

Linear FAQ's

Can I put a different brand of carriages on to my existing rail? All manufacturer's rails and blocks (carriages) are slightly different and will not interchange. Changing the complete rail and block set with Drive Lines low cost linear will ensure the same overall height and critical mounting dimensions and could be bought for less than the cost of the original brand blocks alone!

What is the longest continuous length of linear ball rails?

The ball rails are manufactured to a maximum length of 4000mm. However for a small additional cost, Drive Lines can end grind rails to butt join to give unlimited lengths providing the rails are aligned and mounted correctly on installation. Shipping 4m lengths can very expensive, so shorter butted lengths can be more cost effective for 4m+ applications.

Do you have standard stops or clamps for the linear ball rails?

No standard stops are available for end of travel, but we suggest pins located in a mounting hole or simple end stop fixed to end (non hardened centre) of the rail. Drive Lines can offer mechanical hand clamps that attach to blocks to allow locking at any point along the travel length. Please enquire for more details.

Can ball bushings or LM76 plain bearings run on chrome coated linear shafting?

Chromed shaft is not recommended for linear bearings as ball bushings will wear the shaft coating and break through plating resulting in flaking. Self lube LM76 bearings require a ground porous finish to allow Teflon transfer to shaft which reduces friction and improves smooth running. Chrome shaft is too smooth for this transfer. Drive Lines can provide cost effective stainless steel or Armoloy coating of linear shaft, also hard coat anodized aluminum shafting for LM76 self lube bearings.

What linear product is best suited for wash down applications?

A5: Drive Lines have a number of options for wash down or corrosive environments. Our linear ball rails have Chem. black coating for cosmetic and light corrosion atmosphere, Armoloy TDC coating for stainless steel equivalent protection with much quicker deliveries. Round shaft LM76 anodized shell aluminum bearings for light corrosion or 316 stainless housings for more aggressive applications. Hard and soft stainless steel shafts available cut to length or machined to order.

I can't find the linear parts I am looking for. Do you sell different brands or options?

A6: Drive Lines pride ourselves in sourcing THK, INA, NB, NSK and other linear brands for our customers. With Japanese stocks low in UK we are able to source brands globally so please contact us with ball screw, linear ball rails or bushing enquiries and we will do our best to get you what you need, when you need it!