

Elements of several different materials, base resistances, temperature coefficients, accuracies, and construction styles are available for installation into final RTD temperature sensor assemblies to meet customer specifications. Pyromation's standard RTD constructions utilize platinum elements as specified by the part number. The temperature ranges are either dictated by the construction style or element type whichever is lower. These construction styles are listed below.

LOW RANGE - F SERIES (L) (-50 to 200) °C [-58 to 392] °F

The element is welded to Fluoropolymer-insulated, silver-plated copper leads, and then placed inside a specially-cleaned stainless steel sheath. The space surrounding the element and leads is filled and loosely packed with alumina oxide powder to provide good heat transfer times, and to provide a damping cushion against vibration and mechanical shock. The filled sheath is then sealed with low temperature epoxies to prevent moisture penetration.

LOW RANGE - T SERIES (L) (-200 to 200) °C [-328 to 392] °F

The element is welded to Fluoropolymer-insulated, silver-plated copper leads, and then placed inside a specially-cleaned stainless steel sheath. The space surrounding the element and leads is filled and loosely packed with alumina oxide powder to provide good heat transfer times, and to provide a damping cushion against vibration and mechanical shock. The filled sheath is then sealed with low temperature epoxies to prevent moisture penetration.

MEDIUM RANGE - F SERIES (M) (-50 to 480) °C [-58 to 896] °F

The element is welded to fiberglass-insulated, nickel-plated copper leads, and then placed inside a specially-cleaned stainless steel sheath. The space surrounding the element and leads is filled and loosely packed with alumina oxide powder to provide good heat transfer times, and to provide a damping cushion against vibration and mechanical shock. The filled sheath is then sealed with low-temperature epoxies to prevent moisture penetration.

MEDIUM RANGE - F SERIES (K) (-50 to 315) °C [-58 to 599] °F

The element is welded to Polyimide-insulated, nickel-plated copper leads, and then placed inside a specially-cleaned stainless steel sheath. The space surrounding the element and leads is filled and loosely packed with alumina oxide powder to provide good heat transfer times, and to provide a damping cushion against vibration and mechanical shock. The filled sheath is then sealed with low-temperature epoxies to prevent moisture penetration.

HIGH RANGE - T SERIES (H) (-200 to 600) °C [-328 to 1112] °F

The element is welded to nickel leads that are insulated with compacted magnesium oxide (MgO) powder inside the stainless steel sheath. The void surrounding the element is packed with MgO powder and the sheath tip is welded closed with a stainless steel cap. The leads and sheath are sealed with low-temperature epoxies to prevent moisture penetration.

HIGH RANGE - F SERIES (H) (-50 to 500) °C [-58 to 932] °F

The element is welded to nickel leads that are insulated with compacted magnesium oxide (MgO) powder inside the 316 stainless steel sheath. The void surrounding the element is packed with MgO powder and the sheath tip is welded closed with a 316 stainless steel cap. The leads and sheath are sealed with low-temperature epoxies to prevent moisture penetration.

RTD Element Terminology

TEMPERATURE COEFFICIENT OF RESISTANCE: The fractional change in element resistance per change of 1 °C, is expressed as $\Omega/\Omega/^\circ\text{C}$ or $\Omega \cdot \Omega^{-1} \cdot ^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ or $^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$

TOLERANCE: Initial maximum allowable deviation expressed as $\Delta t(t)$ in °C from nominal temperature/resistance relationship $R(t)$.

SELF-HEATING: Self-heating is the rise in the measured temperature caused by the power dissipated in the element. Self-heating error is affected by the thermal conductivity and velocity of the process being measured and is negligible for most applications.

THERMAL RESPONSE: The time a thermometer takes to respond at a specified percentage to a step change in temperature. To specify response time, it is necessary to declare the percentage of response, usually $\tau_{0.9}$, $\tau_{0.5}$, or $\tau_{0.1}$, which gives 90%, 50% or 10% of the response. The test medium and its flow conditions have to be specified (usually flowing water or flowing air).

MINIMUM IMMERSION DEPTH: Immersion depth at which the change from calibration at full immersion does not exceed 0.1 °C.

REPEATABILITY-STABILITY: The ability of an element to reproduce the same resistance or temperature reading each time it is at equilibrium at a given repeated temperature. Expressed as a \pm resistance or temperature value over a given temperature range. This may also be expressed as the stability of its resistance. Typically platinum elements will not change more than 0.04% at 0 °C [32 °F] after receiving ten consecutive shocks from (-200 to 600) °C [-328 to 1112] °F.

VIBRATION: Pyromation's fully assembled sheathed RTD sensors are designed to withstand an average vibration level of 30 G's using random vibrating frequencies from (20 to 2,000) Hz at ambient temperature. Supporting test results indicate that initial RTD tolerances remain as specified when tested at these vibration levels.

HUMIDITY LIMITS: Sheaths, transition fittings, and lead seals capable of withstanding 100% humidity at normal atmospheric pressure, and at normal ambient temperatures.

INTERCHANGEABILITY: The amount of allowable difference in readings between two RTD's when placed side by side in a process at the same temperature. This is determined by the allowable RTD tolerance at that particular temperature.