

What sets Restek apart from the competition?

Quality and Innovation you can count on!

We don't know if the column in the picture to the right was run over by a truck or crushed beneath a heavy crate during shipping, but we do know it survived! The cage is badly bent and the box is severely deformed. However, the column wasn't broken or damaged in any way. Why? Because we engineered our cage to be a survivor!

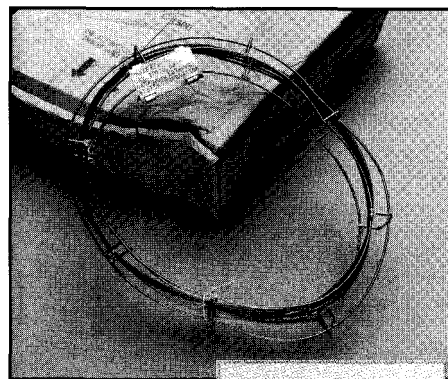
■ High Quality Fused Silica Tubing



A column's quality is only as good as the materials from which it is manufactured. Restek uses only high quality fused silica tubing for our Rtx® capillary columns. We constantly monitor the strength of our tubing by using a manual winding system which assures that every meter of every column is checked. Our tubing suppliers often say, "If our tubing is strong enough for Restek, it's strong enough for anybody."

Innovative Cage Design

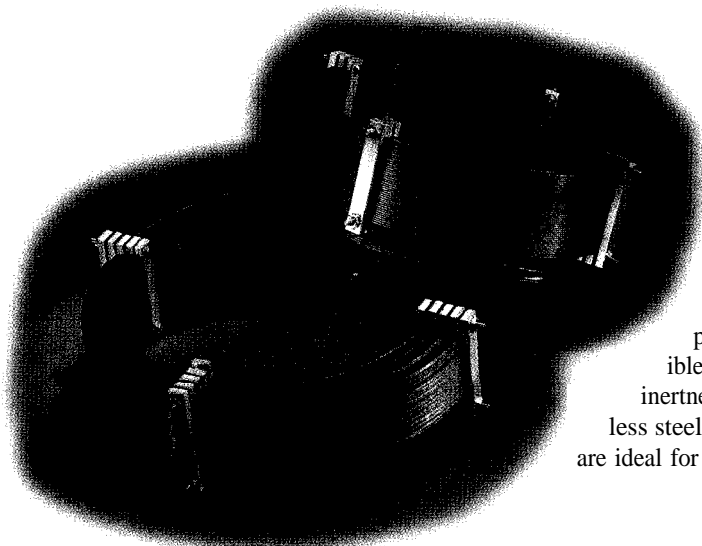
To keep your column safe we have designed a stainless steel cage to completely surround the column. The column is suspended in the cage using high temperature string that acts as a shock absorber. At no time does the fused silica tubing come into contact with the metal support of the cage. Spontaneous breakage can occur when fused silica tubing contacts sharp metal edges on the column cage. Our fused silica column cage is 7.65" (19.4 cm) in diameter and fits into virtually any GC oven.



Just how strong is Restek's column cage?

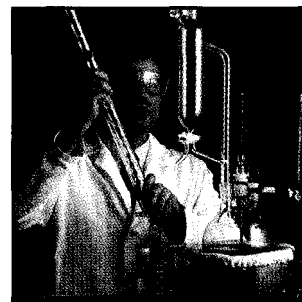
■ Unbreakable Metal Capillary Columns

However, we realize that there are some harsh environments or special applications where fused silica tubing may not be the ideal material. For these circumstances Restek offers MXT capillary columns. MXT columns are made from unbreakable, thin wall, stainless steel that has been treated with our Silcosteel process. This process deposits a submicron layer of flexible fused silica on the inside of the tubing giving it the same inertness as an Rtx® column, but with the ruggedness of stainless steel. MXT columns are caged in small diameter coils that are ideal for portable or process



□ *High Quality Polymers*

In addition to the tubing material, high quality polymers used for deactivation and stationary phases are also necessary for making the world's best capillary columns. All of the polymers that go into Restek's Rtx@ and MXT columns are synthesized to exacting standards in our own laboratory to ensure the highest quality and consistency. Any residual catalyst, which can cause degradation and increased bleed, is removed from the polymer. The polymer is then carefully fractionated to remove low molecular weight fragments. This provides a tight mono-modal distribution and further reduces column bleed. Every polymer is fully characterized to ensure long-term reproducibility. Characterization testing includes Refractive Index (RI), Fournier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR), Kovats Retention Indices, % crosslinking, efficiency, and a five-day thermal bake-out to ensure column longevity. Each polymer lot is tracked in an extensive database for future reference and guarantees that the column you buy today will meet the same specifications of the column you bought last week or last year.



- *Thorough Testing of Every Column*

The final quality assurance test on every Restek capillary column confirms that each column has the necessary inertness and efficiency. Each column is also evaluated for bleed at its maximum operating temperature to ensure that every column exhibits the lowest bleed possible.

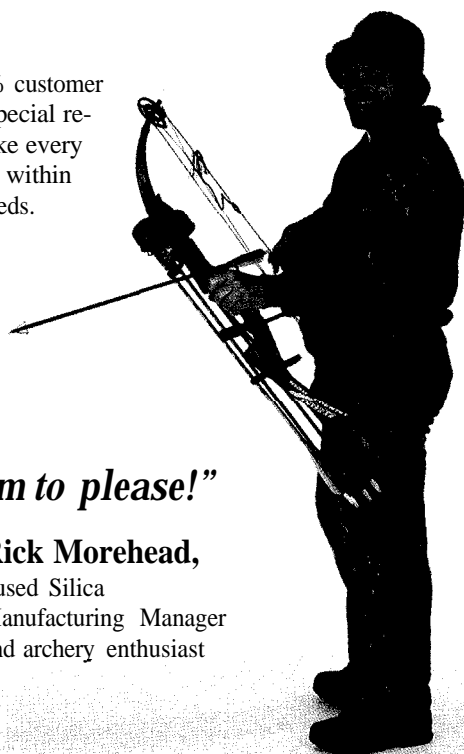


•1 *Functional, Environmentally Safe Packaging*

The Restek difference is apparent before the column box is even opened. Instead of a logo or an advertisement on the top of the compact, recyclable corrugated cardboard column box, we've printed a useful Column Service Record. This allows the analyst to easily track column installation and GC maintenance for troubleshooting purposes. By having the column history on hand for instant review, quicker decisions can be made and guesswork eliminated.

- *What we can do for you*

At Restek we are committed to 100% customer satisfaction in every way. Have a special request? Call us! It is our policy to take every request seriously, and do everything within our power to meet the customers' needs.



"We aim to please!"

Rick Morehead,
Fused Silica
Manufacturing Manager
and archery enthusiast