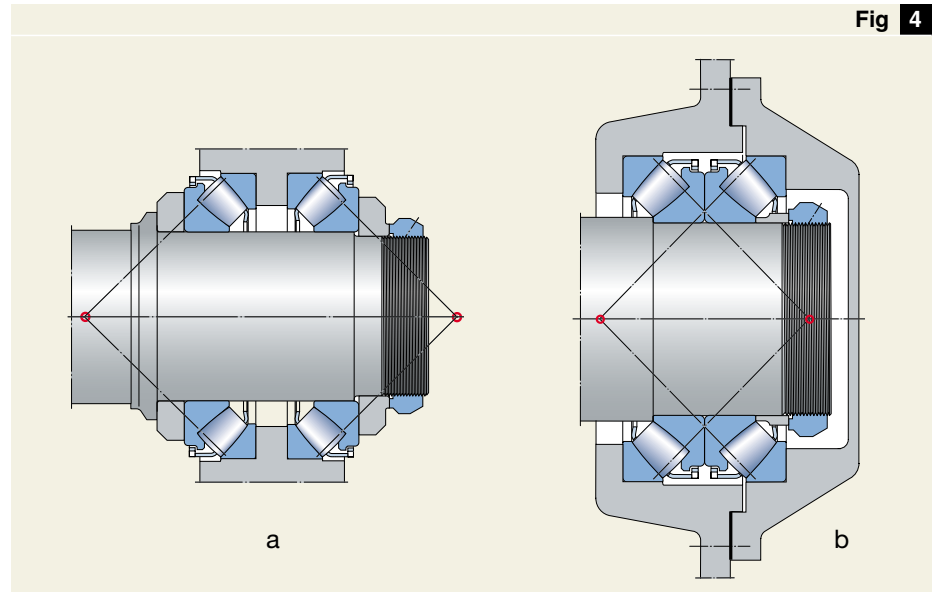
Bearings in this arrangement can be mounted in a back-to-back (→ fig 5) or face-to-face arrangement. The radially guided bearing carries both axial and radial load while the other spring loaded bearing is radially free in the housing. The non-locating bearing at the other end of the shaft is a radial bearing.

Fig 3



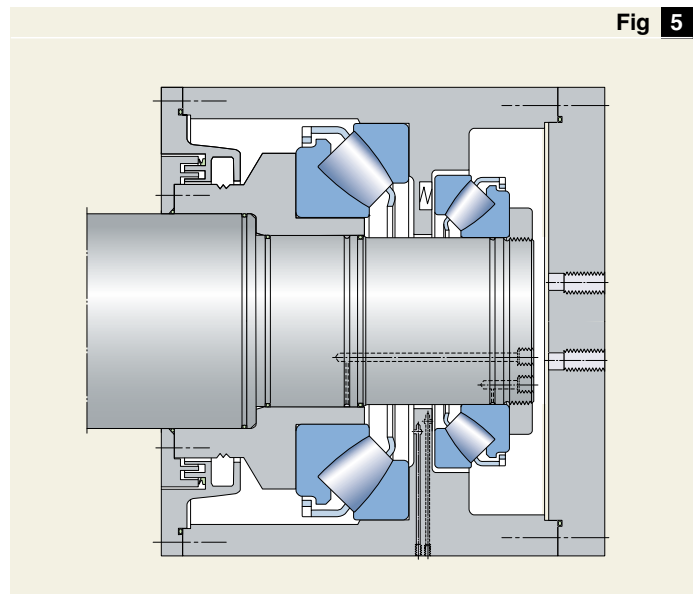
*Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings, radially free in a back-to-back arrangement*

Fig 4



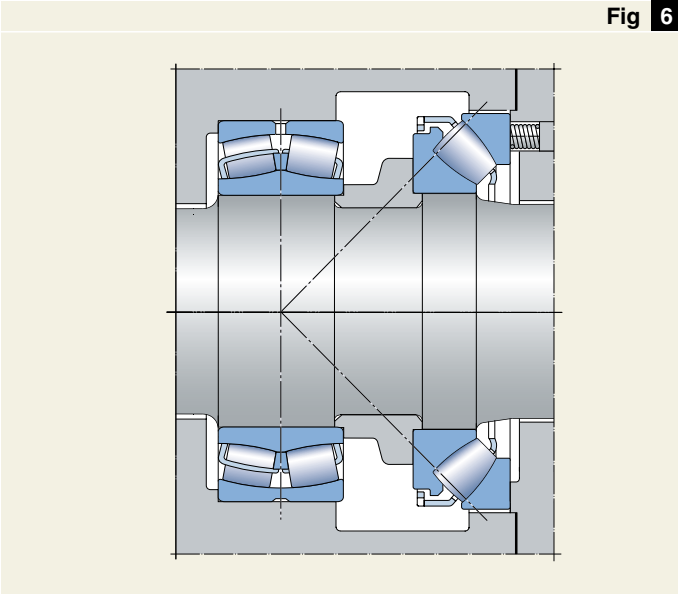
*Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings, radially located in a back-to-back (a) or face-to-face (b) arrangement*

Fig 5



*Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings, one providing radial support and one radially free*

Fig 6



*Bearing arrangement with a spherical roller thrust bearing combined with a spherical roller bearing – common pressure centre*

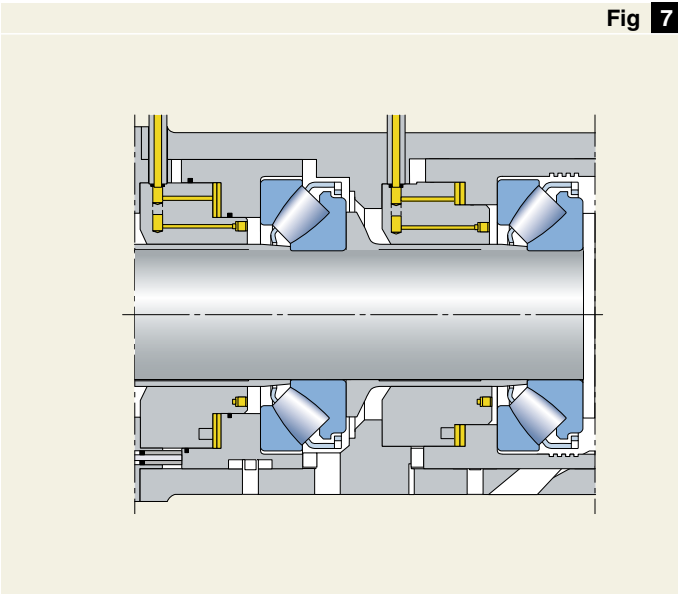
The bearing arrangement is suitable for radial loads and for high axial loads acting in one direction and an occasionally light load in the opposite direction. The arrangement can also be used for relatively high speed applications. Typical arrangements are disc refiners and small horizontal water turbines.

#### **Bearing arrangement with a spherical roller thrust bearing combined with a spherical roller bearing – common pressure centre**

The bearings in this arrangement are mounted to achieve a common pressure centre. The spherical roller thrust bearing is radially free and can accommodate axial loads only. Radial loads are accommodated by the spherical roller bearing. The minimum axial load on the spherical roller thrust bearing is achieved by spring loading the housing washer (→ fig 6). The non-locating bearing at the other end of the shaft is a radial roller bearing.

This bearing arrangement is suitable for radial load and high axial load acting in one direction and an occasionally light axial load in the opposite direction. This applies for low as well as high speed applications. Typical arrangements are propeller thrust bearing arrangements, waterjets and pumps.

Fig 7



*Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings in tandem arrangement*

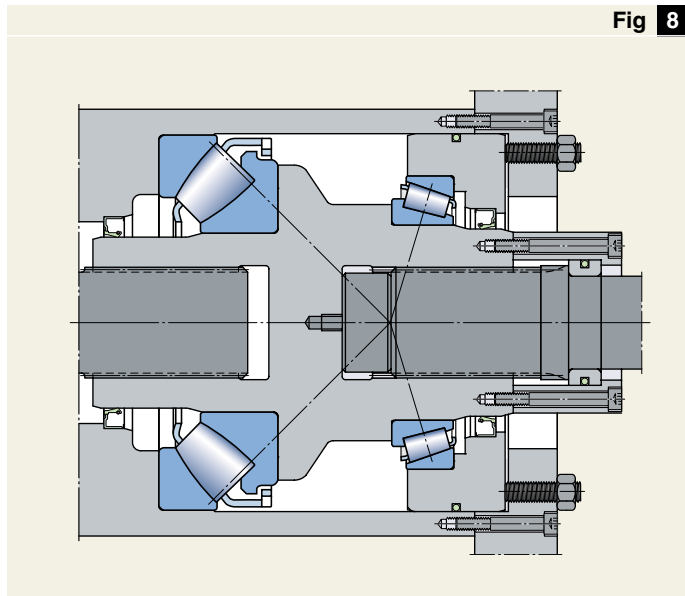
#### **Bearing arrangement with two spherical roller thrust bearings in tandem arrangement**

When the axial load is very high, two spherical roller thrust bearings mounted in tandem can be used. The load is equally shared by the two bearings by means of two hydraulic pistons. The spherical roller thrust bearings are radially free and the shaft is radially supported by two radial bearings (→ fig 7).

Alternatively, one of the bearings in the tandem arrangement can be used for radial support as well, together with a third spherical roller thrust bearing that provides location in the other direction (→ fig 10 on page 17).

The arrangement is suitable when the axial load is very high in one direction. Typical arrangements are spindle units and disc refiners.

Fig 8



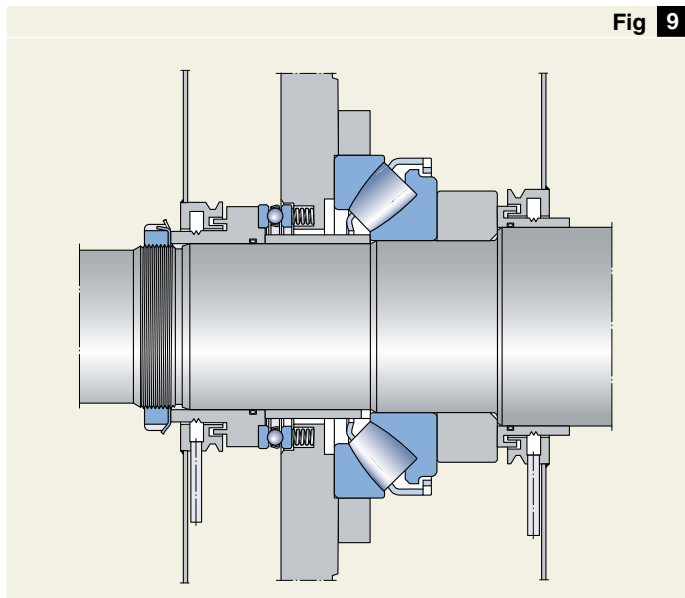
*Bearing arrangement with a spherical roller thrust bearing combined with a taper roller bearing*

**Bearing arrangement with a spherical roller thrust bearing combined with a taper roller bearing**  
Both bearings in this arrangement are radially guided, not preloaded and mounted in a face-to-face arrangement. The bearing which for the moment is axially loaded will carry the simultaneously acting radial load as well (→ fig 8). If a non-locating bearing is necessary at the other end of the shaft it should be a radial bearing.

The bearing arrangement is suitable for axial loads in both directions in combination with radial loads. The predominant axial load is accommodated by the spherical roller thrust bearing.

Typical arrangements are hydraulic motors and injection moulding machines.

Fig 9



*Bearing arrangement with a spherical roller thrust bearing combined with a thrust ball bearing*

**Bearing arrangement with a spherical roller thrust bearing combined with a thrust ball bearing**

The spherical roller thrust bearing in this arrangement is radially guided and can accommodate axial and radial loads. To provide the requisite minimum axial load, a thrust ball bearing is adjusted against the spherical roller thrust bearing by means of springs (→ fig 9). The non-locating bearing at the other end of the shaft is a radial bearing.

The bearing arrangement is suitable for predominant axial loads acting in one direction. Examples of this arrangement include water turbines and pulp boilers.



# Lubrication and maintenance

## Pumping effect

Because of their internal design, spherical roller thrust bearings have a pumping action that can be taken advantage of to provide circulation of the lubricating oil. The pumping action must be considered when selecting the type of lubricant and seals (→ fig 1).

## Lubricants

Generally lubrication with oil or grease containing EP additives is recommended for spherical roller thrust bearings.

## Oil viscosity

The selection of an oil or grease is primarily based on the viscosity required to adequately lubricate the bearing.

The viscosity of a lubricant is temperature dependent and decreases as temperature increases.

In order to form a sufficient film thickness in the contact area between the rolling elements and raceways the oil must retain a minimum viscosity at normal operating temperature.

To determine the suitable lubricant viscosity at a certain operating temperature use the information provided in the SKF General Catalogue or the SKF Interactive Engineering Catalogue on CD-ROM or online at [www.skf.com](http://www.skf.com).

## Cleanliness

Cleanliness is very important for the performance of rolling bearings. This is reflected in the SKF life method (→ section "Selection of bearing size", starting on page 12).

## Oil lubrication

Oil is the preferred lubrication method for spherical roller thrust bearings particularly in applications with static load conditions e.g. bridge pivots, to avoid damage from vibration when not rotating.

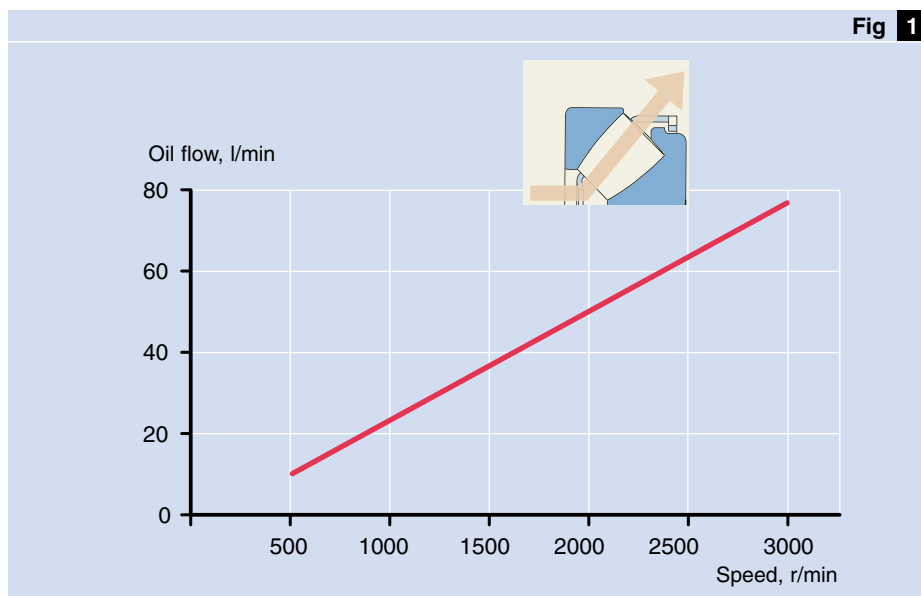
An oil bath is chosen when the need for cooling of the bearing is moderate.

Circulating oil is applied when the operating temperature is high.

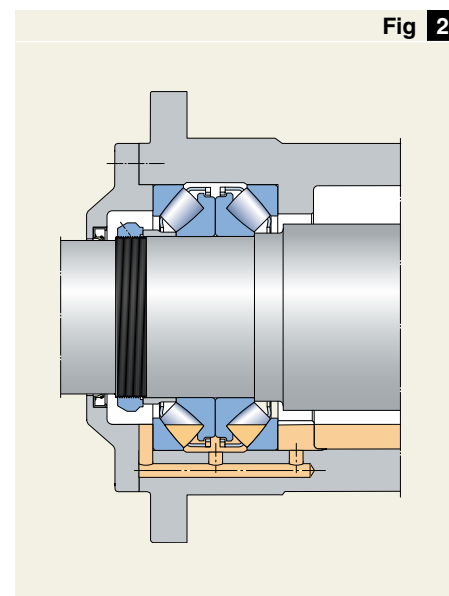
Irrespective of the oil lubrication method there must always be a communicating duct between the oil reservoirs at both sides of the bearing (→ fig 2).

For information about suitable sizes for oil ducts, please contact the SKF application engineering service.

Pumping effect in spherical roller thrust bearings (example of a 29420 E bearing)



A communication duct provides equal oil level on both sides of the bearings



**Oil bath lubrication**

For vertical shafts, oil bath lubrication is an appropriate choice. The pumping effect of the bearing can be used to force oil through the bearing.

**Oil levels**

The recommended oil level for a vertical shaft is shown in **fig 3**.

For bearings on a horizontal shaft, the oil level should be at distance “a” from the centre of the bearing (→ **fig 4**).

$$a = 0,5 d_m \pm 2 \text{ mm for } d < 200 \text{ mm}$$

$$a = 0,5 d_m + 0 \text{ to } + 5 \text{ mm for } d \geq 200 \text{ mm}$$

where

$$d_m = \text{bearing mean diameter} \\ = 0,5 (d + D), \text{ mm}$$

$$d = \text{bearing bore diameter, mm}$$

$$D = \text{bearing outside diameter, mm.}$$

However, for low and medium speed applications the bearing can be totally immersed in oil.

**Circulating oil lubrication**

In many cases the pumping action of a spherical roller thrust bearing is sufficient to provide effective oil circulation to cool the bearing.

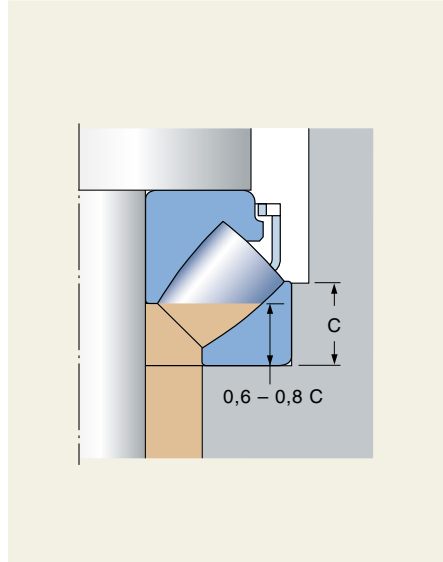
If the pumping action does not suffice, it might be necessary to circulate oil by means of a pump. The direction of the oil circulation should coincide with the pumping action of the spherical roller thrust bearing.

The higher the operating temperature the more rapidly the lubricating oil will oxidize. An increase in bearing temperature also means that the oil viscosity is reduced and the lubricant film is thinner.

Lubricating with circulating oil extends the oil change interval.

To improve the cleanliness the oil should be cleaned by a filter before it is pumped back to the bearing (→ **fig 5**).

Fig 3



**Recommended oil level for vertical shaft applications**

**Cooling**

At moderate speeds a simple cooling system can be arranged by including a coil of cooling tubes in the oil tank. In high-speed applications and in the case of high ambient temperatures, the oil flow rate required to maintain a suitable running temperature must be estimated.

Effective cooling is important if spherical roller thrust bearings are to operate at very high speeds.

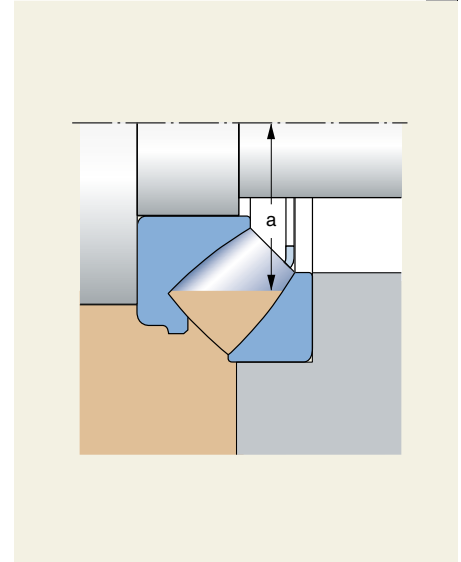
Cooling can be accomplished via an oil cooler in a circulating oil system (→ **fig 5**).

To define necessary oil flow rates please contact the SKF application engineering service.

**Heating**

When the ambient temperature is low, e.g. for bridge and crane pivot applications, it might be necessary to heat the oil to achieve suitable viscosity for pumping lubricant to the bearing.

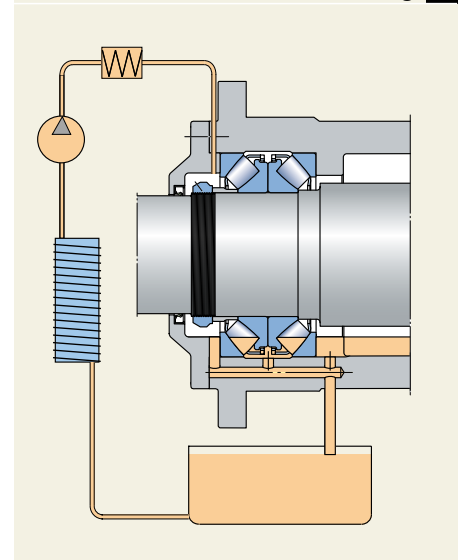
Fig 4

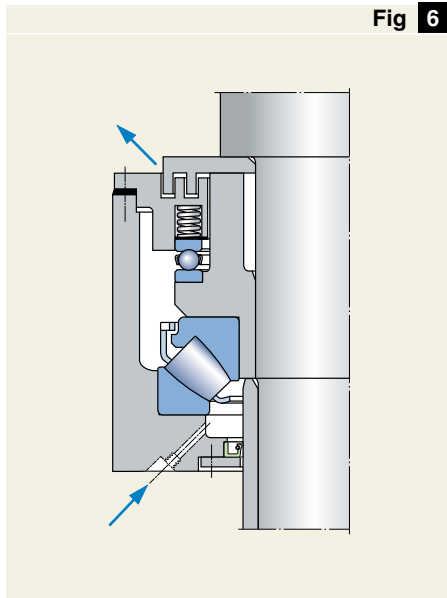


**Recommended oil level for horizontal shaft applications**

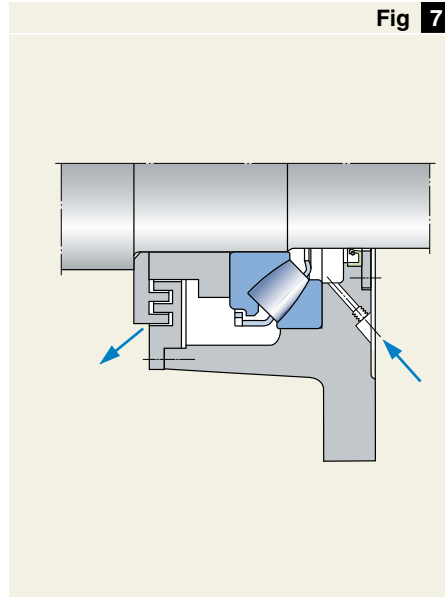
**Circulating oil system with cooler and filter**

Fig 5





**Sealing arrangement for a vertical shaft – the grease inlet is positioned just underneath the bearing**



**Sealing arrangement for a horizontal shaft – the grease inlet is positioned on the housing washer side**

## Grease lubrication

When lubricating with grease the roller end/flange contacts must be adequately supplied with lubricant.

Depending on the application, this can best be done by completely filling the bearing and housing with grease before the initial start up and then following-up with a regular relubrication schedule.

It is important that excess grease can leave the bearing.

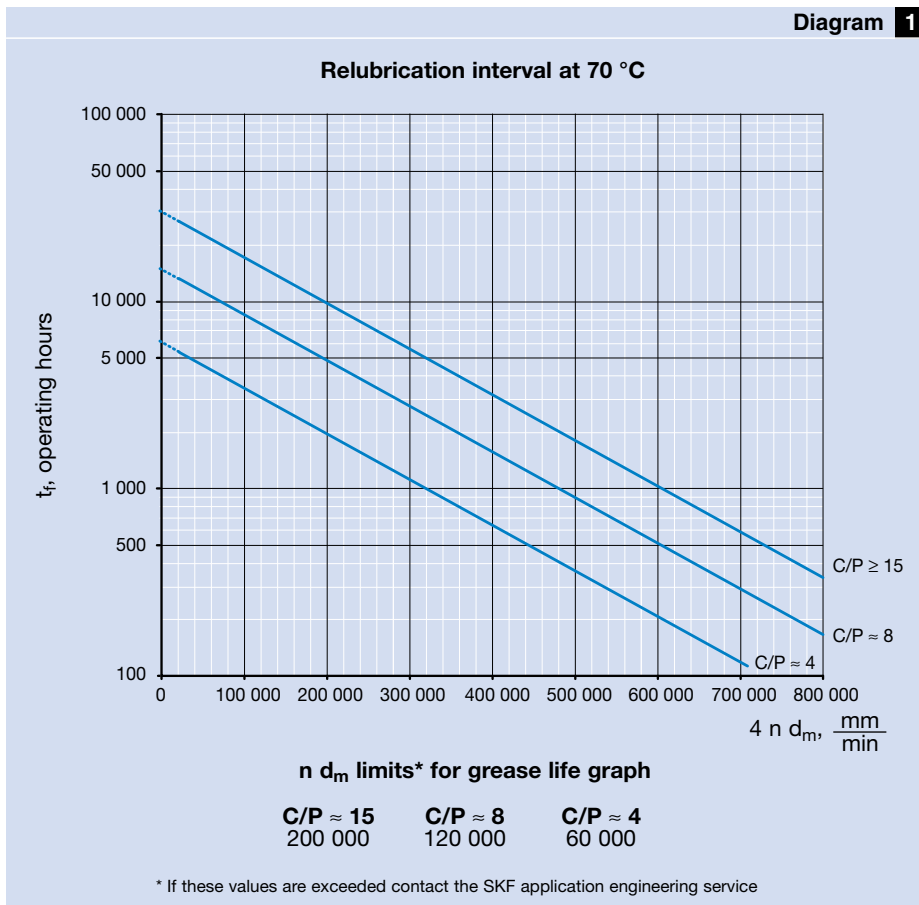
### Vertical shaft

To retain the grease in the bearing arrangement of a vertical shaft, a radial seal is applied underneath the bearing. The grease supply duct is positioned on the housing washer side (→ fig 6).

### Horizontal shaft

The sealing arrangement for horizontal shafts should be designed so that the fresh grease passes through the bearing and used grease is purged on the shaft washer side (→ fig 7).

### Recommended relubrication intervals for spherical roller thrust bearings



### Suitable greases

The most suitable SKF greases for lubrication of spherical roller thrust bearings are listed in table 1.

### Regreasing interval

Proper lubrication requires regreasing at regular intervals. Care must be taken that the bearing is not over-greased, or an increase in the operating temperature could result.

The relubrication interval  $t_f$  for normal operating conditions is given in diagram 1. The diagram is valid for bearings on horizontal shafts operating under clean conditions.

The value on the x axis is obtained from  $4 n d_m$  ( $4 \times$  operational speed  $\times$  bearing mean diameter).

The  $t_f$  value is then derived considering the load magnitude given by the load ratio C/P.

Table 1

Grease designation	Bearing operating condition									
	Base oil viscosity at 40 °C (mm <sup>2</sup> /s)	High temperature above 120 °C	Low temperature	Very high speed	Very low speed and/or oscillating movements	Low torque and friction	Severe vibration	Heavy load	Rust inhibiting properties	Water resistance
LGEP 2	200			○	○	–	+	+	+	+
LGHB 2	450	+		○	+	–	+	+	+	+
LGEM 2	500			–	+	–	+	+	+	+
LGEV 2	1 000		–	–	+	–	+	+	+	+
LGWM 1	200		+	○	○	○	–	+	+	+

+ Very suitable ○ Suitable – Unsuitable

Where no symbol is indicated the grease may be used – however it is not recommended. For further information please contact SKF application engineering services.

### SKF standard bearing greases for spherical roller thrust bearings

#### Technical specifications

Table 2

Grease designation	Description	NGLI class	Thickener	Base oil type	Base oil viscosity (mm <sup>2</sup> /s)		Temperature range (°C)	
					40 °C	100 °C	LTL	HTPL
LGEP 2	Heavy load	2	Lithium	Mineral	200	16	–20	+100
LGHB 2	EP high viscosity high temperature	2	Complex calcium sulphionate	Mineral	450	26,5	–20	+150
LGEM 2	High viscosity with	2	Lithium	Mineral	500	32	–20	+120
LGEV 2	Extra high viscosity with solid lubricants	2	Lithium-calcium	Mineral	1000	58	–10	+120
LGWM 1	EP – low temperature	1	Lithium	Mineral	200	16	–30	+110

LTL Low Temperature Limit  
HTPL High Temperature Performance Limit

The relubrication interval  $t_r$  is an estimated value and valid for:

- operating temperature of 70 °C, using good quality mineral oil based greases with a lithium soap,
- rotating shaft washer,
- horizontal shaft.

To account for the accelerated ageing of the grease with increasing temperature, SKF recommends halving the relubrication interval obtained from the diagram for every 15 °C increase in

bearing temperature between 70 °C and the operating temperature limit for the grease. For spherical roller thrust bearings it is not recommended to prolong the relubrication interval for operating temperatures below 70 °C.

- For bearings on vertical shafts with the shaft washer at the top, the intervals obtained from the diagram should be halved.
- For rotating housing washer oil lubrication is recommended.

- For bearings on vertical shafts with the shaft washer at the bottom, please contact the SKF application engineering service.

If the determined  $t_f$  value from the diagram proves to be insufficient for a particular application

- check the grease for water content and contamination,
- check the bearing operating temperature,
- consider another grease,
- check the bearing application conditions such as load, misalignment etc.

To establish a proper relubrication interval for spherical roller thrust bearings used in critical positions in process industries, an interactive procedure is recommended. In these cases it is advisable to relubricate more frequently and adhere strictly to the regreasing quantity (→ “Relubrication procedures” below). Before regreasing, the appearance of the grease and the degree of contamination due to particles and water should be checked. SKF also recommends a complete check of the seals regarding wear, damage, and leakage. When the condition of the grease and associated components is satisfactory, the relubrication interval can be gradually increased.

### Relubrication procedures

The most common relubrication procedures for spherical roller thrust bearings are replenishment and continuous lubrication. The choice depends on the operating conditions.

- Replenishment is a convenient and preferred procedure in many applications: it allows uninterrupted operation and provides, when compared to continuous relubrication, a lower steady state temperature.
- Continuous relubrication is used when the calculated relubrication intervals are short or due to the adverse effects of contamination.

When using different bearing types on the same shaft it is common practice to apply the lowest individual calculated relubrication interval for all bearings. The guidelines and grease quantities for the relubrication procedures are given below.

### Replenishment

Suitable quantities for replenishment can be obtained from

$$G_p = 0,005 D H$$

where

$G_p$  = grease quantity to be added

when replenishing, g

$D$  = bearing outside diameter, mm

$H$  = bearing height, mm

To facilitate the supply of grease using a grease gun, a grease nipple must be provided on the housing (→ figs 6 and 7 on page 26).

To be effective in replacing old grease, it is important to replenish while the machine is in operation. In cases where the machine is not in operation, the bearing should be rotated during replenishment.

Where centralized lubrication equipment is used, provision must be made to adequately pump the grease at the lowest expected ambient temperature.

SKF recommends replacing complete grease fill after approximately 5 replenishments.

### Continuous relubrication

Due to possible churning of the grease, which can lead to increased temperature, continuous relubrication is only recommended when operating speeds are low,  $n d_m$  values below 75 000. The quantity for relubrication per time unit is derived from the equation for  $G_p$  (see above) by spreading this quantity over the relubrication interval.

## Maintenance

Proper bearing maintenance is a key factor to keep equipment running on schedule. Foresighted planning, use of professional maintenance techniques and tools combined with the appropriate bearing accessories are vital.

Further information about spherical roller thrust bearing maintenance can be found in the SKF Bearing Maintenance Handbook or online at [www.apitudexchange.com](http://www.apitudexchange.com).

### What to look for during operation

Checking the machine condition during operation and planning for maintenance is important. Bearings are vital components in most machines and monitoring their condition represents a rapidly growing activity in the field of preventive maintenance.

A variety of systems and equipment are available to monitor bearings.

However, for practical reasons, not all machine functions are monitored using advanced instrumentation. By remaining alert for “trouble signs”, such as noise, increases in temperature and vibration etc., problems can be detected.

### Listen

Bearings in good operating condition produce a soft purring noise. Grinding, squeaking and other irregular sounds usually point to bearings in poor condition.

Damaged bearings produce irregular and loud noises. Here, instruments such as the SKF electronic stethoscope make “listening” more accurate and help to detect damage at an earlier stage.

### Feel

Continually check the temperature around the bearing. Any change in temperature can be an indication of a malfunction if the running conditions have not been altered. Temperature checks can be performed with an SKF surface thermometer.

After relubrication a natural temperature rise lasting one or two days can occur.

### Look

Check the condition of the seals near the bearing to be sure that they operate satisfactorily and do not allow contamination to penetrate. Oil leaks are usually signs of worn seals, seal defects or loose plugs. Check the arrangement and replace worn seals immediately.

Discoloration or darkening are usually signs that the lubricant contains impurities.



**Grease lubrication**

Relubrication is best performed when the bearing is running. Relubricate with small quantities each time.

Periodically, clean out used grease or purge out through drain plugs. When lubricating, always keep contaminants away from the grease.

**Oil lubrication**

Check the oil level and when necessary fill up or replace with the same type of oil. Take a sample of the used oil and compare it with fresh. If the sample looks cloudy, then it may be mixed with water and should be replaced.

Dark oil is a sign of dirt, or indicates that the oil has started to carbonize. Clean the bearing and change the oil with a similar type of oil.

**Condition monitoring of bearings in operation**

It is advisable to systematically check the bearing condition. A lack of lubricant, excessive loads, high operating temperatures and mounting errors can all contribute to a premature bearing failure. By methodical condition monitoring bearing damage can be detected at an early stage. It is then easy to plan for bearing replacement (→ fig 9).

SKF can help you select the right monitoring system, train your personnel and install the system (→ pages 32 and 33).

**Prepared for vibration analysis**

Bearing damage can be identified by its defect frequency. To simplify vibration analysis the packaging of SKF spherical roller thrust bearings is marked with individual bearing data required for defect analysis (→ fig 10).



Fig 9

**SKF offers a range of different instruments for condition monitoring. An example is the range of portable MARLIN™ machine inspection systems for fast and reliable vibration analysis**

**The packaging of SKF spherical roller thrust bearing is marked with vibration data**



Fig 10

# Mounting and dismounting

## Mounting

### Mounting with interference fit

SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are separable so that the housing washer and the shaft washer with rollers and cage are mounted independently (→ fig 1).

One or both of the washers can have an interference fit.

Due to the high stiffness of the washers hot mounting is recommended.

Depending on whether the interference fit is between a shaft washer and shaft or housing washer and housing, the shaft washer or the housing should be heated before mounting.

To mount a washer with an interference fit on a shaft, heat the washer to about 80 to 90 °C above the temperature of the shaft. This can be done by means of an SKF induction heater (→ fig 2), a heating cabinet or an oil bath.

Mounting can be further simplified by applying the SKF oil injection method. However, the shaft must be equipped with the necessary oil distri-

*Spherical roller thrust bearings are separable, which facilitates mounting and dismounting*

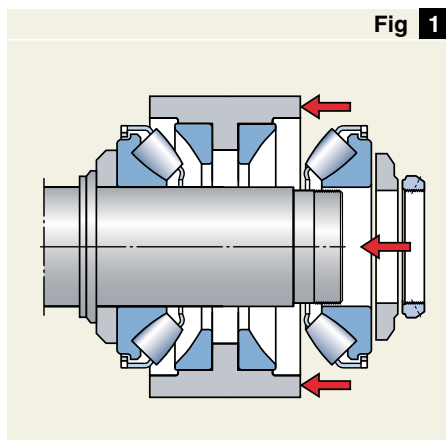


Fig 1

bution grooves and associated ducts in order to apply the oil injection method (→ table 1).

### Double direction thrust bearing arrangements – paired spherical roller thrust bearings

Spherical roller thrust bearings mounted in pairs must be adjusted to a certain clearance, or preload during assembly (→ section “Axial clearance and preload” on page 16).

In some cases the correct position of the bearings must be determined from measurements of the bearing heights and the adjacent components before mounting.

New, unique detailed mounting and dismounting instructions for SKF rolling bearings and bearing housings are now available online at [www.skf.com/mount](http://www.skf.com/mount).



*SKF offers a wide range of induction heaters to facilitate mounting a bearing with an interference fit on a shaft*



Fig 2

## Dismounting

### Replacing an old bearing with an E design bearing

When a spherical roller thrust bearing with a machined cage, is to be replaced by an E design bearing with a pressed steel cage, and axial forces are transmitted via the cage guiding sleeve, it is necessary to insert a spacer sleeve between the shaft abutment and the shaft washer (→ fig 3).

If a bearing of the earlier B design mounted with a spacer sleeve is to be replaced, the spacer sleeve generally needs to be modified (→ fig 4).

Appropriate dimensions for the sleeves are found in the bearing table starting on page 36.

A considerable amount of force is required to remove a washer with an interference fit. Washers of small and medium size bearings can usually be

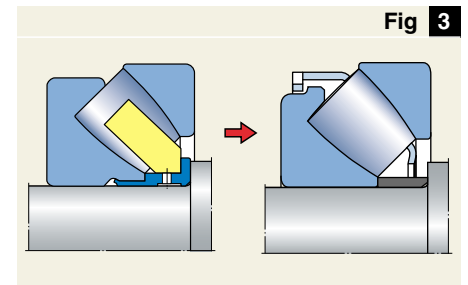


Fig 3

Old design

E design

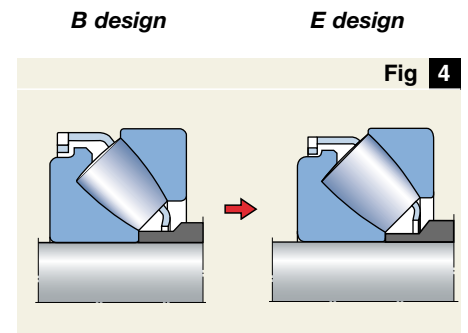


Fig 4

B design

E design

removed using a mechanical or hydraulic withdrawal tool.

**Applying the SKF oil injection method for dismantling spherical roller thrust bearings**

The use of the SKF oil injection method (→ fig 5) in combination with a suitable mechanical withdrawal tool will simplify the removal of larger shaft washers.

This method involves injecting oil under high pressure between the washer bore and the shaft seating surface until the two are separated. The resulting oil film considerably reduces the requisite dismantling force. However, this requires that the shaft has the feature for this type of dismantling i.e. oil ducts and grooves.

Dimensions are found in table 1.

Due to the irregular shape and sectional height of the shaft washer, the groove must be placed where the shaft washer cross section is largest. This is approximately at the distance of one third of the washer height measured from the outside face (→ table 1).

*The use of the SKF oil injection method simplifies dismantling of shaft washers with tight fit on the shaft*

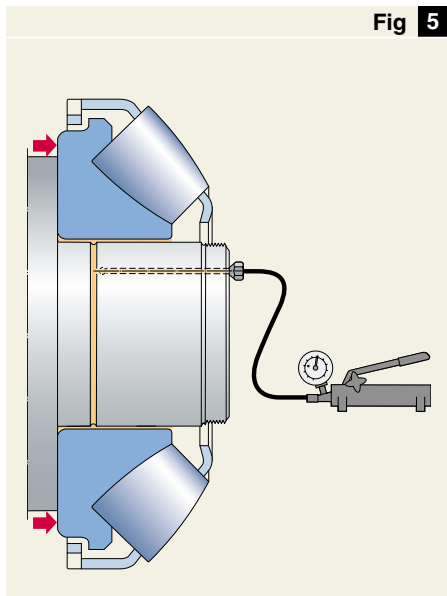


Fig 5

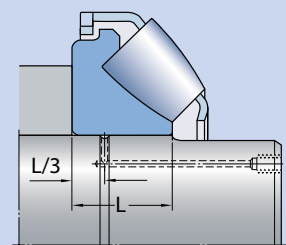
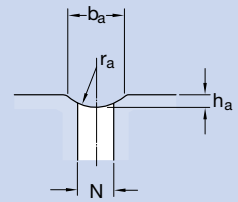
**Dismounting**

If the shaft washer has to be moved over a long distance on the shaft, more than one groove and duct might be required. To prevent the washer from getting stuck, the shaft should, where possible, be designed for a clearance fit.

**Recommended dimensions for oil supply ducts, grooves and threaded holes for connection of oil supply**

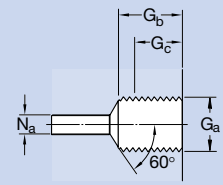
Table 1

Shaft diameter		Dimensions			
over	incl.	$b_a$	$h_a$	$r_a$	N
mm		mm			
100	150	3	0,5	2,5	2,5
150	200	4	0,8	3	3
200	250	4	0,8	3	3
250	300	5	1	4	4
300	400	5	1	4	4
400	500	6	1,25	4,5	5
500	650	7	1,5	5	5
650	800	8	1,5	6	6
800	1 000	10	2	7	7
800	1 000	12	2,5	8	8

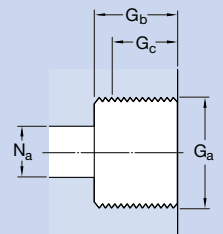


Thread	Design	Dimensions		$N_a$
		$G_b$	$G_c^{1)}$ max	
mm				
M 6	A	10	8	3
R 1/8	A	12	10	3
R 1/4	A	15	12	5
R 3/8	B	15	12	8
R 1/2	B	18	14	8
R 3/4	B	20	16	8

<sup>1)</sup> Effective threaded length



Design A

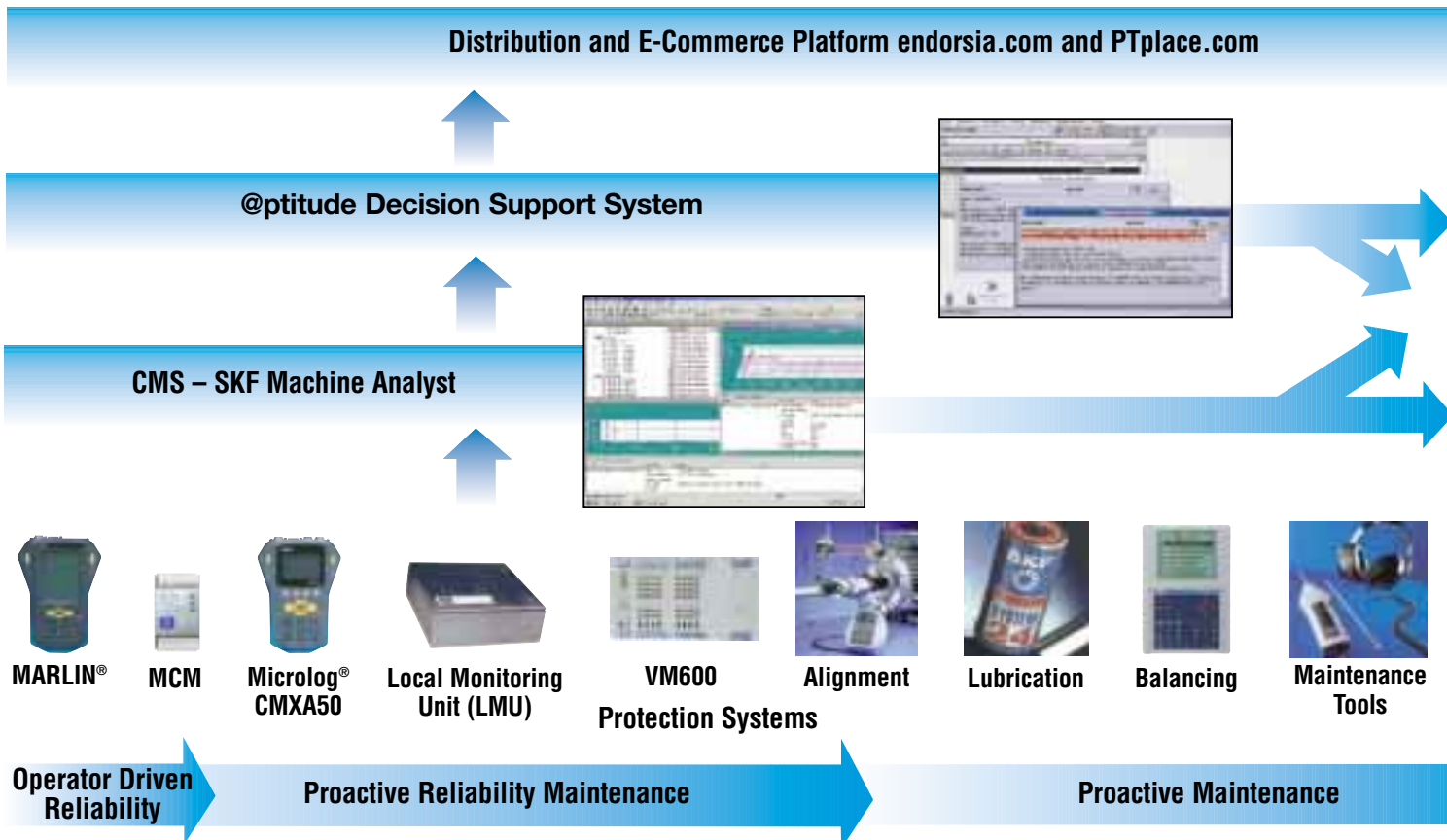


Design B

# Service for a lasting partnership

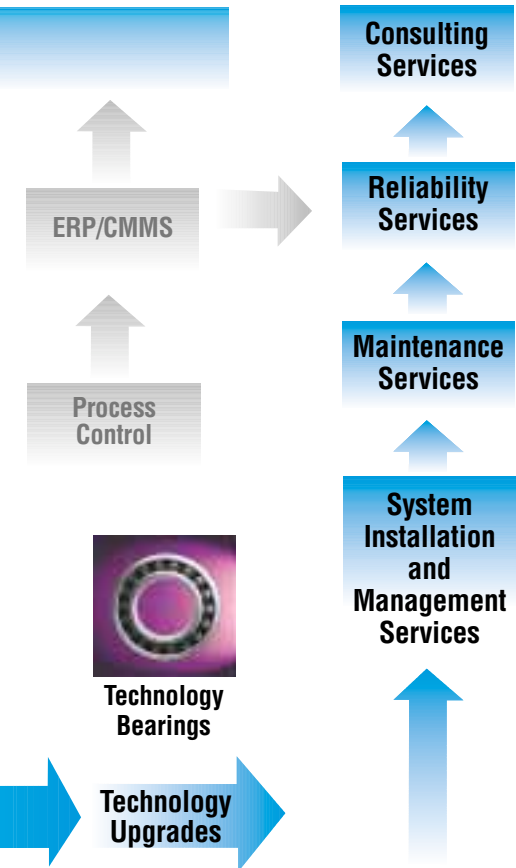


## Integrated Platform for Asset Efficiency Optimization





Based on nearly 100 years of experience with rotating equipment, SKF's expertise begins at the component level and extends to a deep understanding of the technologies required to improve manufacturing processes. Using this knowledge, SKF can work with you to design more efficiency into your machines, then provide maintenance solutions to keep those machines in peak operating condition. The result? Improved customer satisfaction – and reduced returns under warranty.



**SKF concepts for creating customer value**

With experience in virtually every industrial sector, SKF can provide solutions that go beyond simple maintenance to improve machine performance and productivity. With our Total Shaft Solutions™ concept customers can take full advantage of our in-depth competence including, but not limited to

- root cause failure analysis
- maintenance assessments
- predictive and preventive maintenance
- lubrication and filtration management
- equipment maintenance and monitoring – fans, pumps, gear boxes and spindles
- precision balancing
- precision alignment
- applications-specific training
- component and technology upgrades
- installation and repair services

Another SKF concept that embraces a broader view of improving machine reliability is called AEO, Asset Efficiency Optimization. As the name implies, AEO recognizes the importance of treating machinery and equipment

as plant assets. SKF programs that take a systems approach to managing these assets include

- Proactive Reliability Maintenance
- Operator Driven Reliability, and
- Integrated Maintenance Solutions, which include all-inclusive contractual programs.

For more information about SKF competencies and services contact your local SKF representative.

SKF uses its own product, service and knowledge capabilities, in combination with other providers, to implement a complete reliability program based on specific business goals.

# Bearing data – general

## Dimensions

The boundary dimensions of SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are in accordance with ISO 104:2002.

## Tolerances

SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are produced as standard to Normal tolerances as specified in ISO 199:1997.

However, the SKF standard tolerance for the height H is considerably tighter than specified by ISO (→ **table 1**). For SKF Explorer bearings it is even tighter.

## Cages

Bearings identified with the suffix E up to and including size 68 have a pressed steel window-type cage. All other bearings have a machined brass or steel cage guided by a sleeve, which is fixed in the shaft washer bore. In all bearings the cage (and sleeve) forms a non-separable assembly with the rollers and shaft washer.

## Misalignment

By virtue of their design, spherical roller thrust bearings are self-aligning, i.e. they tolerate misalignment of the shaft relative to the housing and shaft deflections during operation.

The permissible misalignment is reduced as the load increases. The values indicated in **table 2** can be applied provided there is constant misalignment with respect to the housing washer.

In practice this means no limitation for the vast majority of applications.

Whether the permissible misalignment can be fully exploited depends on the design of the bearing arrangement, the type of seal etc.

When designing bearing arrangements where the housing washer is to rotate, or where the shaft washer will wobble, it is advisable to contact the SKF application engineering service.

## Speeds

There is a speed limit to which a spherical roller thrust bearings can operate. Generally it is the permitted operating temperature of the lubricant that sets the limit. In cases where cooling facilities are used and the lubricant is properly utilized the limit is set by the cage properties.

## Reference speeds

The reference speed for a bearing represents the speed at which, under specified operating conditions and heat flow from the bearing, an equilibrium is reached between the heat generated by the friction in the bearing and the heat removed from the bearing via the shaft, housing and, if applicable, the lubricant. The reference conditions for obtaining this balance are according to ISO 15312.

It is possible to operate spherical roller thrust bearings above the reference speed if proper lubrication can be achieved (minimized friction) and cooling facilities are used.

## Limiting speeds

The limiting speed is based on the demand of high-speed operating applications and takes into account criteria such as cage strength, running accuracy, form stability and gyratory forces acting on the rollers.

It is possible to run spherical roller thrust bearings at higher speeds than the limiting speeds shown in the bearing tables. However, bearings with special features need to be considered, such as increased running accuracy. In such cases please contact the SKF application engineering service.

## Influence of operating temperature on the bearing materials

All SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are subjected to a special heat treatment so they can be used at temperatures up to + 200 °C.

**Table 1**

Bearing bore diameter d		SKF height (H) tolerance	
over	incl.	max	min
mm		µm	
50	80	0	-125/-100 <sup>1)</sup>
80	120	0	-150/-100 <sup>1)</sup>
120	180	0	-175/-125 <sup>1)</sup>
180	250	0	-200/-125 <sup>1)</sup>
250	315	0	-225/-150 <sup>1)</sup>
315	400	0	-300/-200 <sup>1)</sup>
400	500	0	-400
500	630	0	-500
630	800	0	-630
800	1 000	0	-800
1 000	1 250	0	-1 000
1 250	1 600	0	-1 200

<sup>1)</sup> Valid for SKF Explorer bearings

**Table 2**

Series	Load P <sub>0</sub> (= F <sub>a</sub> + 2,7 F <sub>r</sub> )		
	0,05 C <sub>0</sub>	0,15 C <sub>0</sub>	> 0,3 C <sub>0</sub>
292	2°	1,5°	1°
293	2,5°	1,5°	0,3°
294	3°	1,5°	0,3°

**Minimum load**

In order to provide satisfactory operation, spherical roller thrust bearings, like all ball and roller bearings, must always be subjected to a given minimum load, particularly if they are to operate at high speeds or are subjected to high accelerations or rapid changes in the direction of load. Under such conditions, the inertia forces of the rollers arrangement and cage, and the friction in the lubricant, can have a detrimental influence on the rolling conditions in the bearing and may cause damaging sliding movements to occur between the rollers and raceways.

The requisite minimum axial load to be applied to spherical roller thrust bearings can be estimated using

$$F_{am} = 1,8 F_r + A \left( \frac{n}{1\,000} \right)^2$$

where

$F_{am}$  = minimum axial load, kN

$F_r$  = radial component of load for bearings subjected to combined load, kN

$C_0$  = basic static load rating, kN

$A$  = minimum load factor  
(→ bearing table)

$n$  = rotational speed, r/min

If  $1,8 F_r < 0,0005 C_0$  then  $0,0005 C_0$  should be used in the above equation instead of  $1,8 F_r$ .

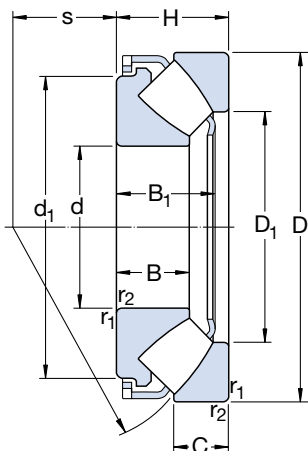
At speeds higher than the reference speed or when starting up at low temperatures, or when the lubricant is highly viscous, even greater loads may be required. The weight of the components supported by the bearing, together with external forces, generally exceed the requisite minimum load. If this is not the case, the spherical roller thrust bearing must be preloaded, e.g. by springs.

However, when a spherical roller thrust bearing is radially guided and mounted with clearance, the axial minimum load can be reduced under certain conditions. Please contact the SKF application engineering service for advice.

**Supplementary designations**

The designation suffixes often used to identify certain features of SKF spherical roller thrust bearings are explained in the following.

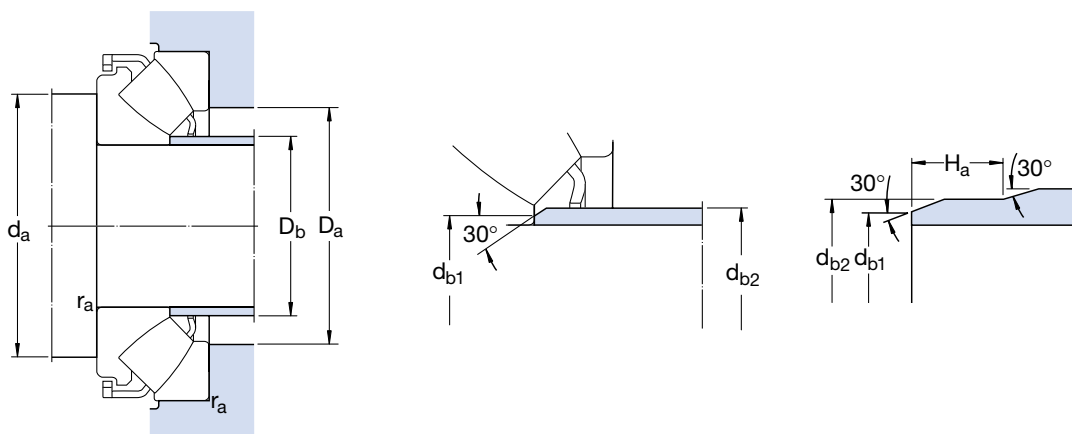
- E** Optimized internal design, window-type steel cage
- EF** Optimized internal design, machined steel cage
- EM** Optimized internal design, machined brass cage
- N1** One locating slot in the housing washer
- N2** Two locating slots at 180° to each other in the housing washer
- VE447** Shaft washer with three equally spaced threaded holes in one side face to take hoisting tackle
- VE447E** As VE447, but with three appropriate eye bolts
- VE632** Housing washer with three equally spaced threaded holes in one side face to take hoisting tackle
- VU029** Internal design feature for bearings operating under combined loads without any spring loading and adjusted to a specific axial clearance.



Principal dimensions			Basic load ratings		Fatigue load limit $P_u$	Minimum load factor A	Speed ratings		Mass	Designation
d	D	H	dynamic C	static $C_0$			Reference speed	Limiting speed		
mm			kN		kN	–	r/min		kg	–
<b>60</b>	130	42	390	915	114	0,080	2 800	5 000	2,60	<b>29412 E</b>
<b>65</b>	140	45	455	1 080	137	0,11	2 600	4 800	3,20	<b>29413 E</b>
<b>70</b>	150	48	520	1 250	153	0,15	2 400	4 300	3,90	<b>29414 E</b>
<b>75</b>	160	51	600	1 430	173	0,19	2 400	4 000	4,70	<b>29415 E</b>
<b>80</b>	170	54	670	1 630	193	0,25	2 200	3 800	5,60	<b>29416 E</b>
<b>85</b>	150 180	39 58	380 735	1 060 1 800	129 212	0,11 0,31	2 400 2 000	4 000 3 600	2,75 6,75	<b>29317 E</b> <b>29417 E</b>
<b>90</b>	155 190	39 60	400 815	1 080 2 000	132 232	0,11 0,38	2 400 1 900	4 000 3 400	2,85 7,75	<b>29318 E</b> <b>29418 E</b>
<b>100</b>	170 210	42 67	465 980	1 290 2 500	156 275	0,16 0,59	2 200 1 700	3 600 3 000	3,65 10,5	<b>29320 E</b> <b>29420 E</b>
<b>110</b>	190 230	48 73	610 1 180	1 730 3 000	204 325	0,28 0,86	1 900 1 600	3 200 2 800	5,30 13,5	<b>29322 E</b> <b>29422 E</b>
<b>120</b>	210 250	54 78	765 1 370	2 120 3 450	245 375	0,43 1,1	1 700 1 500	2 800 2 600	7,35 17,5	<b>29324 E</b> <b>29424 E</b>
<b>130</b>	225 270	58 85	865 1 560	2 500 4 050	280 430	0,59 1,6	1 600 1 300	2 600 2 400	9,00 22,0	<b>29326 E</b> <b>29426 E</b>
<b>140</b>	240 280	60 85	980 1 630	2 850 4 300	315 455	0,77 1,8	1 500 1 300	2 600 2 400	10,5 23,0	<b>29328 E</b> <b>29428 E</b>
<b>150</b>	215 250 300	39 60 90	408 1 000 1 860	1 600 2 850 5 100	180 315 520	0,24 0,77 2,5	1 800 1 500 1 200	2 800 2 400 2 200	4,30 11,0 28,0	<b>29230 E</b> <b>29330 E</b> <b>29430 E</b>
<b>160</b>	270 320	67 95	1 180 2 080	3 450 5 600	375 570	1,1 3	1 300 1 100	2 200 2 000	14,5 33,5	<b>29332 E</b> <b>29432 E</b>
<b>170</b>	280 340	67 103	1 200 2 360	3 550 6 550	365 640	1,2 4,1	1 300 1 100	2 200 1 900	15,0 44,5	<b>29334 E</b> <b>29434 E</b>
<b>180</b>	250 300 360	42 73 109	495 1 430 2 600	2 040 4 300 7 350	212 440 710	0,40 1,8 5,1	1 600 1 200 1 000	2 600 2 000 1 800	5,80 19,5 52,5	<b>29236 E</b> <b>29336 E</b> <b>29436 E</b>
<b>190</b>	320 380	78 115	1 630 2 850	4 750 8 000	490 765	2,1 6,1	1 100 950	1 900 1 700	23,5 60,5	<b>29338 E</b> <b>29438 E</b>

The designations of SKF Explorer bearings are printed in blue

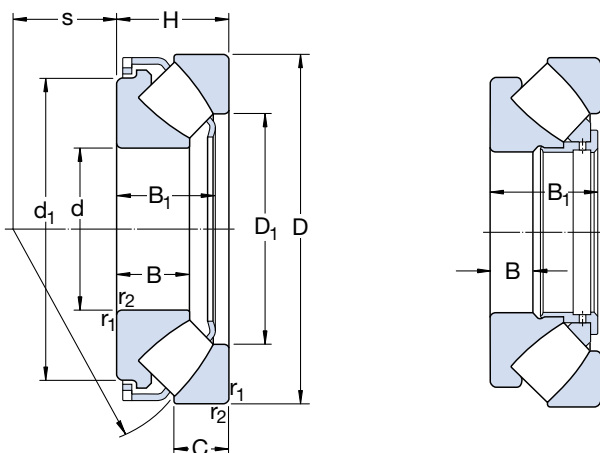




Dimensions

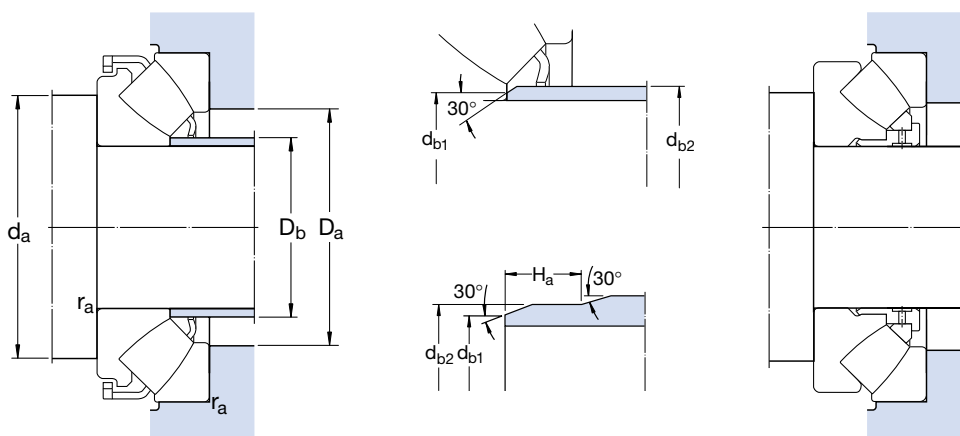
Abutment and fillet dimensions

d	d <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>1</sub>	B	B <sub>1</sub>	C	r <sub>1,2</sub> min	s	d <sub>a</sub> min	d <sub>b1</sub> max	d <sub>b2</sub> max	H <sub>a</sub> min	D <sub>a</sub> max	r <sub>a</sub> max
mm								mm					
60	112,2	85,5	27	36,7	21	1,5	38	90	67	67	-	107	1,5
65	120,6	91,5	29,5	39,8	22	2	42	100	72	72	-	117	2
70	129,7	99	31	41	23,8	2	44,8	105	77,5	77,5	-	125	2
75	138,3	105,5	33,5	45,7	24,5	2	47	115	82,5	82,5	-	133	2
80	147,2	112,5	35	48,1	26,5	2,1	50	120	88	88	-	141	2
85	134,8 155,8	109,5 121	24,5 37	33,8 51,1	20 28	1,5 2,1	50 54	115 130	90 94	90 94	- -	129 151	1,5 2
90	138,6 164,6	115 127,5	24,5 39	34,5 54	19,5 28,5	1,5 2,1	53 56	120 135	95 99	95 99	- -	134 158	1,5 2
100	152,3 182,2	127,5 141,5	26,2 43	36,3 57,3	20,5 32	1,5 3	58 62	130 150	107 110	107 110	- -	147 175	1,5 2,5
110	171,1 199,4	140 155,5	30,3 47	41,7 64,7	24,8 34,7	2 3	63,8 69	145 165	117 120,5	117 129	- -	164 193	2 2,5
120	188,1 216,8	154 171	34 50,5	48,2 70,3	27 36,5	2,1 4	70 74	160 180	128 132	128 142	- -	181 209	2 3
130	203,4 234,4	165,5 184,5	36,7 54	50,6 76	30,1 40,9	2,1 4	75,6 81	175 195	138 142,5	143 153	- -	194 227	2 3
140	216,1 245,4	177 194,5	38,5 54	54 75,6	30 41	2,1 4	82 86	185 205	148 153	154 162	- -	208 236	2 3
150	200,4 223,9 262,9	176 190 207,5	24 38 58	34,3 54,9 80,8	20,5 28 43,4	1,5 2,1 4	82 87 92	180 195 220	154 158 163	154 163 175	14 - -	193 219 253	1,5 2 3
160	243,5 279,3	203 223,5	42 60,5	60 84,3	33 45,5	3 5	92 99	210 235	169 175	176 189	- -	235 270	2,5 4
170	251,2 297,7	215 236	42,2 65,5	61 91,2	30,5 50	3 5	96 104	220 250	178 185	188 199	- -	245 286	2,5 4
180	234,4 270 315,9	208 227 250	26 46 69,5	36,9 66,2 96,4	22 35,5 53	1,5 3 5	97 103 110	210 235 265	187 189 196	187 195 210	14 - -	226 262 304	1,5 2,5 4
190	285,6 332,9	243,5 264,5	49 73	71,3 101	36 55,5	4 5	110 117	250 280	200 207	211 223	- -	280 321	3 4



Principal dimensions			Basic load ratings		Fatigue load limit $P_u$	Minimum load factor A	Speed ratings		Mass	Designation
d	D	H	dynamic C	static $C_0$			Reference speed	Limiting speed		
mm			kN		kN	–	r/min		kg	–
<b>200</b>	280	48	656	2 650	285	0,67	1 400	2 200	9,30	<b>29240 E</b>
	340	85	1 860	5 500	550	2,9	1 000	1 700	29,5	<b>29340 E</b>
	400	122	3 200	9 000	850	7,7	850	1 600	72,0	<b>29440 E</b>
<b>220</b>	300	48	690	3 000	310	0,86	1 300	2 200	10,0	<b>29244 E</b>
	360	85	2 000	6 300	610	3,8	1 000	1 700	33,5	<b>29344 E</b>
	420	122	3 350	9 650	900	8,8	850	1 500	75,0	<b>29444 E</b>
<b>240</b>	340	60	799	3 450	335	1,1	1 100	1 800	16,5	<b>29248</b>
	380	85	2 040	6 550	630	4,1	1 000	1 600	35,5	<b>29348 E</b>
	440	122	3 400	10 200	930	9,9	850	1 500	80,0	<b>29448 E</b>
<b>260</b>	360	60	817	3 650	345	1,3	1 100	1 700	18,5	<b>29252</b>
	420	95	2 550	8 300	780	6,5	850	1 400	49,0	<b>29352 E</b>
	480	132	4 050	12 900	1 080	16	750	1 300	105	<b>29452 E</b>
<b>280</b>	380	60	863	4 000	375	1,5	1 000	1 700	19,5	<b>29256</b>
	440	95	2 550	8 650	800	7,1	850	1 400	53,0	<b>29356 E</b>
	520	145	4 900	15 300	1 320	22	670	1 200	135	<b>29456 E</b>
<b>300</b>	420	73	1 070	4 800	465	2,2	900	1 400	30,5	<b>29260</b>
	480	109	3 100	10 600	930	11	750	1 200	75,0	<b>29360 E</b>
	540	145	4 310	16 600	1 340	26	600	1 200	140	<b>29460 E</b>
<b>320</b>	440	73	1 110	5 100	465	2,5	850	1 400	33,0	<b>29264</b>
	500	109	3 350	11 200	1 000	12	750	1 200	78,0	<b>29364 E</b>
	580	155	4 950	19 000	1 530	34	560	1 100	175	<b>29464 E</b>
<b>340</b>	460	73	1 130	5 400	480	2,8	850	1 300	33,5	<b>29268</b>
	540	122	2 710	11 000	950	11	600	1 100	105	<b>29368</b>
	620	170	5 750	22 400	1 760	48	500	1 000	220	<b>29468 E</b>
<b>360</b>	500	85	1 460	6 800	585	4,4	750	1 200	52,0	<b>29272</b>
	560	122	2 760	11 600	980	13	600	1 100	110	<b>29372</b>
	640	170	5 350	21 200	1 630	43	500	950	230	<b>29472 EM</b>
<b>380</b>	520	85	1 580	7 650	655	5,6	700	1 100	53,0	<b>29276</b>
	600	132	3 340	14 000	1 160	19	530	1 000	140	<b>29376</b>
	670	175	5 870	24 000	1 860	55	480	900	260	<b>29476 EM</b>
<b>400</b>	540	85	1 610	8 000	695	6,1	700	1 100	55,5	<b>29280</b>
	620	132	3 450	14 600	1 200	20	530	950	150	<b>29380</b>
	710	185	6 560	26 500	1 960	67	450	850	310	<b>29480 EM</b>
<b>420</b>	580	95	1 990	9 800	815	9,1	630	1 000	75,5	<b>29284</b>
	650	140	3 740	16 000	1 290	24	500	900	170	<b>29384</b>
	730	185	6 730	27 500	2 080	72	430	850	325	<b>29484 EM</b>

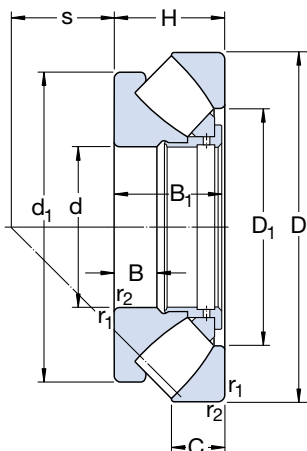
The designations of SKF Explorer bearings are printed in blue



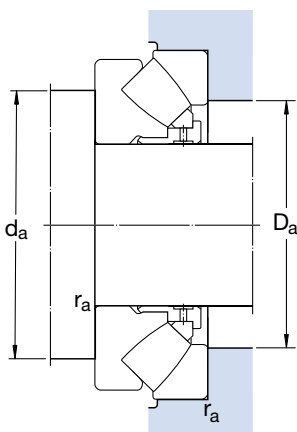
Dimensions

Abutment and fillet dimensions

d	d <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>1</sub>	B	B <sub>1</sub>	C	r <sub>1,2</sub> min	s	d <sub>a</sub> min	d <sub>b1</sub> max	d <sub>b2</sub> max	H <sub>a</sub> min	D <sub>a</sub> max	r <sub>a</sub> max
mm								mm					
<b>200</b>	260,5	232,5	30	43,4	24	2	108	235	206	207	17	253	2
	304,3	257	53,5	76,7	40	4	116	265	211	224	-	297	3
	350,7	277,5	77	107,1	59,4	5	122	295	217,5	234	-	337	4
<b>220</b>	280,5	251,5	30	43,4	24,5	2	117	255	224,5	227	17	271	2
	326,3	275,5	55	77,7	41	4	125	285	229	240	-	316	3
	371,6	300	77	107,4	58,5	6	132	315	238	254	-	358	5
<b>240</b>	330	283	19	57	30	2,1	130	290	-	-	-	308	2
	345,1	295,5	54	77,8	40,5	4	135	305	249	259	-	336	3
	391,6	322	76	107,1	59	6	142	335	258	276	-	378	5
<b>260</b>	350	302	19	57	30	2,1	139	310	-	-	-	326	2
	382,2	324	61	86,6	46	5	148	335	273	286	-	370	4
	427,9	346	86	119	63	6	154	365	278	296	-	412	5
<b>280</b>	370	323	19	57	30,5	2,1	150	325	-	-	-	347	2
	401	343	62	86,7	45,5	5	158	355	293	305	-	390	4
	464,3	372	95	129,9	70	6	166	395	300	320	-	446	5
<b>300</b>	405	353	21	69	38	3	162	360	-	-	-	380	2,5
	434,1	372	70	98,9	51	5	168	385	313	329	-	423	4
	485	392	95	130,3	70,5	6	175	415	319	340	-	465	5
<b>320</b>	430	372	21	69	38	3	172	380	-	-	-	400	2,5
	454,5	391	68	97,8	53	5	180	405	332	347	-	442	4
	520,3	422	102	139,4	74,5	7,5	191	450	344	367	-	500	6
<b>340</b>	445	395	21	69	37,5	3	183	400	-	-	-	422	2,5
	520	428	40,6	117	59,5	5	192	440	-	-	-	479	4
	557,9	445	112	151,4	84	7,5	201	475	363	386	-	530	6
<b>360</b>	485	423	25	81	44	4	194,5	430	-	-	-	453	3
	540	448	40,5	117	59,5	5	202	460	-	-	-	500	4
	580	474	63	164	83,5	7,5	210	495	-	-	-	550	6
<b>380</b>	505	441	27	81	42	4	202	450	-	-	-	473	3
	580	477	45	127	63,5	6	216	495	-	-	-	535	5
	610	494	67	168	87,5	7,5	222	525	-	-	-	580	6
<b>400</b>	526	460	27	81	42,2	4	212	470	-	-	-	493	3
	596	494	43	127	64	6	225	510	-	-	-	550	5
	645	525	69	178	89,5	7,5	234	550	-	-	-	615	6
<b>420</b>	564	489	30	91	46	5	225	500	-	-	-	525	4
	626	520	49	135	67,5	6	235	535	-	-	-	580	5
	665	545	70	178	90,5	7,5	244	575	-	-	-	635	6



Principal dimensions			Basic load ratings		Fatigue load limit $P_u$	Minimum load factor A	Speed ratings		Mass	Designation
d	D	H	dynamic	static			Reference speed	Limiting speed		
mm			kN		kN	–	r/min	kg	–	
<b>440</b>	600	95	2 070	10 400	850	10	630	1 000	78,0	<b>29288</b>
	680	145	4 490	19 300	1 560	35	480	850	180	<b>29388 EM</b>
	780	206	7 820	32 000	2 320	87	380	750	410	<b>29488 EM</b>
<b>460</b>	620	95	2 070	10 600	865	11	600	950	81,0	<b>29292</b>
	710	150	4 310	19 000	1 500	34	450	800	215	<b>29392</b>
	800	206	7 990	33 500	2 450	110	380	750	425	<b>29492 EM</b>
<b>480</b>	650	103	2 350	11 800	950	13	560	900	98,0	<b>29296</b>
	730	150	4 370	19 600	1 530	36	450	800	220	<b>29396</b>
	850	224	9 550	39 000	2 800	140	340	670	550	<b>29496 EM</b>
<b>500</b>	670	103	2 390	12 500	1 000	15	560	900	100	<b>292/500</b>
	750	150	4 490	20 400	1 560	40	430	800	235	<b>293/500</b>
	870	224	9 370	40 000	2 850	150	340	670	560	<b>294/500 EM</b>
<b>530</b>	710	109	3 110	15 300	1 220	22	530	850	115	<b>292/530 EM</b>
	800	160	5 230	23 600	1 800	53	400	750	270	<b>293/530</b>
	920	236	10 500	44 000	3 100	180	320	630	650	<b>294/530 EM</b>
<b>560</b>	750	115	2 990	16 000	1 220	24	480	800	140	<b>292/560</b>
	980	250	12 000	51 000	3 550	250	300	560	810	<b>294/560 EM</b>
<b>600</b>	800	122	3 740	18 600	1 460	33	450	700	170	<b>292/600 EM</b>
	900	180	7 530	34 500	2 600	110	340	630	405	<b>293/600</b>
	1 030	258	13 100	56 000	4 000	300	280	530	845	<b>294/600 EM</b>
<b>630</b>	850	132	4 770	23 600	1 800	53	400	670	210	<b>292/630 EM</b>
	950	190	8 450	38 000	2 900	140	320	600	485	<b>293/630 EM</b>
	1 090	280	14 400	62 000	4 150	370	260	500	1 040	<b>294/630 EM</b>
<b>670</b>	900	140	4 200	22 800	1 660	49	380	630	255	<b>292/670</b>
	1 150	290	15 400	68 000	4 500	440	240	450	1 210	<b>294/670 EM</b>
<b>710</b>	1 060	212	9 950	45 500	3 400	200	280	500	660	<b>293/710 EM</b>
	1 220	308	17 600	76 500	5 000	560	220	430	1 500	<b>294/710 EF</b>
<b>750</b>	1 000	150	6 100	31 000	2 320	91	340	560	325	<b>292/750 EM</b>
	1 120	224	9 370	45 000	3 050	190	260	480	770	<b>293/750</b>
	1 280	315	18 700	85 000	5 500	690	200	400	1 650	<b>294/750 EF</b>
<b>800</b>	1 060	155	6 560	34 500	2 550	110	320	530	380	<b>292/800 EM</b>
	1 180	230	9 950	49 000	3 250	230	240	450	865	<b>293/800</b>
	1 360	335	20 200	93 000	5 850	820	190	360	2 025	<b>294/800 EF</b>
<b>850</b>	1 120	160	6 730	36 000	2 550	120	300	500	425	<b>292/850 EM</b>
	1 440	354	23 900	108 000	7 100	1 100	170	340	2 390	<b>294/850 EF</b>
<b>900</b>	1 520	372	26 700	122 000	7 200	1 400	160	300	2 650	<b>294/900 EF</b>

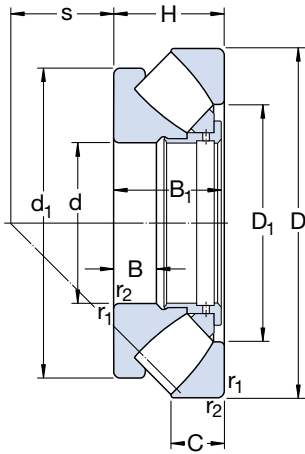


## Dimensions

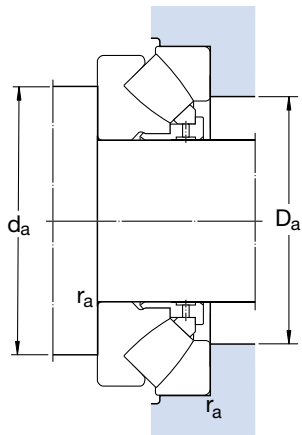
## Abutment and fillet dimensions

d	d <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>1</sub>	B	B <sub>1</sub>	C	r <sub>1,2</sub> min	s	d <sub>a</sub> min	D <sub>a</sub> max	r <sub>a</sub> max
mm								mm		
<b>440</b>	585	508	30	91	46,5	5	235	520	545	4
	626	540	49	140	70,5	6	249	560	605	5
	710	577	77	199	101	9,5	257	605	675	8
<b>460</b>	605	530	30	91	46	5	245	540	565	4
	685	567	50	144	72,5	6	257	585	630	5
	730	596	77	199	101,5	9,5	268	630	695	8
<b>480</b>	635	556	33	99	53,5	5	259	570	595	4
	705	591	50	144	73,5	6	270	610	655	5
	770	625	88	216	108	9,5	280	660	735	8
<b>500</b>	654	574	33	99	53,5	5	268	585	615	4
	725	611	50	144	74	6	280	630	675	5
	795	648	86	216	110	9,5	290	685	755	8
<b>530</b>	675	608	32	105	56	5	285	620	655	4
	772	648	53	154	76	7,5	295	670	715	6
	840	686	89	228	116	9,5	308	725	800	8
<b>560</b>	732	644	37	111	61	5	302	655	685	4
	890	727	99	241	122	12	328	770	850	10
<b>600</b>	760	688	39	117	60	5	321	700	735	4
	840	720	65	174	89	7,5	340	755	810	6
	940	769	99	249	128	12	349	815	900	10
<b>630</b>	810	723	50	127	62	6	338	740	780	5
	880	761	68	183	92	9,5	359	795	860	8
	995	815	107	270	137	12	365	860	950	10
<b>670</b>	880	773	45	135	73	6	361	790	825	5
	1 045	864	110	280	141	15	387	905	1 000	12
<b>710</b>	985	855	74	205	103	9,5	404	890	960	8
	1 110	917	117	298	149	15	415	965	1 070	12
<b>750</b>	950	858	50	144	74	6	409	880	925	5
	1 086	910	76	216	109	9,5	415	935	1 000	8
	1 170	964	121	305	153	15	436	1 015	1 120	12
<b>800</b>	1 010	911	52	149	77	7,5	434	935	980	6
	1 146	965	77	222	111	9,5	440	995	1 060	8
	1 250	1 034	123	324	165	15	462	1 080	1 185	12
<b>850</b>	1 060	967	47	154	82	7,5	455	980	1 030	6
	1 315	1 077	142	342	172	15	507	1 160	1 270	12
<b>900</b>	1 394	1 137	147	360	186	15	518	1 215	1 320	12





Principal dimensions			Basic load ratings		Fatigue load limit $P_u$	Minimum load factor $A$	Speed ratings		Mass	Designation
$d$	$D$	$H$	dynamic	static			Reference speed	Limiting speed		
mm			C	$C_0$	kN	–	r/min		kg	–
<b>950</b>	1 250	180	8 280	45 500	3 100	200	260	430	600	<b>292/950 EM</b> <b>294/950 EF</b>
	1 600	390	28 200	132 000	7 800	1 700	140	280	3 065	
<b>1 060</b>	1 400	206	10 500	58 500	3 750	330	220	360	860	<b>292/1060 EF</b> <b>294/1060 EF</b>
	1 770	426	33 400	156 000	8 500	2 300	120	240	4 280	
<b>1 180</b>	1 520	206	10 900	64 000	3 750	390	220	340	950	<b>292/1180 EF</b>
<b>1 250</b>	1 800	330	24 800	129 000	7 500	1 600	130	240	2 770	<b>293/1250 EF</b>
<b>1 600</b>	2 280	408	36 800	200 000	11 800	3 800	90	160	5 375	<b>293/1600 EF</b>



**Dimensions**

**Abutment and fillet dimensions**

d	d <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>1</sub>	B	B <sub>1</sub>	C	r <sub>1,2</sub> min	s	d <sub>a</sub> min	D <sub>a</sub> max	r <sub>a</sub> max
mm								mm		
<b>950</b>	1 185	1 081	58	174	88	7,5	507	1 095	1 155	6
	1 470	1 209	153	377	191	15	546	1 275	1 400	12
<b>1 060</b>	1 325	1 211	66	199	100	9,5	566	1 225	1 290	8
	1 615	1 349	192	412	207	15	610	1 410	1 555	12
<b>1 180</b>	1 450	1 331	83	199	101	9,5	625	1 345	1 410	8
<b>1 250</b>	1 685	1 474	148	319	161	12	698	1 540	1 640	10
<b>1 600</b>	2 130	1 885	166	395	195	19	894	1 955	2 090	15

# Related SKF products

## The right equipment

To achieve maximum bearing service life and optimum performance from SKF spherical roller thrust bearings, they must be mounted correctly.

SKF offers a comprehensive line of tools and equipment for mounting, dismounting and maintenance of bearings, e.g. a range of induction heaters, hydraulic pumps and nuts etc.

## Lubrication grease

High quality bearings need high quality grease. Extensive research, testing and field experience are behind the formulation of all SKF greases. And they have the same high quality wherever you are in the world.

The most commonly used SKF greases for spherical roller thrust bearings are listed in **tables 1** and **2** on **page 27**.

## Special housing for ship propeller shafts

SKF offers a range of special housings for ship propeller-shaft supports. They are designed to accommodate a spherical roller bearing in combination with a spherical roller thrust bearing.

## Condition monitoring equipment

Properly dimensioned and mounted bearings are reliable components. For a number of applications, however, it is recommended to monitor the bearing condition, as to avoid unexpected breakdowns. These could happen due to e.g. adverse operating conditions.

Condition monitoring enables early detection of bearing damages which means that bearing replacement can be scheduled for a time when the machine is not in operation.

SKF supplies equipment both for periodic and continuous condition monitoring.

*SKF has a wide range of bearing lubrication greases in different packagings to suit different needs*





*SKF's handy general purpose electronic thermometer, TermoPen TMTP 2000*



*SKF's easy-to-use electronic stethoscope TMST 2 is an instrument to detect damaged bearings; the set includes a demonstration tape*



*SKF has a complete range of hydraulic tools to facilitate mounting and dismounting of rolling bearings*

# SKF - The knowledge engineering company

The business of the SKF Group consists of the design, manufacture and marketing of the world's leading brand of rolling bearings, with a global leadership position in complementary products such as radial seals. SKF also holds an increasingly important position in the market for linear motion products, high precision aerospace bearings, machine tool spindles, plant maintenance services and is an established producer of high-quality bearing steel.

The SKF Group maintains specialized businesses to meet the needs of the global marketplace. SKF supports specific market segments with ongoing research and development efforts that have led to a growing number of innovations, new standards and new products.

SKF Group has global ISO 14001 environmental certification. Individual divisions have been approved for quality certification in accordance with either ISO 9000 or appropriate industry specific standards.

Some 80 manufacturing sites worldwide and sales companies in 70 countries make SKF a truly international corporation. In addition, our 7 000 distributor and dealer partners around the world, e-business marketplace and global distribution system put SKF close to customers for the supply of both products and services. In essence, SKF solutions are available wherever and whenever our customers need them.

Overall, the SKF brand now stands for more than ever before. It stands for the knowledge engineering company ready to serve you with world-class product competences, intellectual resources and the vision to help you succeed.



## **Harnessing wind power**

*The growing industry of wind-generated electric power provides an environmentally compatible source of electricity. SKF is working closely with global industry leaders to develop efficient and trouble-free turbines, using SKF knowledge to provide highly specialized bearings and condition monitoring systems to extend equipment life in the extreme and often remote environments of wind farms.*

## **Developing a cleaner cleaner**

*The electric motor and its bearings are the heart of many household appliances. SKF works closely with appliance manufacturers to improve their product's performance, cut costs and reduce weight. A recent*



*example produced a new generation of vacuum cleaners with substantially more suction. SKF's knowledge in small bearing technology is also applied to manufacturers of power tools and office equipment.*



## **Delivering asset efficiency optimization**

*To optimize efficiency and boost productivity, many industrial facilities outsource some or all of their maintenance services to SKF, often with guaranteed performance contracts. Through the specialized capabilities and knowledge available*

*from SKF Reliability Systems, SKF provides a comprehensive range of asset efficiency services, from maintenance strategies and engineering assistance, to operator-driven reliability and machine maintenance programs.*





**Creating a new “cold remedy”**

*In the frigid winters of northern China, sub-zero temperatures can cause rail car wheel assemblies and their bearings to seize due to lubrication starvation. SKF created a new family of synthetic lubricants formulated to retain their lubrication viscosity even at these extreme bearing temperatures. SKF’s knowledge of lubricants and friction are unmatched throughout the world.*



**Evolving by-wire technology**

*SKF has unique expertise and knowledge in fast growing by-wire technology, from fly-by-wire, to drive-by-wire, to work-by-wire. SKF pioneered practical fly-by-wire technology and is a close working partner with all aerospace industry leaders. As an example, virtually all aircraft of the Airbus design use SKF by-wire systems for cockpit flight control. SKF is also a leader in automotive drive-by-wire,*

*having jointly developed the revolutionary Filo and Novanta concept cars which employ SKF mechatronics for steering and braking. Further by-wire development has led SKF to produce an all-electric forklift truck which uses mechatronics rather than hydraulics for all controls.*



**Planning for sustainable growth**

*By their very nature, bearings make a positive contribution to the natural environment. Reduced friction enables machinery to operate more efficiently, consume less power and require less lubrication. SKF is continually raising the performance bar, enabling new generations of high-efficiency products and equipment. With an eye to the future, SKF’s global policies and manufacturing techniques are planned and implemented to help protect and preserve the earth’s limited natural resources. We remain committed to sustainable, environmentally responsible growth.*

**Maintaining a 320 km/h R&D lab**

*In addition to SKF’s renowned research and development facilities in Europe and the United States, Formula One car racing provides a unique environment for SKF to push the limits of bearing technology. For over 50 years, SKF products, engineering and knowledge have helped*

*make Scuderia Ferrari a formidable force in F1 racing. (The average racing Ferrari utilizes more than 150 SKF components.) Lessons learned here are applied to the products we provide to automakers and the aftermarket worldwide.*





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