

### SUBJECT: CAULKING GUNS FOR THE UNIVERSAL CARTRIDGE SYSTEM Manual vs. Pneumatic vs Cordless Electric

The option of using a manual or a powered caulking gun is available with Maxim™ products.

Factors to consider

Frequency of use	Product Technology
Number of cartridges per job	Viscosity of product
Surface area	Type of bead desired

#### MANUAL CAULKING GUNS

Manual caulking guns are graded by mechanical advantage (MA). This is the relationship between the travel of the pistol grip and the plunger. For example, a caulking gun with a MA of 4 means if you depress the grip 2", the plunger will advance into the cartridge 0.5".

Generally, cheaper models with thin sheet metal carriages have a MA of 3-8. These caulking guns are **not** recommended for **MAXIM™** products. The recommended manual caulking gun for these products should have an MA of 18-26. **MAXIM™ Bonding Adhesives** and **Seam Sealers** (two-component) work best at 26 MA.

#### PNEUMATIC CAULKING GUNS

The force is adjusted by regulating the pressure of the incoming air. Almost all pneumatic caulking guns have a 2" air cylinder. This limits the maximum force that they can develop. The performance of a cordless electric and a pneumatic caulking gun is similar when extruding a 1/8" to 3/8" bead. When extruding a larger bead and maximum output is required, the cordless electric gun is superior. One advantage of the pneumatic caulking gun is the weight. A pneumatic gun is usually one-half the weight of a cordless electric.

**Note: If a pneumatic caulking gun is used with MAXIM™ products, it must be a single-action, rod-driven pneumatic gun. One that works well is #61004LP made by Cox Quality Sealant Applicators. [www.cox-applicators.com](http://www.cox-applicators.com).**

#61004LP



Do not use a standard pneumatic caulking gun i.e. (Astro Tools #405)



#### CORDLESS ELECTRIC CAULKING GUNS

The cordless caulking gun is an ideal approach for **MAXIM™** products. Milwaukee® and Ryobi® both offer a cordless electric caulking gun.



**Milwaukee®** is powered by a 14.4-volt battery and delivers a pushing force of 620 lbs. dispenses the highest viscosity materials with ease. The auto reverse feature prevents unwanted dripping of materials.



**Ryobi®** is powered by a long-life 18-volt battery and has over 500 lbs. of push force to handle higher viscosity materials. When the trigger is released, the plunger moves back and decompresses the cartridge, ensuring a nice clean fluid shutoff.