

Centering Guides

Installing the SeeSnake® Star-Type Centering Guides

Centering guides can improve the picture by bringing the camera closer to the pipe's center, allowing the camera to see an equal amount of the pipe wall in all directions. Centering guides also help by raising the camera out of sludge that is often found below the water line. This helps keep the lens cleaner, longer, reduces wear and tear on the LED Ring (*Figure 18*).

We recommend using centering guides whenever possible, but if you are having trouble pushing the camera in a particular pipe, try it without the guides.

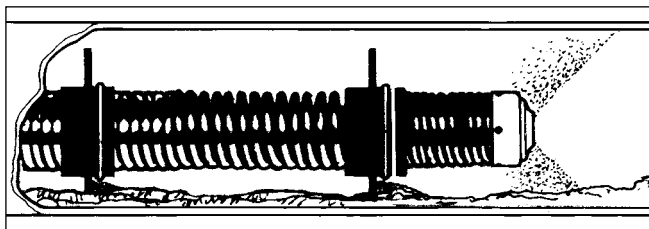


Figure 18 – Centering Guides improve vision by allowing the camera to see an equal amount of pipe wall in all directions and by raising the camera out of sludge. They also reduce wear on the LED ring.

Whether or not you use guides, how many you use, and where you place them on the spring causes the camera to behave differently. The best advice is to experiment and decide what's best for the given job.

One centering guide near the front end of the camera may bias the camera head upward. This could be beneficial if you need to see the top of the pipe during your inspection.

Move the guide back a little and the camera head may bias downward when you push and upward as you pull back. This could help you see the top and bottom of larger pipes more easily.

Two centering guides will tend to keep the camera head aimed toward the center of the pipe, allowing you to see more of the pipe at once.

Centering guides should be pre-stressed prior to use for increased flexibility. To do this, slowly bend the spikes back and forth from the tip (not the base) a few times before use (*Figure 19*).

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Figure 19 – Pre-stress tabs by placing your finger at the top of the spike and slowly pushing the spike 90 degrees. Repeat in the other direction.

Star-type centering guide assembly consists of two parts - two steel c-ring and the plastic centering guide (*Figure 20*).



Figure 20 – Star-Type Centering Guide Components. You may use from one to three guides.

Installing Star-Type Centering Guides

1. Position a centering guide and two c-rings over the spring, with the centering guide between the c-rings (Figure 21).

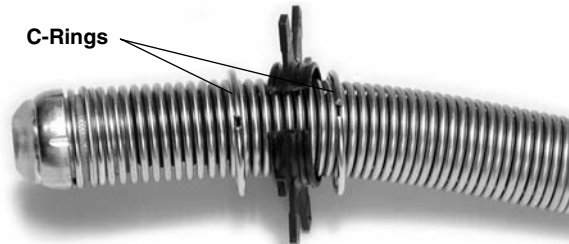


Figure 21 – Guide and C-Rings Positioned On Spring Assembly.

2. Position the opening in the centering guide 180 degrees opposite the opening in the c-rings (Figure 22).
3. Press the c-rings into the grooves on each side of the centering guide until the c-rings snap into place. It's easiest if you place the closed portion of the c-ring into the groove and work toward the open end (Figure 22).

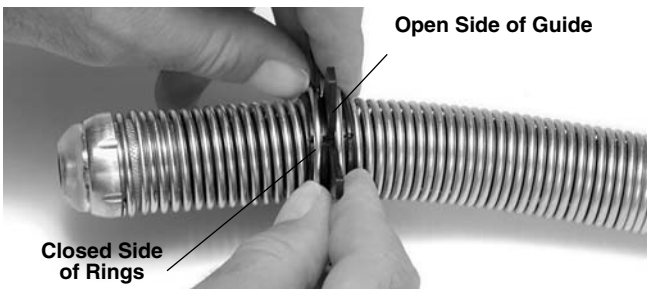


Figure 22 – Press the c-rings into the grooves on the centering guide. Make sure the openings in the c-rings are 180 degrees opposite the opening in the pipe guide.

Removing Star-Type Centering Guides

1. Pry off each c-ring with the tip of a flat blade screwdriver inserted near the open end of the ring and the base of the spikes (Figure 23).



Figure 23 – Place flat tip of screwdriver between c-ring and base of spike and pry c-ring out of groove.

2. Slide the c-rings and centering guide over the camera head.

If further assistance is needed, please call the Ridge Tool Company, Technical Service Department at (800) 519-3456. Replacement guides can be ordered from your RIDGID dealer.

Installing the SeeSnake® Compact, and FlatPack Ball-Type Centering Guides

Ball-type centering guides consists of two halves that are pre-assembled at the factory, and two steel clips that hold the guide in place on the spring.



Figure 24 – Centering guides improve vision by allowing the camera to see an equal amount of pipe wall in all directions and by raising the camera out of sludge. They also reduce wear on the LED window.

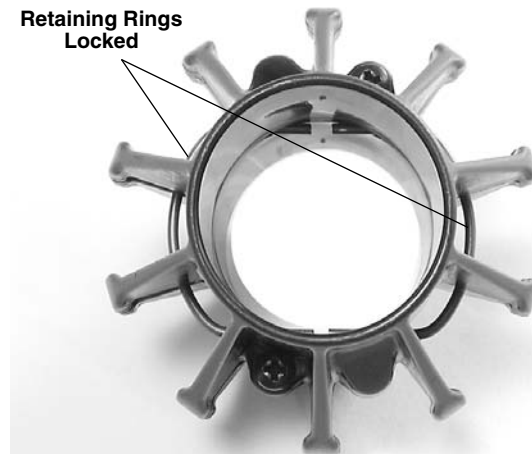


Figure 25 – Retaining Rings in Locked Position

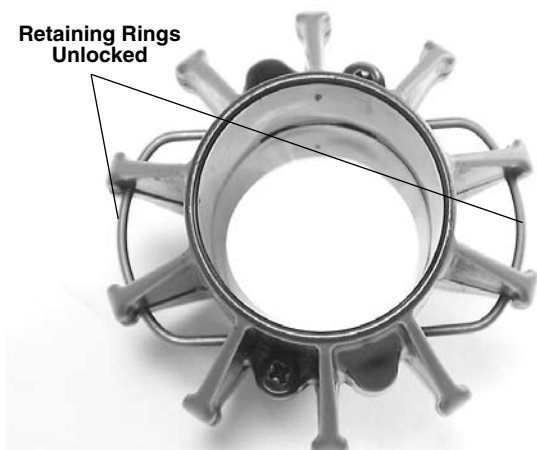


Figure 26 – Unlock Retaining Rings by pulling them up with a flat-bladed screwdriver.



Figure 27 – Slide Ball Guide over spring and push Retaining Rings down to lock the guides in place.