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## Universal Quick Disconnect Blind-Mate Fluid Connector Development, Testing and Specification



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NOVEMBER 9-10, 2021

# Universal Quick Disconnect Blind-Mate

Fluid Connector Development, Testing and Specification

Mark Sprenger, Tech Lead, Intel

Jordan Johnson, Mechanical Engineer, Intel



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# Intel Corporation and OCP



RACK & POWER

Starting in 2017 Intel engaged with OCP industry partners to enable liquid cooling ingredients

- Hand-mate Universal Quick Disconnects [Specification](#): approved 2020  
Specification presented at OCP Global Summit 2019
- Blind-mate Universal Quick Disconnects  
[Whitepaper](#) and [Specification](#) Approved 2021
- UQDB was presented in ACS Cold Plate call and OCP Incubation Committee

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# Intel's Eco-System Enabling

Focus: Manifold Distributed Liquid Cooling Ingredients

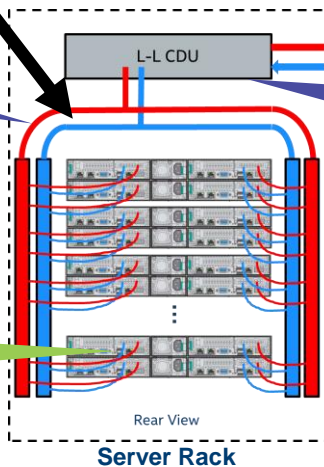
Technology Cooling System (TCS) =  
Cooling Loop from CDU through the rack/IT equipment

Facility Water System (Primary Side)

Cooling Fluid

Coolant Distribution  
Unit (CDU)  
Liquid-to-Liquid

Universal Quick  
Disconnects (UQD)  
and Blind-mate UQDs  
(UQDB)



TCS Cooling Ingredients:

- Cooling Fluid
- Universal Quick Disconnects (UQDs)
- Blind-Mate Universal Quick Disconnects (UQDBs)
- Cooling Distribution Units (CDUs)

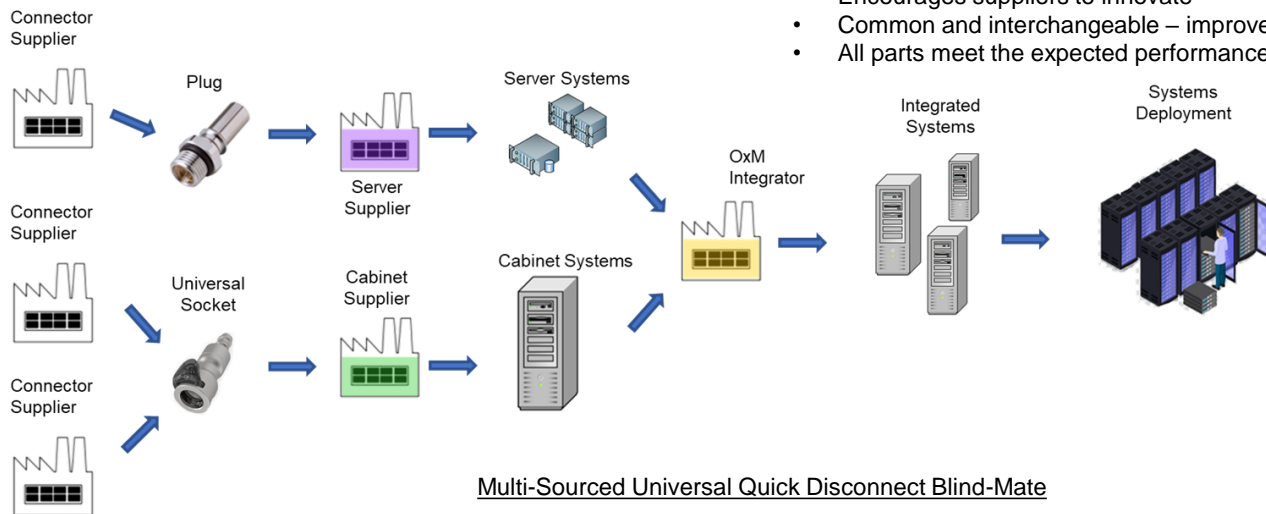
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# UQDB Adds Value to Electronics Cooling Industry

**Problem Statement:** Currently fluid connectors for electronics cooling are proprietary and non-interchangeable. Servers must be sourced with customized SKU (mfg. part no. connector) to interface with the cabinets.

**UQDB Benefits the Electronics Cooling Industry**

- Eliminates need for single sourced proprietary parts
- Simplifies the supply chain
- Global availability with sourcing in, Europe, US, China
- Refresh simplified
- New components can easily be added to the liquid circuit
- Encourages suppliers to innovate
- Common and interchangeable – improves adoptability
- All parts meet the expected performance



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# UQDB Dimensions

- Minimum set of prescribed dimensions
- Each supplier can differentiate on self-alignment mechanism and internal flow geometry
- Geometry allows multiple self-alignment features, enabling design flexibility for suppliers to differentiate

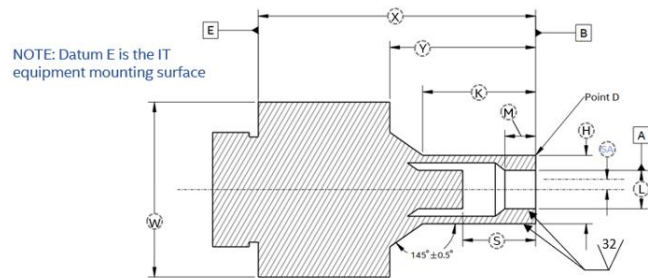


Figure 4 UQD Plug Dimensions

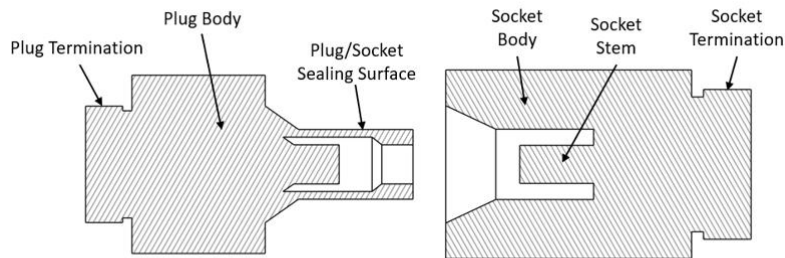


Figure 1 Universal Quick Disconnect Plug and Socket

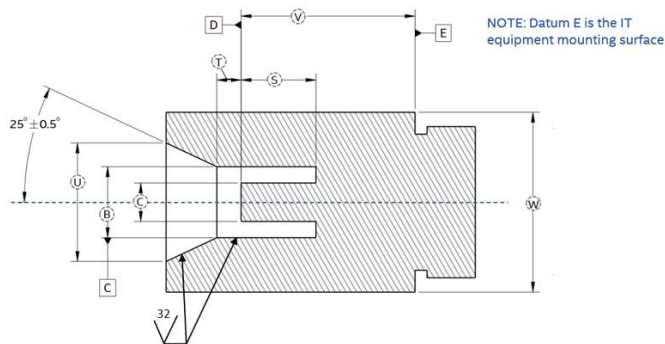


Figure 3 UQDB Socket Dimensions

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# UQDB Requirements & Performance Testing

Table 10 Flow and Temperature Requirements

Parameter	UQDB02	UQDB04	UQDB06	UQDB08	Priority
Maximum operating pressure	100 psi				Required
Minimum burst pressure	300 psi				Required
Minimum $C_v^3$ at minimum engagement	0.25	0.80	1.55	2.40	Required
Flow Rating <sup>4</sup>	At least 0.55 GPM	At least 1.7 GPM	At least 3.0 GPM	At Least 4.7 GPM	Recommended Manufacturer discretion (ratings shall be published by supplier)
Operating temperature range <sup>5</sup>	17°C - 65°C				Required
Shipping temperature range <sup>6</sup>	-40°C – 75°C				Required

<sup>1</sup>  $C_v$  are reported for water.

<sup>2</sup> Flow rating is for water.

<sup>3</sup> Support for higher temperature range is desirable as an option as there are known solutions that may operate in the range 17°C - 75°C. It is expected that rating would be published by supplier.

<sup>4</sup> Shipping may include charged systems.

- Performance requirements specifically derived for the electronics cooling industry
- The specified requirements address performance criteria for Pressure, Flow Rate, Temperature,  $C_v$  (Flow Coefficient), Durability, and life

To verify interchangeability among suppliers:

- $C_v$  correlates pressure drop to flow rate

$$C_v = Q \sqrt{\frac{SG}{\Delta P}}$$

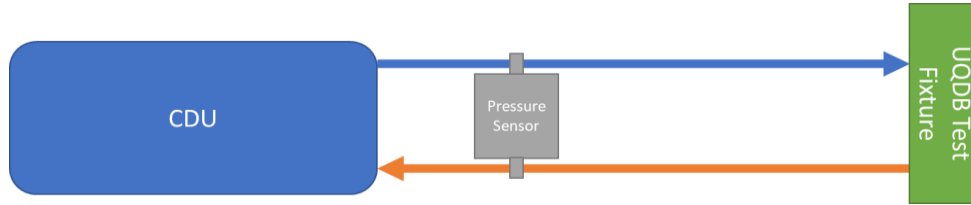
$$Q = C_v \sqrt{\Delta P}$$

- Measure: flow rate, pressure drop

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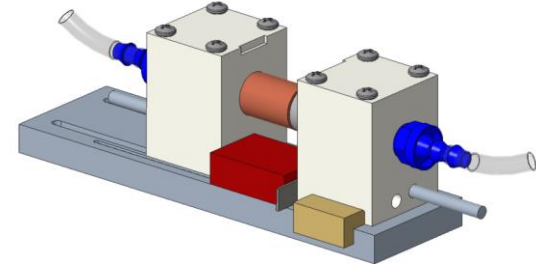


# Test Setup



- Hose length calculated for uniform flow at UQDB: 12 inches
- Test: 3 flowrates
- Record pressure delta values

Test Matrix					
4 Suppliers, run 4 iterations					
		Socket			
		A	B	C	D
Plug	A	X	✓	✓	✓
	B	✓	X	✓	✓
	C	✓	✓	X	✓
	D	✓	✓	✓	X



Test fixture to test in varying mating conditions

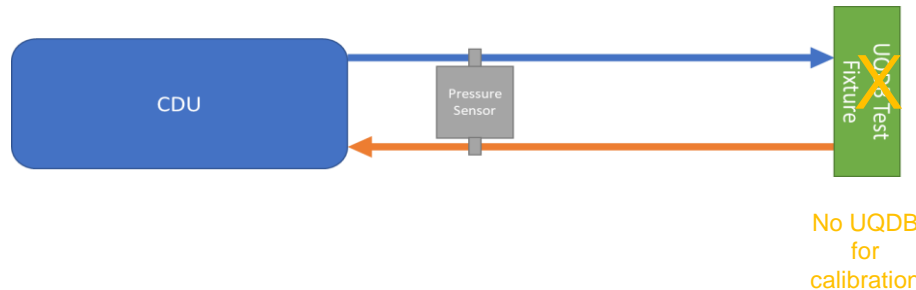
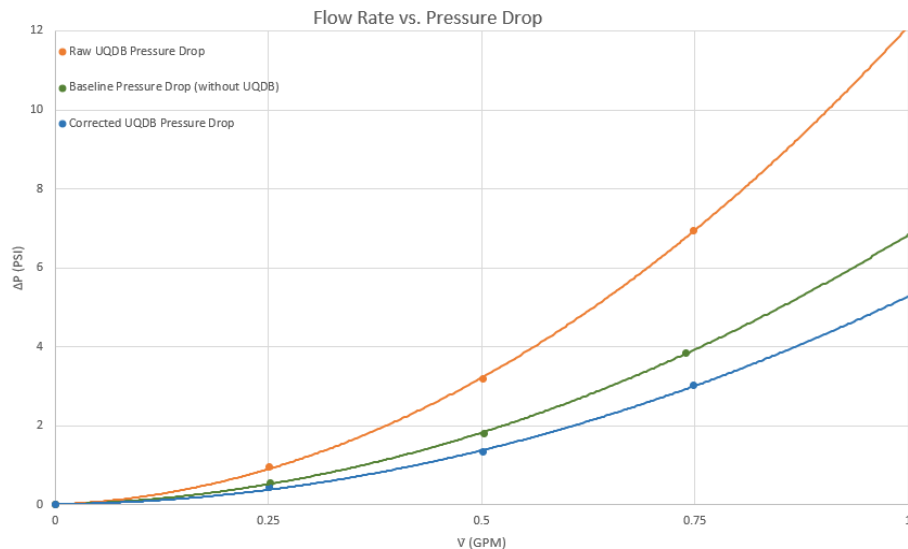
- Nominal vs minimum engagement
- Radially aligned vs full 1mm of radial misalignment
- Flow direction through UQDB pair (Socket to Plug vs Plug to Socket)

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# Baseline – Calibration

- Establish baseline pressure drop without UQDB



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# Post-Processing Example

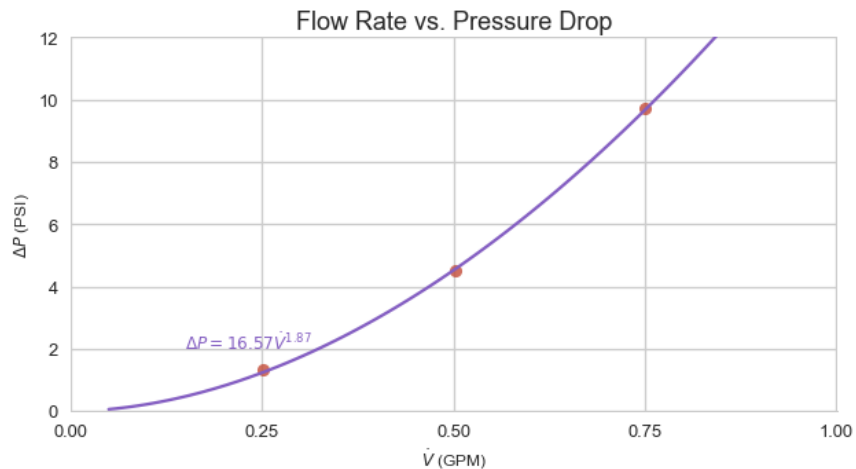
## Sample Pressure Drop

Pressure drop through UQDs – Subtract baseline pressure drop

## Solve for Cv

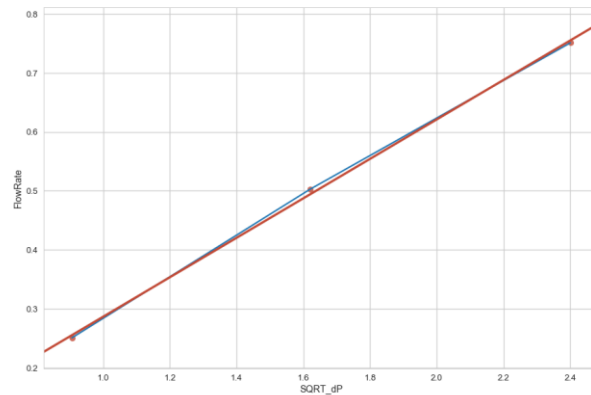
Linear fit using

$$Q = C_v \sqrt{\Delta P}$$



CV =  
[0.3888751]

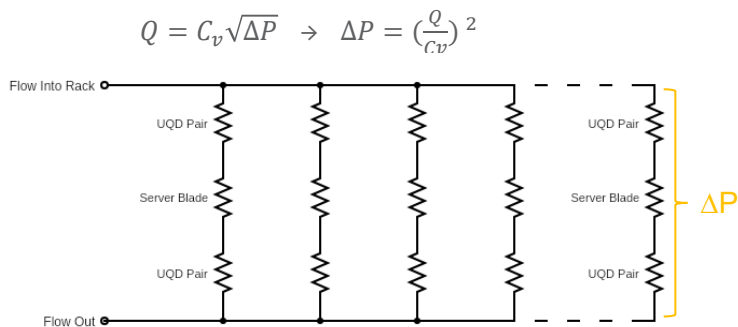
R\_squared value =  
0.9924795159192891



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# Network Impact Calculation

## UQDB impact on server flow rate



Low  $C_v$  relates to a high resistance

As  $C_v$  decreases in single blade, flow decreases. Total flow distributed through rack, potentially negative impact on single-blade cooling.

## UQDB Impact Solver

Vary flow rate through each blade so that pressure drop is equal. Sum of blade flowrates equal to system flowrate.

Previous Results: pressure drop through servers/racks outweighs affect of varying pressure drop through UQDBs.

Takeaway: Little to no risk in using UQDBs from various suppliers

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# Call to Action

Review the UQD hand-mate and UQDB specifications and UQDB whitepaper for more information

- <https://www.opencompute.org/contributions>

Get involved in the ACS Coldplate sub-project group

- Monthly meetings 11-12 AM ET
- <https://www.opencompute.org/projects/acs-cold-plate>

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Thank you!



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