

Aludur®

Support Assemblies

Aludur® Ceramic Support Assemblies

Tower Packing Support for Acidic Applications

When you need reliable tower packing support for use in a highly corrosive application, look no further than Saint-Gobain NorPro's Aludur® support assemblies.

Over 60 years ago, Saint-Gobain NorPro developed its Aludur® ceramic material to provide the added strength necessary for large shapes like grid bars used as packing supports. With three times the strength of traditional Proware™ ceramic, Aludur provides improved support while maintaining equal or better corrosion resistance. The Aludur formulation also makes the material resistant to thermal shock, an important characteristic for large, monolithic ceramic parts.

Aludur® support assemblies are ideal as the primary support for packing in sulfuric acid absorbers, driers, coolers, and other highly corrosive applications in large diameter towers. The Aludur ceramic material provides a number of benefits:

- excellent thermal stability
- exceptional mechanical strength
- resistance to all alkalis, solvents, and acids (except hydrofluoric acid)
- retention of chemical resistance at temperatures well beyond the limits of standard ceramics (it should not be used in systems where the bars will be exposed to superheated steam for an extended period of time)

Aludur® Ceramic Support Bars

The exceptional strength of the Aludur® ceramic material permits the use of thinner support bars and greater center-to-center support bar spacing. The 83% open area of an Aludur ceramic grid bar support assembly far exceeds that of typical dome supports. This greater open area means lower pressure drop or greater hydraulic capacity.

Aludur® ceramic support bars are manufactured in 8 in. and 10 in. heights. While the maximum individual bar length is limited to approximately 83 in., grid bar support assemblies may be used in towers of any diameter with the installation of intermediate brick supports. The total load of the packed tower and mid-span support spacing determine whether an 8 in. or 10 in. grid bar assembly is needed. The bars are factory-cut to custom lengths to create a complete grid bar support assembly.

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Saint-Gobain NorPro Aludur® Support Assemblies



Aludur® ceramic packing supports are the best choice for highly corrosive applications.

Typical Sizes of Aludur® Ceramic Support Bars

Nominal 8 in. bars

Height	8.3 in.	210mm
Width	1.4 in.	35mm
Length	83 in. (max)	2100mm (max)

Nominal 10 in. bars

Height	10.4 in.	264mm
Width	1.4 in.	35mm
Length	83 in. (max)	2100mm (max)

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Support Assemblies

Secondary Packing Support

Grid bar support assemblies can be designed for two layouts: standard 8 in. centerline bar spacing with Proware™ grid blocks as the secondary packing support layer, or 6 in. centerline bar spacing with Proware cross partition rings as the secondary packing support layer.

Proware™ Grid Blocks

To retain the tower packing, a layer of secondary support must be placed directly above the Aludur® grid bar assembly. Most commonly, a layer of Proware™ grid blocks is used as this secondary support.

Proware™ grid blocks will retain a packed bed of 2 in. saddles and are standard when grid bar assemblies are installed on 8 in. centerline bar spacing. NorPro® grid blocks are manufactured in a single size from our Proware material.

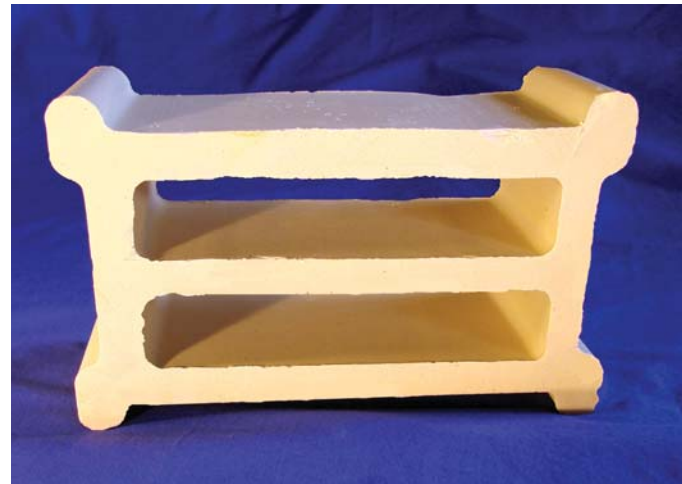
The square stacking pattern of Proware™ grid blocks provides 72% open area when layered above the Aludur® grid bar support assembly. This configuration also has 15% more free space than older layouts using cross partition rings on 6 in. grid bar centerline spacing.

Proware™ Cross Partition Rings

When grid bar support assemblies are installed on 6 in. centerline bar spacing, a layer of 6 in. Proware™ cross partition rings is set directly above the support assembly. To ensure retention of 2 in. saddles, an additional layer of 4 in. Proware cross partition rings must be used.

NorPro® cross partition rings are available in 3 in. (80mm), 4 in. (100mm) and 6 in. (150mm) diameters.

Whether for new construction or for revamp of your acid tower, Aludur® support assemblies are your immediate solution for packing supports.



Proware™ Grid Blocks are the secondary packing support layer in towers where Aludur® Grid Bars are installed on 8 in. centers.



Proware™ Cross Partition Rings are the secondary packing support layer where Aludur® Grid Bar Supports are installed on 6 in. centers.

North & South America

+1 330 673 5860

norpro.ceramicsales@saint-gobain.com

Akron, Ohio USA

Europe & Africa

+49 6435 9657 0

norpro.steinefrenz@saint-gobain.com

Steinefrenz, Germany

Russia

+7 812 332 56 60

norpro.stpetersburg@saint-gobain.com

Saint Petersburg, Russia

Asia, Oceania & Middle East

+65 911 61119

norpro.singapore@saint-gobain.com

Singapore

norpro.saint-gobain.com



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