

MEPNN Supplier Scouting Opportunity Synopsis

Section 1: General Information

Scouting Number	2025-116
Item to be Scouted	Custom Optical Fiber Bundle Assemblies
Days to be scouted	21
Response Due By	05/07/2025
Description	Custom optical fiber bundle assemblies for ground-based astronomy. The ViaSpec fiber bundle assembly is comprised of 11 COTS optical fibers, 27 meters long, each with an FC fiber connector terminating one end and bare

Section 2: Technical Information

Type of supplier being sought	Manufacturer
Reason	encapsulating the 11 fiber/tube segments into a single bundle. In between the PTFE/Nylon bundle segments, the fibers run through 4 thermal breaks which allow for the expansion and contraction of the PTFE tubing. The thermal breaks consist of small diameter stainless steel tubing brazed or bonded together, which capture the ends of each neighboring section of PTFE tubing and protect the span of bare fiber in between. Please refer to attached drawing for details.
Details	The optical fiber, PTFE tubing, nylon braided tubing, and FC connectors are all COTS items. Each fiber will need to be connectorized and polished on one end, threaded through the PTFE tube segments and thermal breaks with their respective bonding processes, serialized and labeled, and packaged per the attached drawing. We also request a final inspection report that includes FIBO images made from the end of each fiber bundle to be used as reference to the drawing's specifications (ViaSpec). These instruments will gather data that will lead to a better understanding of dark matter and other cosmic phenomena. Also requested, but not a driving requirement for procurement.
Describe the manufacturing processes (elaborate to provide as much detail as possible)	Part number VIA0002401. These fiber bundles are one of the key components of the spectrograph system being built for the Via Project. The fibers will be used to collect light from the end of each fiber bundle to be used as reference to the drawing's specifications (ViaSpec). These instruments will gather data that will lead to a better understanding of dark matter and other cosmic phenomena. Also requested, but not a driving requirement for procurement.
Provide dimensions / size / tolerances / performance specifications for the item	Refer to attached drawing. Massachusetts
List required materials needed to make the product, including materials of product components	Refer to attached drawing and Bill of Materials (BOM).
Are there applicable certification requirements?	No
Are there applicable regulations?	No
Are there any other standards, requirements, etc.?	No
Additional Technical Comments	We are open to discussion of alternative epoxies, and crimp sleeve methodologies, otherwise the design is considered stable.

Section 4: Business Information

Estimated potential business volume	Approx 130 assemblies to be ordered in 2025. Quantities requested: Phase 1: Prototype QTY 2 Phase 2: Production QTY 128 (assumes the prototypes are sufficient for reuse)
Estimated target price / unit cost information (if unavailable explain)	Best available. acceptable pricing is to be determined in negotiation.
When is it needed by?	Prototypes for testing, delivered by 6/15/25 Production approval July 2025. Delivery 8 months post production approval.

Describe packaging requirements	<p>Per drawing Note 40: The fiber bundle shall be coiled into a 0.75 meter diameter circle and attached to a cardboard backer using loose cable ties. Each connector shall be individually protected using a plastic bag and foam sheeting.</p> <p>Bundles should be packaged such that they will not be damaged during shipping and handling.</p>
Where will this item be shipped?	These will ship to Center for Astrophysics Harvard & Smithsonian, 100 Acorn Park Drive, Cambridge, MA 02140, USA

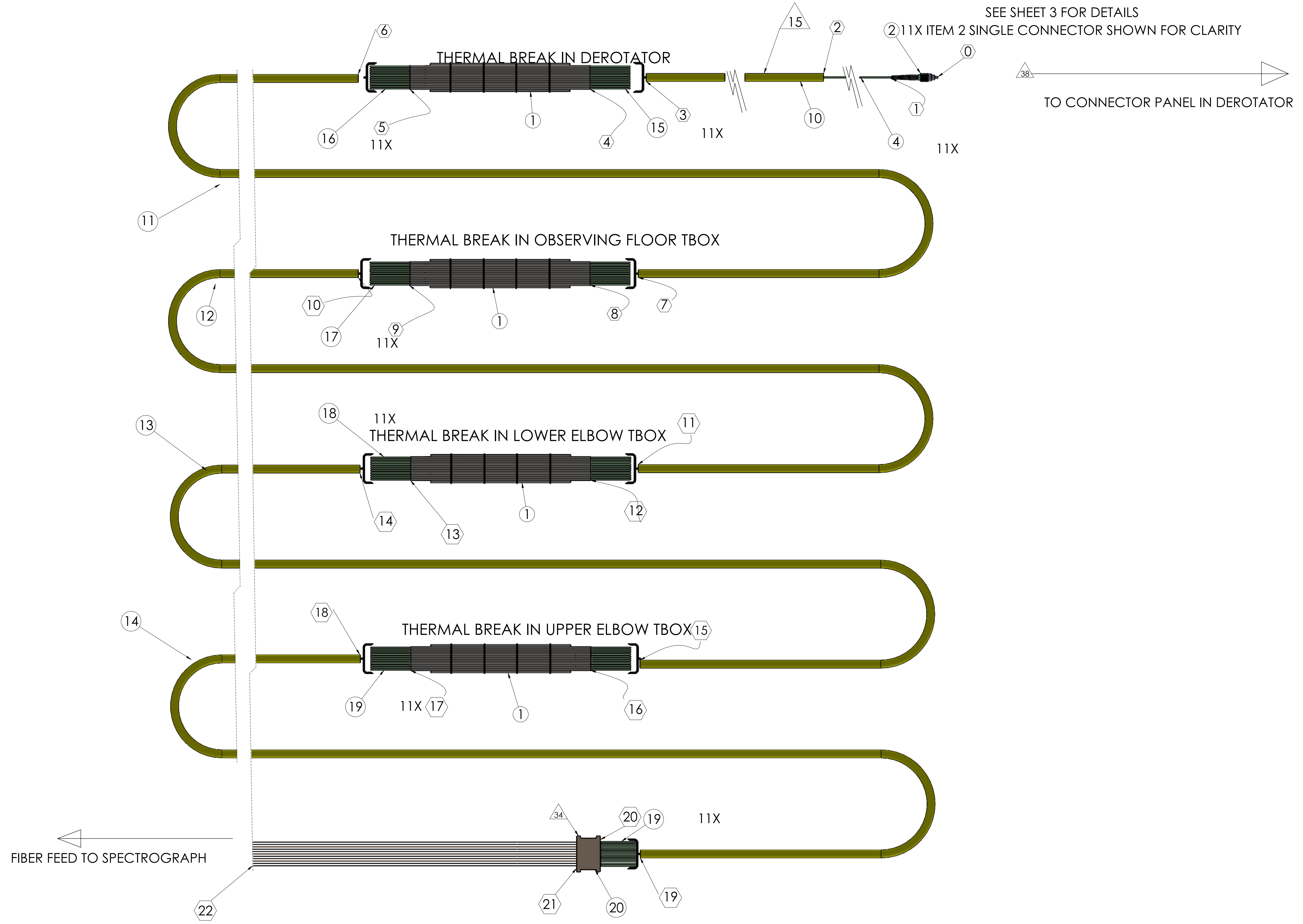
Additional Comments

Is there other information you would like to include?	<p>The Via Project is using the Milky Way galaxy as a laboratory to answer fundamental questions about the nature of the universe. Via will conduct an all-sky survey of stars using the 6.5-meter MMT (Arizona) and Magellan (Chile) telescopes. The survey will utilize the ViaSpec instruments, which will be built and deployed on each of the telescopes. The project is a collaboration between Carnegie Observatories and the Center for Astrophysics Harvard & Smithsonian. See via-project.org for more information.</p>
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REV.	ECO	ZONE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	APPROVED
01	01		ISSUED FOR MANUFACTURING FEEDBACK AND QUOTE	APRIL 2025	AC

UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED:

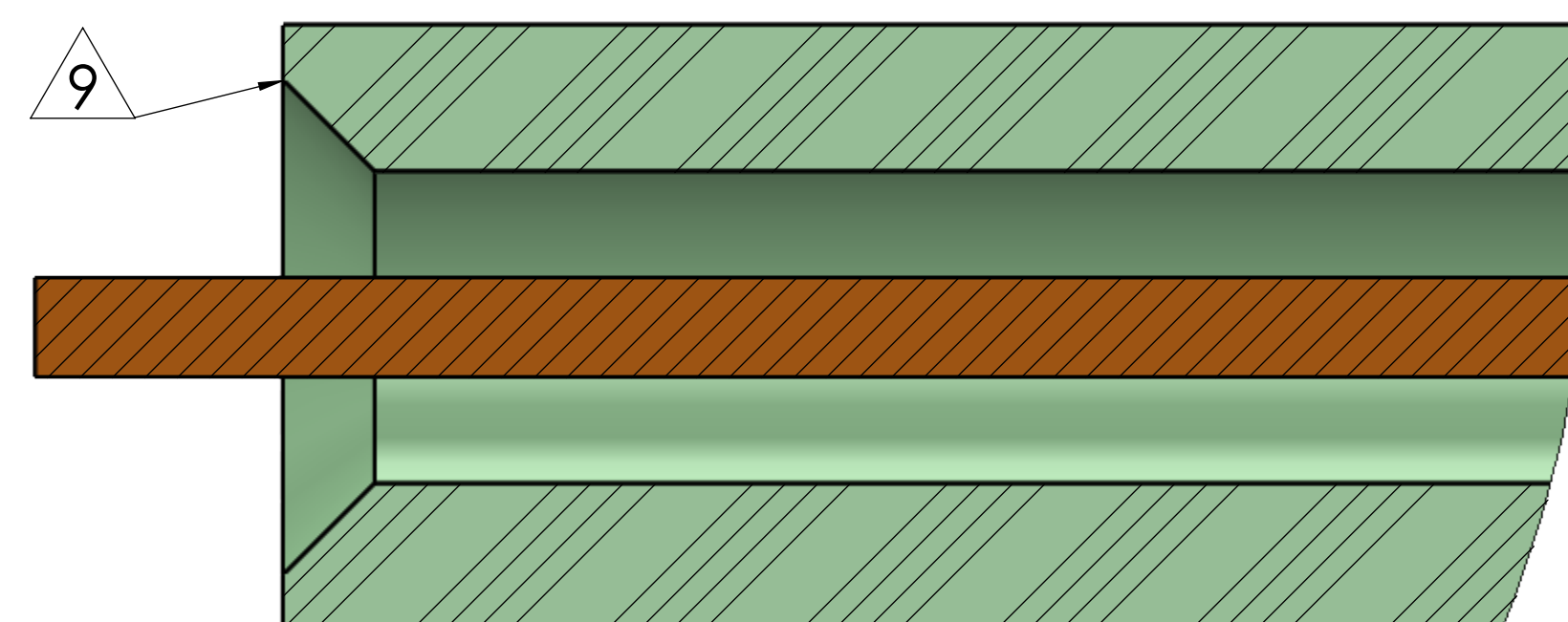
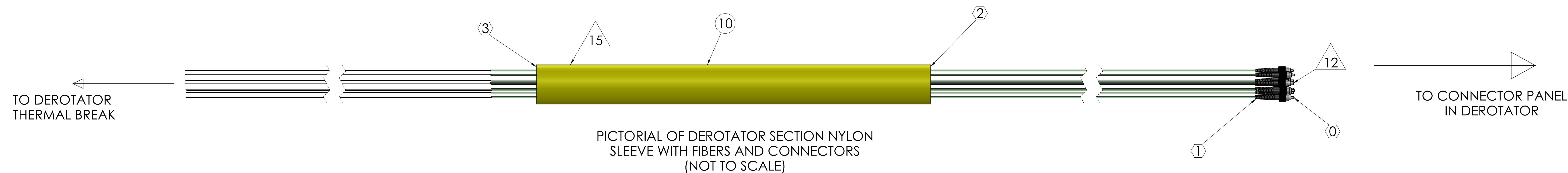
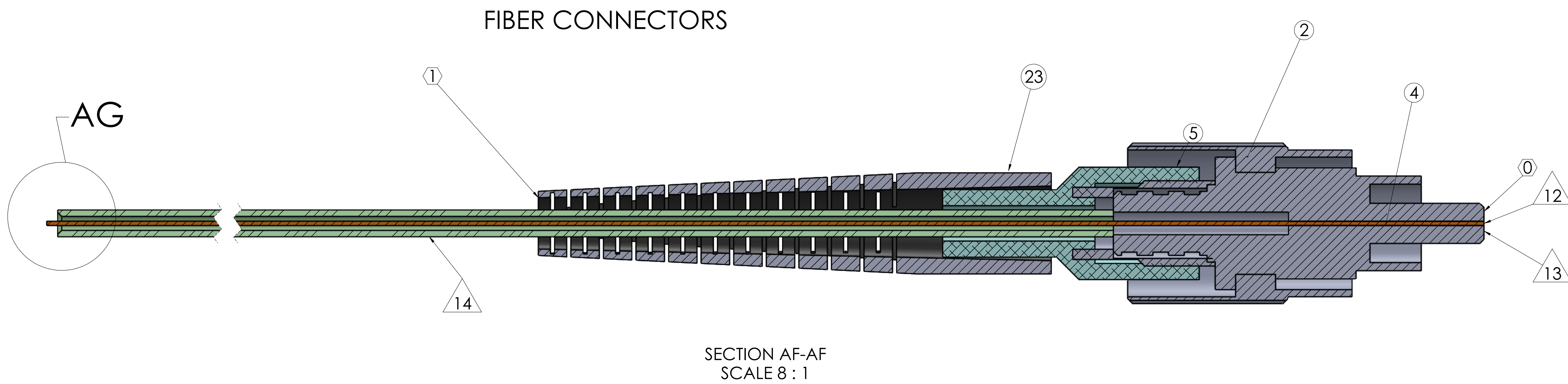
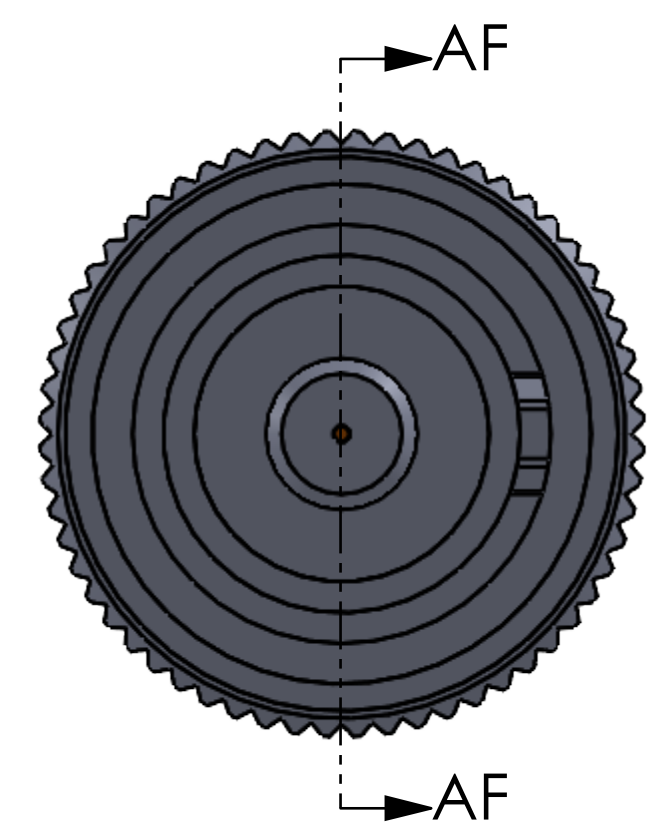
1. DIMENSIONS AND TOLERANCES PER ASME Y14.5-2009.
2. MATERIAL, REFERENCE THE BILL OF MATERIALS FOR SPECIFIC COMPONENT DEFINITIONS
3. ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETERS EXCEPT AS NOTED.
4. THIS DRAWING DEFINES THE VIASPEC FIBER BUNDLE AND THERMAL BREAK ASSEMBLY FOR MMT
5. GENERAL NOTE, THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD BE CONSTRUCTED ON A LONG FLAT SURFACE WHICH MINIMIZES THE NUMBER OF SWITCH BACKS, AND AVOID DRAGGING THE ASSEMBLY ACROSS THE TABLE
6. THE ASSUMED ASSEMBLY ORDER BEGINS AT STATION NUMBER 0 AND PROCEEDS NUMERICALLY IN ORDER THROUGH STATION 23
7. ALL INSPECTION DIMENSIONS INDICATED BY (XX)



PRELIMINARY 09-APR-2025
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DWG NO.		VIA000240T		REVISION		01	SHEET	2 OF 10

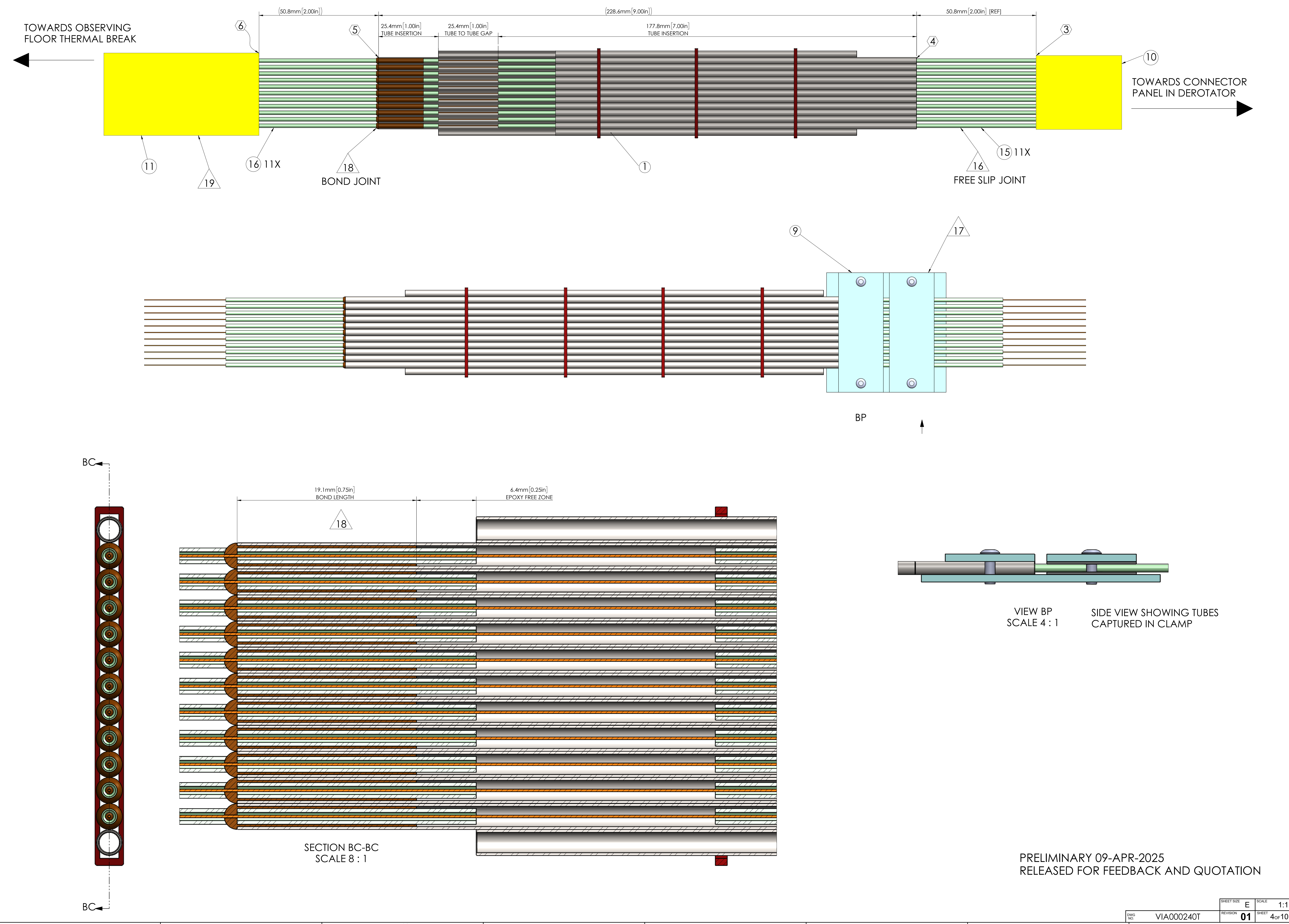
F
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DETAIL AG
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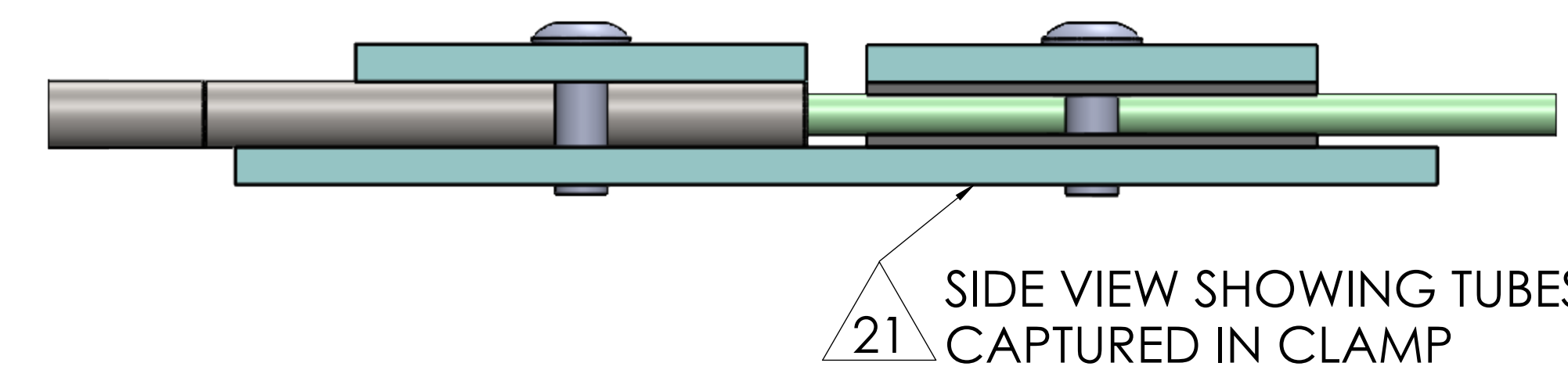
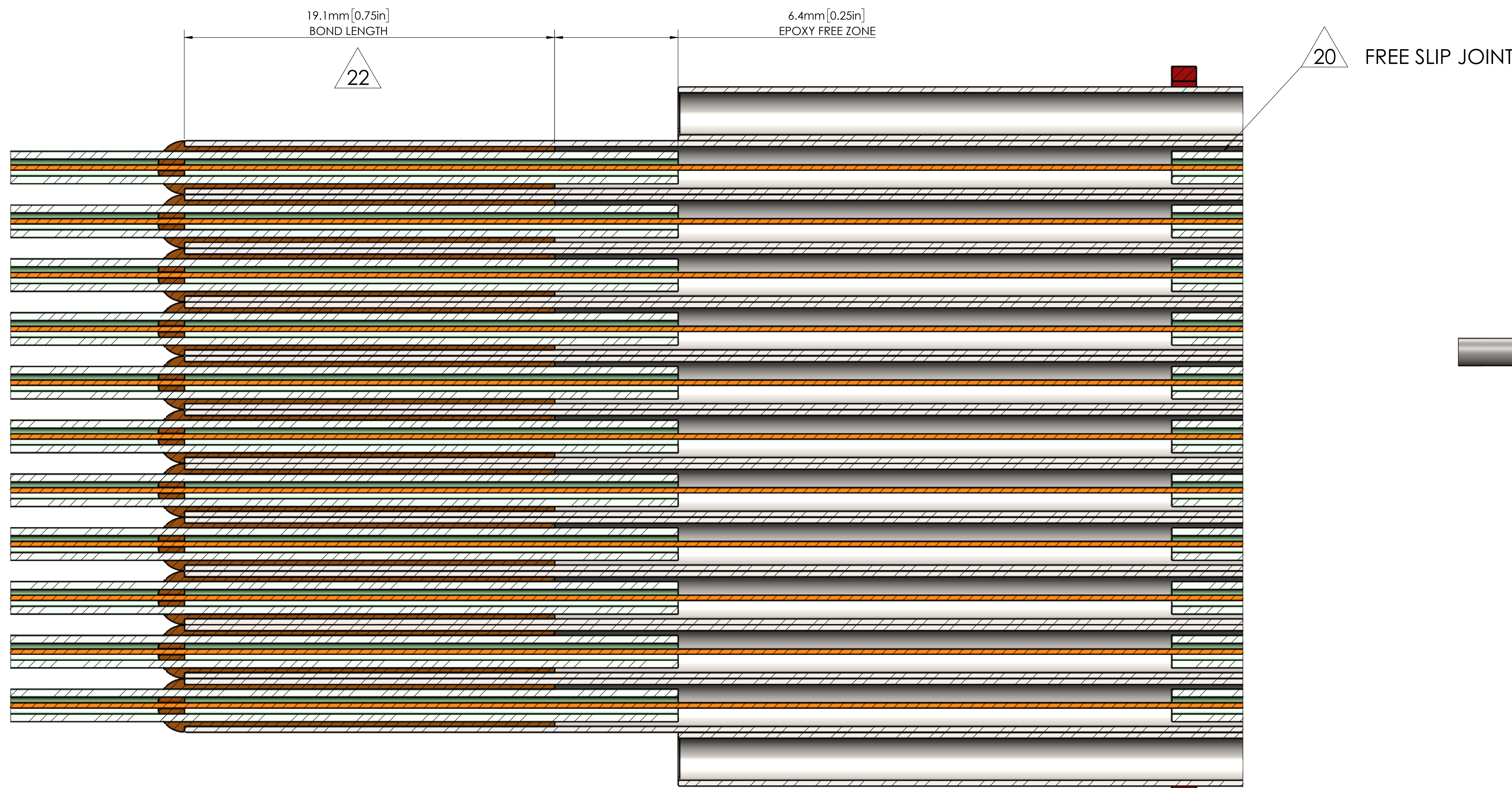
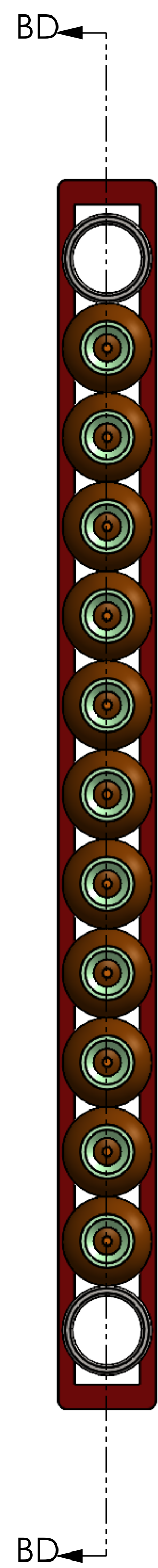
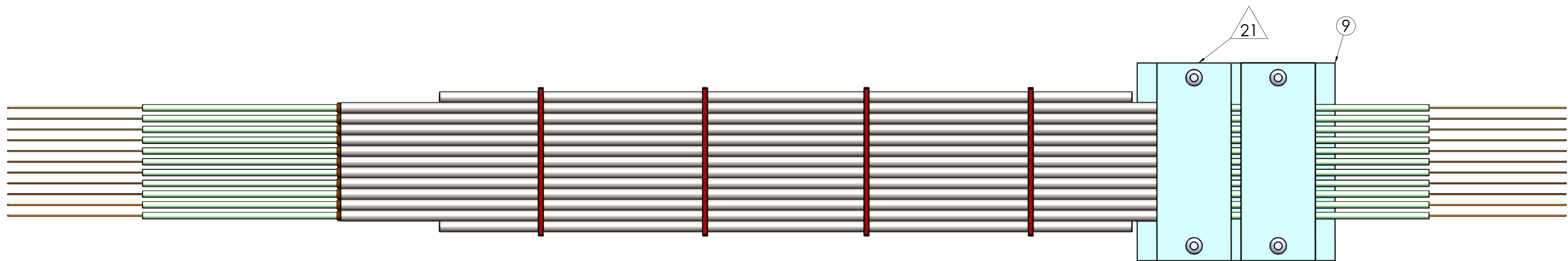
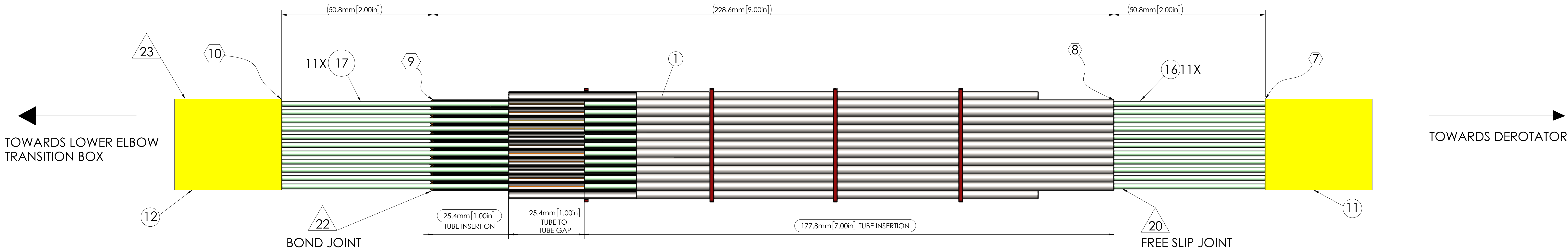
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THERMAL BREAK IN DEROTATOR



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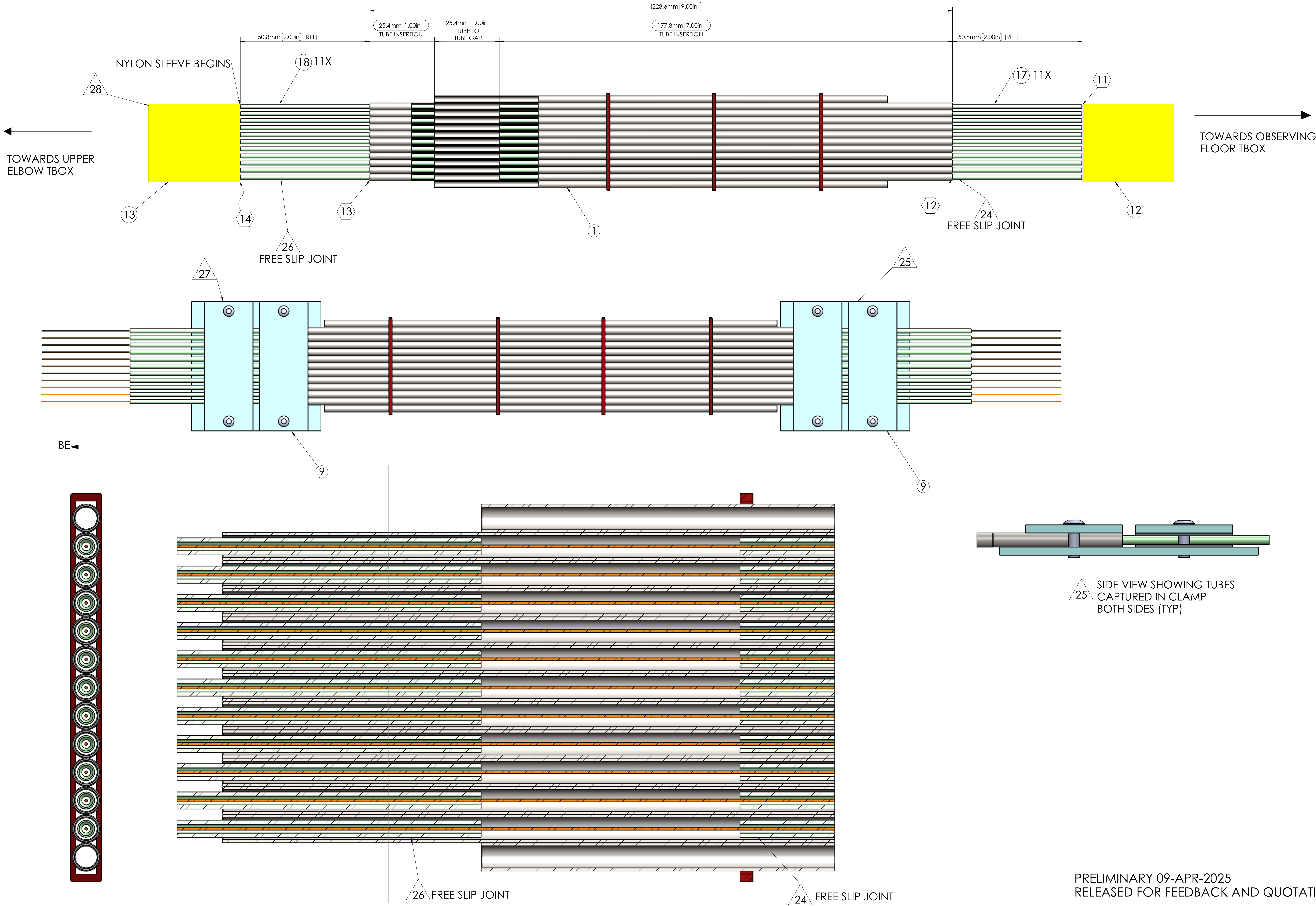
THERMAL BREAK IN OBSERVING FLOOR TRANSITION BOX (TBOX)



SECTION BD-BD
SCALE 8 : 1

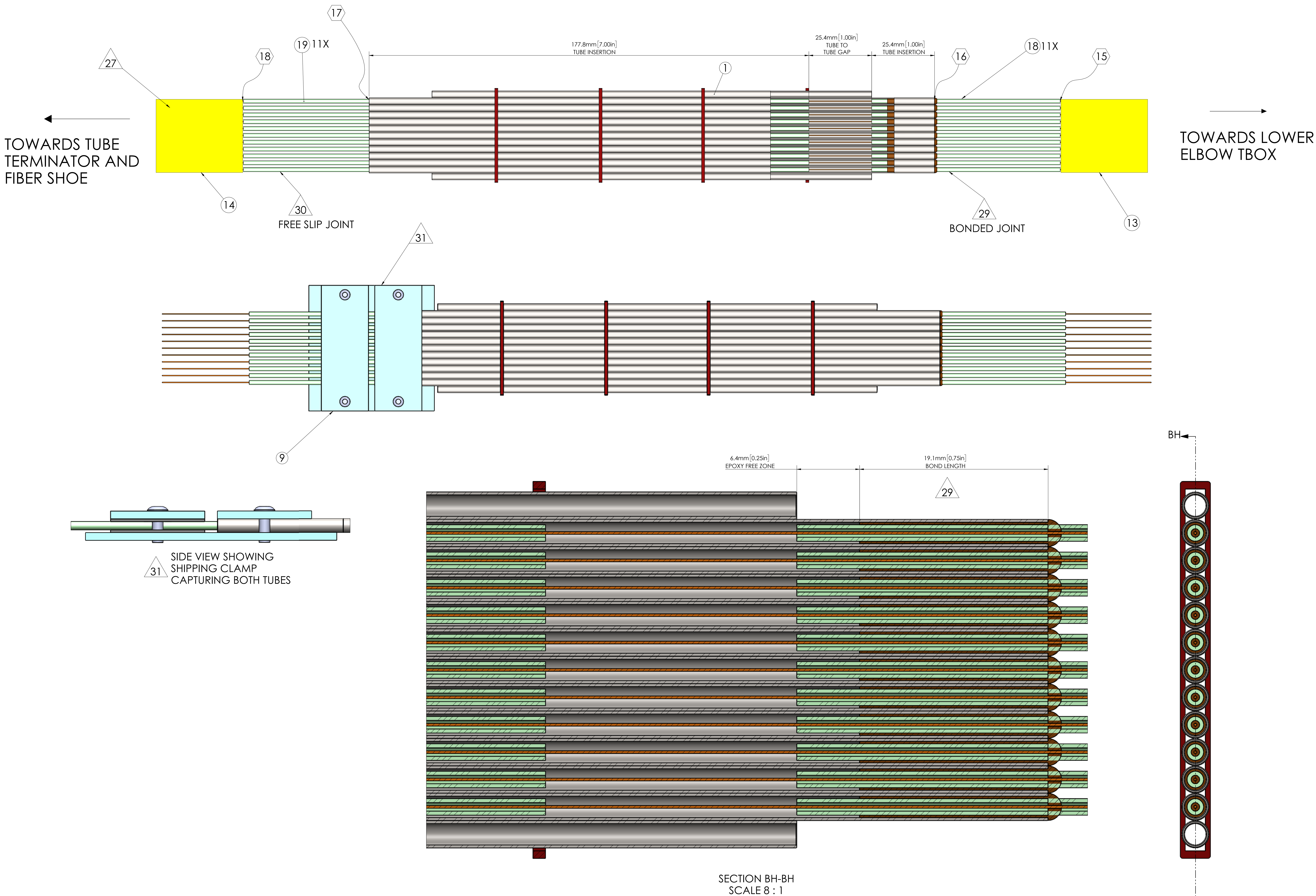
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LOWER ELBOW TBOX THERMAL BREAK ASSEMBLY



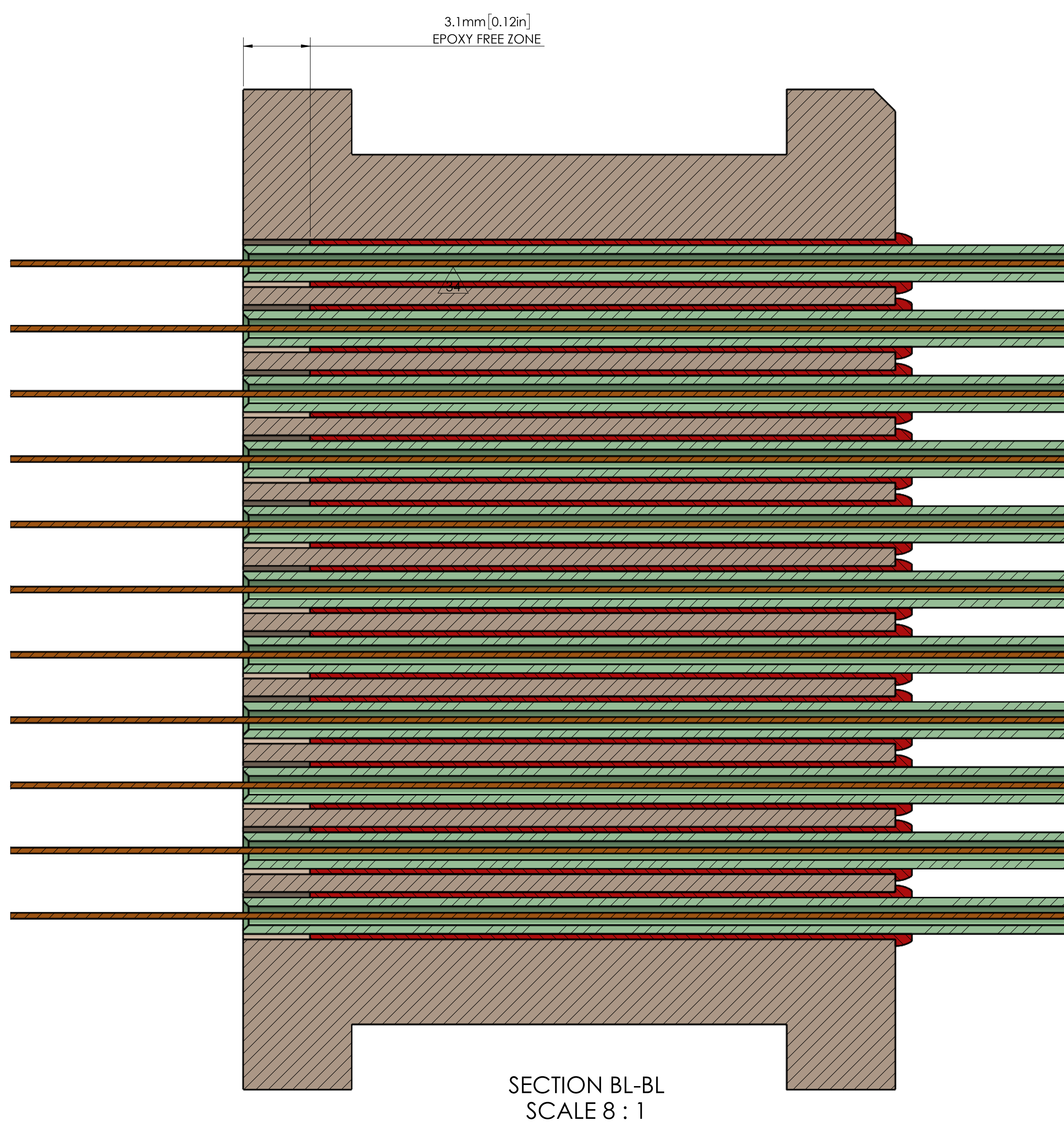
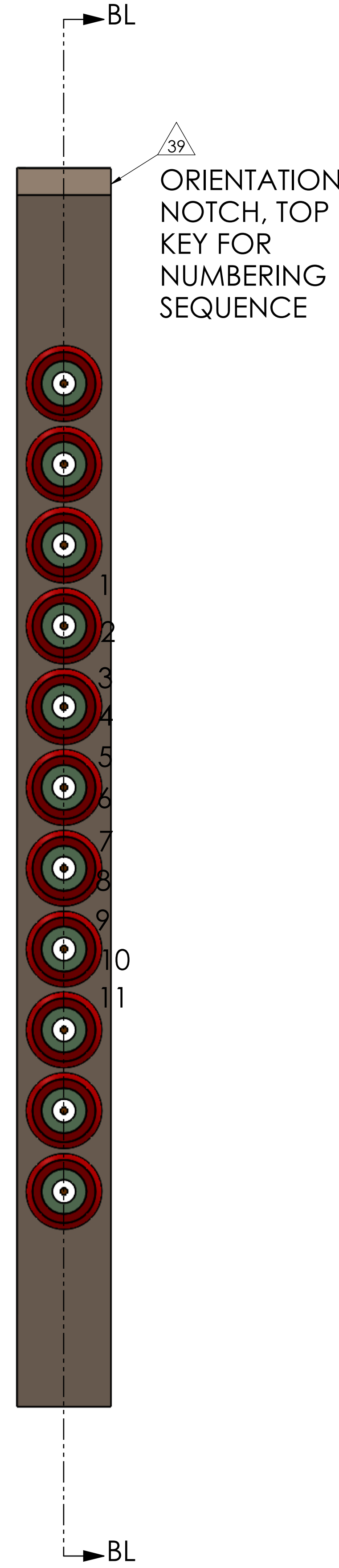
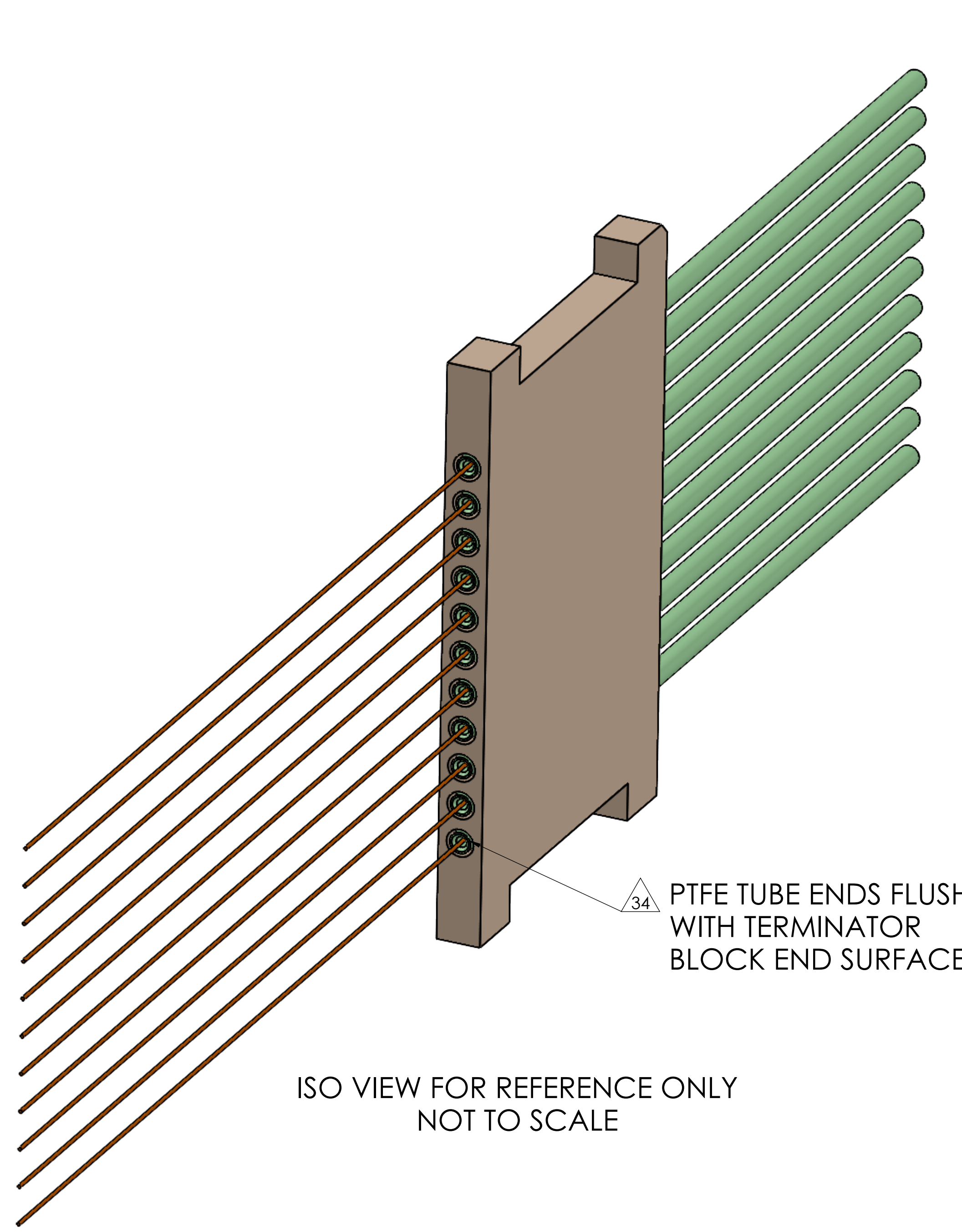
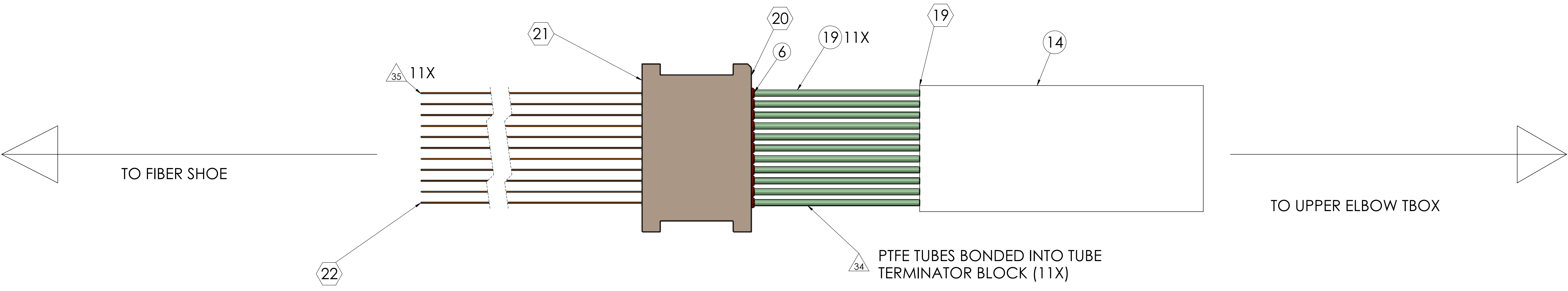
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UPPER ELBOW TRANSITION BOX THERMAL BREAK ASSEMBLY



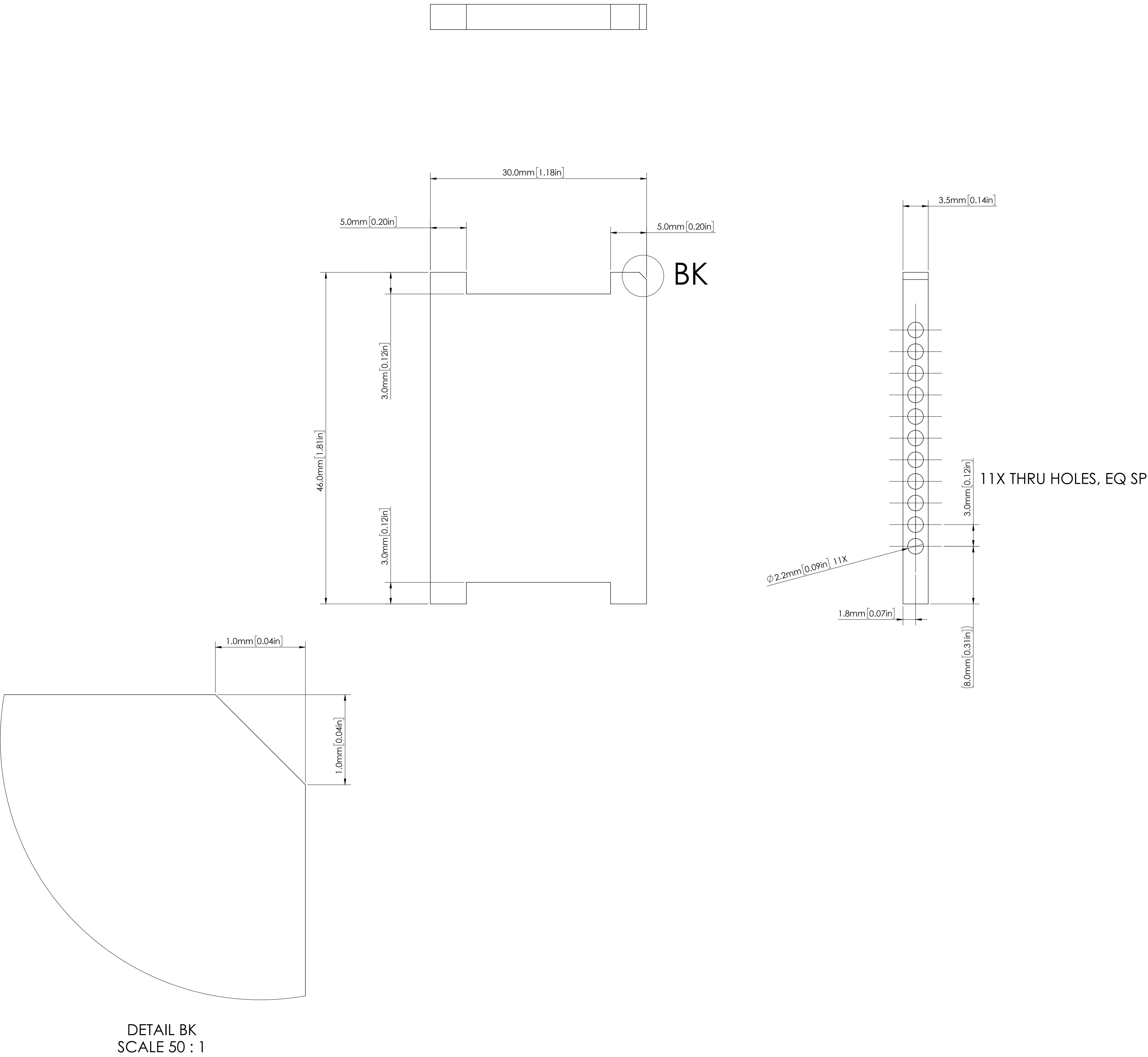
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TEFLON TUBE TERMINATOR ASSEMBLY



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PTFE TERMINATION BLOCK DETAIL (ITEM NO.21)



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				SHEET	9 of 10

