

Pipe Decoupler

It's my intention that this idea should be a part of the public domain and should never be patented.

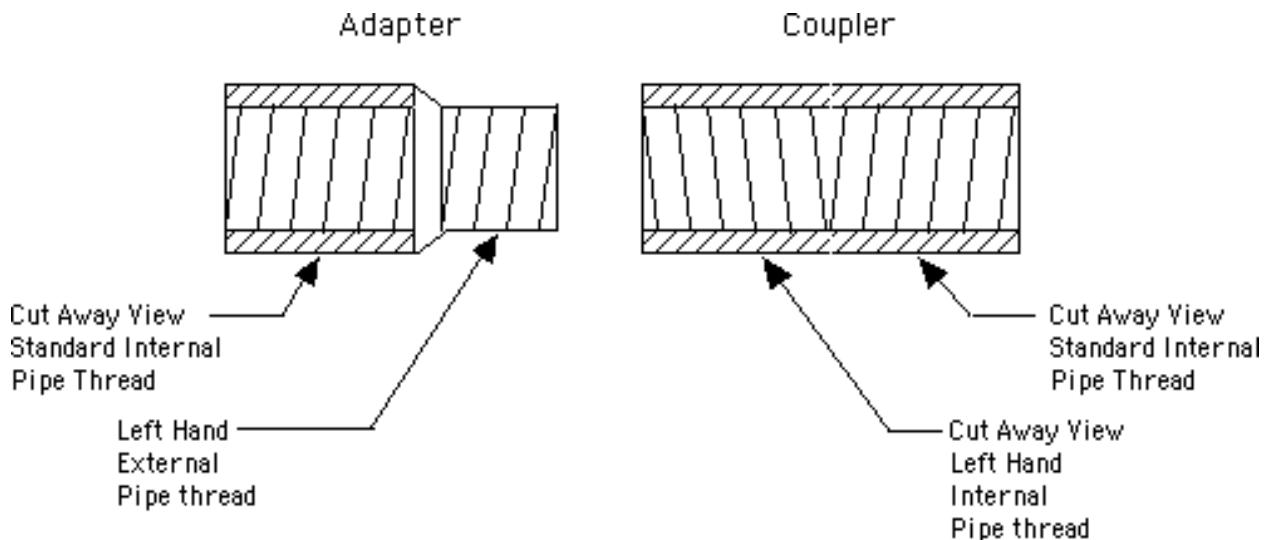
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This idea was posted on the internet, and was declared to be public domain, on Thursday, August 31, 2017.

This document is approximately 296 words long.

The sketch shown here is intended only to illustrate the idea. It isn't to scale and it isn't a precise technical design drawing.

The pipe decoupler can be used in place of an ordinary union. Like a union, it will allow a run of pipe to be disassembled without the need to cut the pipe, or take it apart from the far end. It will be smaller and less bulky than a union. I believe that it will be less likely to leak. I can think of only two disadvantages of the pipe decoupler, as compared to a standard union. One possible disadvantage is that more end-play might be necessary, in the run of pipe, in order to allow the pipe decoupler to be inserted into, or removed from, a run of pipe. The other disadvantage is that three wrenches, instead of two, will be required to tighten or loosen the coupler.



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In use, the pipe decoupler is simply installed in a run of pipe, where two pieces of pipe would normally be connected by a standard coupler. Install the adapter on the end of one of the pieces of pipe. Install the coupler, simultaneously, onto the adapter and the adjoining end of the other piece of pipe. It works like a turnbuckle. Turning the coupler in one direction tightens both ends. Turning it in the other direction loosens both ends.