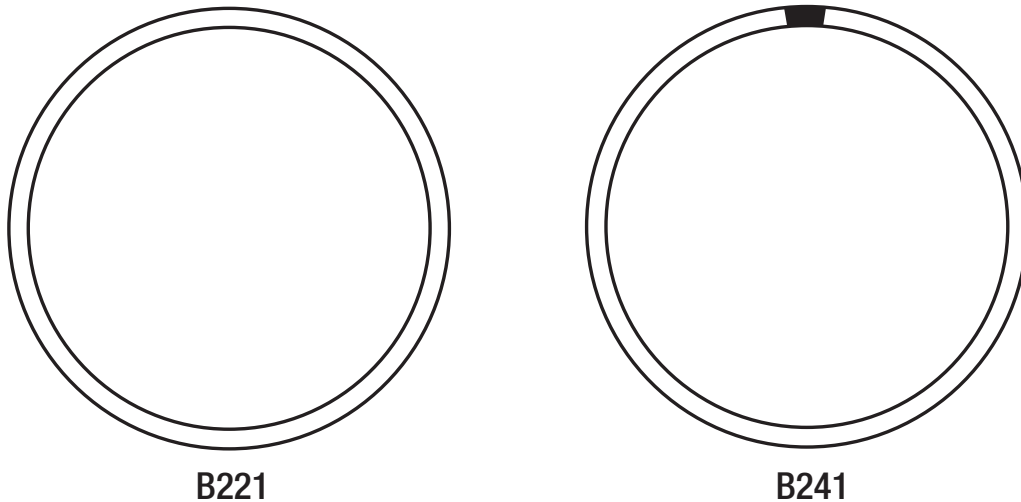


## ASTM B221 Aluminum Tubing

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Industry standard flagpole tubing is spun from B221 stock which is not “seamless” in the purest sense. Please note the following diagram for explanation purposes:



B221 tubing is made from a porthole die, which incorporates an appendage that exists between the outer wall and the inner portion of the die. This does not appear on the tubing and does not cause an aesthetic or mechanical problem. The term for this is called an extrusion seam, where the pressure bonding of the edges is made during the course of extrusion for the tubing. As the tube is drawn through the “porthole”, the metal forms back together along its “seam” before it cools. Some mills use spider dies where two or three connections to the outer wall exist. B241 tubing is made from a die like the one to the right, which has no appendage from the outer to the inner wall. The use of B241 is generally specified for pressure applications where a fluid or gas at high pressure will be going through the tubing and cause a large outward force.

For flagpole construction, the strength and durability of B221 is the proven accepted industry standard. Also, no visible seam is seen on the tubing.