

Leak Proofing the IGS.

IGS Technology was developed for commercial use in greenhouse situations. In such circumstances a few drips are of no consequence. However when IGS comes indoors it is usually essential to make it leak proof.

This is a simple matter and takes only a few minutes.

There are two areas for potential leaks on a standard IGS and three areas when an IGS Extra is added.



1. The Outlet Manifold.

This is the principal area of potential leaks. Two things need to be done to eliminate them. The tasks are most easily carried out when the kit is clean and dry – before it is used.

Firstly the outlet manifold can be glued together with solvent cement. This should be done only after **MAKING ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN** that everything is in the right place and that it is in alignment with the gutter ends.

Use sandpaper to rough up both surfaces a little first – just enough to remove the gloss finish. Then apply a thin film of PVC cement – all over the surfaces – and push the fittings together. Make a last check on the alignment –

while you can still move the fittings. Glue the entire manifold in this way and it will be 100% leak free.

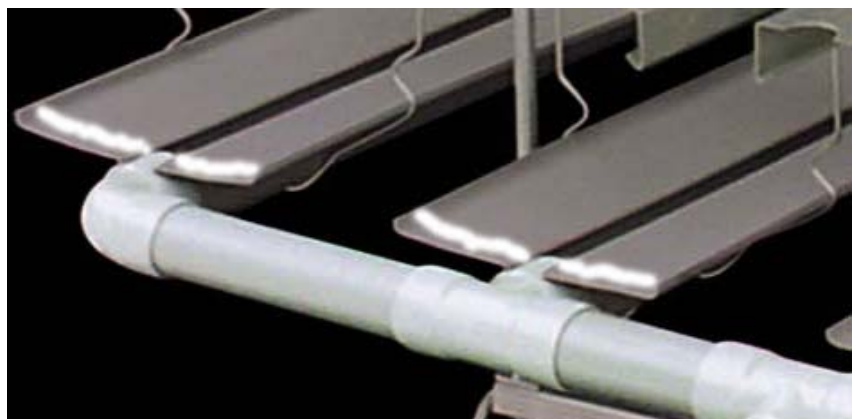
Second issue at the outlet is the point where the manifold is pushed into the gutters. Although this is a very tight fit there is an opportunity for water to seep out and it needs to be sealed. The best way is to wrap a few turns of PTFE tape around the outlets of the manifold. Then the gutters can be opened out and allowed to close on the manifold, sealing tightly against the tape.

Alternatively a bead of silicon can be deposited around the manifold outlets before the manifold is inserted into the gutters.

It is also a good idea to run a bead of silicon across the ends of the gutters – on the flat surfaces to ensure that no liquid can seep over the edge.



Silicon Bead



Silicon Beading across the Gutter Ends

2. The Inlet – Gutter Caps

If there are any problems at the other end of the kit – where the Gutter Caps are inserted into the Gutter – it will be a simple matter to use PTFE or silicon around the Gutter Cap before inserting it – to make an absolutely tight and waterproof fit.

The single IGS should now be completely waterproof. Remember to take care to ensure that drippers are properly located in the pots – a loose hanging dripper can be a problem.



Silicon Beading around the Gutter Cap

Leak Proofing IGS EXTRA

When an IGS Extra is joined to the standard kit, everything fits together well. This is how the big commercial systems are laid out. However the one place where there is a potential for a leak is where the Gutters join together. This is very quick and easy to resolve. Once again, best carried out when everything is dry. The short length of 44mm PVC pipe is designed to connect the two Gutters. A few turns of PTFE Tape – or a bead of silicon should be placed at each end of this connecting pipe before it is inserted into the Gutters. Hold Gutters wide open when inserting the pipe so the tape or silicon is not wiped off. This will form a seal inside the Gutter and prevent water seeping out.

Then take a short length of waterproof Duct Tape and run it across the underside of the gutter – covering the join right across the width. This prevents water seeping through the gap. To finish it off a bead of Silicon can be run across the topside of the join and wiped off so that the gap is fully sealed.

The double IGS should now be completely waterproof. Remember to take care to ensure that drippers are properly located in the pots – a loose hanging dripper can be a problem.