

5 What is claimed is:

1. A coupling for joining pipe elements in end to end relation, said coupling comprising:

first and second segments attached to one another end to end surrounding a central space for receiving said pipe elements;

10 a first attachment member extending from a first end of said first segment, said first attachment member defining a first face;

a second attachment member extending from a first end of said second segment, said second attachment member defining a second face, said first and second faces being in facing relation;

15 a first shroud positioned on said first attachment member and extending along at least a portion of said first face, said first shroud projecting toward said second attachment member;

a first recess positioned on said second attachment member and extending along at least a portion of said second face, said first recess receiving
20 said first shroud when said first and second attachment members are drawn toward one another; and

an adjustable first fastener extending between said first and second attachment members for drawing said first and second attachment members toward one another.

25 2. The coupling according to claim 1, further comprising:

a second shroud positioned on said second attachment member and extending along at least a portion of said second face, said second shroud projecting toward said first attachment member;

5 a second recess positioned on said first attachment member and extending along at least a portion of said first face, said second recess receiving said second shroud when said first and second attachment members are drawn toward one another.

3. The coupling according to claim 2, wherein:

10 said second shroud is positioned on an opposite side of said second attachment member from said first recess; and

 said second recess is positioned on an opposite side of said first attachment member from said first shroud.

4. The coupling according to claim 3, further comprising:

15 a third attachment member extending from a second end of said first segment, said third attachment member defining a third face;

 a fourth attachment member extending from a second end of said second segment, said fourth attachment member defining a fourth face, said third and fourth faces being in facing relation;

20 a third shroud positioned on said third attachment member and extending along at least a portion of said third face, said third shroud projecting toward said fourth attachment member;

 a third recess positioned on said fourth attachment member and extending along at least a portion of said fourth face, said third recess receiving
25 said third shroud when said third and fourth attachment members are drawn toward one another; and

 an adjustable second fastener extending between said third and fourth attachment members for drawing said third and fourth attachment members toward one another.

5 5. The coupling according to claim 4, further comprising:

 a fourth shroud positioned on said fourth attachment member and
extending along at least a portion of said fourth face, said fourth shroud projecting
toward said third attachment member;

 a fourth recess positioned on said third attachment member and
10 extending along at least a portion of said third face, said fourth recess receiving
said fourth shroud when said third and fourth attachment members are drawn
toward one another.

 6. The coupling according to claim 5, wherein:

 said third shroud is positioned on an opposite side of said third
15 attachment member from said fourth recess; and

 said fourth shroud is positioned on an opposite side of said fourth
attachment member from said third recess.

 7. The coupling according to claim 1, further comprising a hinge
positioned at a second end of each of said first and second segments, said first and
20 second segments pivoting about said hinge when said first and second segments
are drawn toward one another.

 8. The coupling according to claim 7, further comprising:

 a second shroud positioned on said second attachment member and
extending along at least a portion of said second face, said second shroud
25 projecting toward said first attachment member;

 a second recess positioned on said first attachment member and
extending along at least a portion of said first face, said second recess receiving
said second shroud when said first and second attachment members are drawn
toward one another.

5 9. The coupling according to claim 8, wherein:

said second shroud is positioned on an opposite side of said second attachment member from said first recess; and

said second recess is positioned on an opposite side of said first attachment member from said first shroud.

10 10. The coupling according to claim 7, wherein said hinge comprises:

a first boss projecting from said second end of said first segment;

a second boss projecting from said second end of said second segment and positioned adjacent to said first boss;

15 a first fulcrum positioned on said first boss and contacting said second boss, said segments pivoting about said first fulcrum;

a link extending between and capturing said first and second bosses.

20 11. The coupling according to claim 10, further comprising a second fulcrum positioned on said second boss, said second fulcrum contacting said first fulcrum.

12. The coupling according to claim 11, further comprising:

a first land positioned contiguous with said first fulcrum on said first boss;

25 a second land positioned contiguous with said second fulcrum on said second boss, said first and second lands being oriented angularly with respect to a plane defining an interface between said first and second segments.

13. The coupling according to claim 11, further comprising:

5 a first head projecting from said first boss;

 a second head projecting from said second boss, said link engaging
said first and second heads for retaining said link to said bosses.

14. The coupling according to claim 13, wherein said link comprises a
ring encircling said first and second bosses.

10 15. The coupling according to claim 1, wherein:

 said first attachment member comprises a first lug defining a first
hole for receiving said first fastener;

 said second attachment member comprises a second lug defining a
second hole for receiving said first fastener.

15 16. The coupling according to claim 15, wherein a portion of said first
face surrounds said first hole and a portion of said second face surrounds said
second hole.

17. The coupling according to claim 4, wherein:

20 said first attachment member comprises a first lug defining a first
hole for receiving said first fastener;

 said second attachment member comprises a second lug defining a
second hole for receiving said first fastener;

 said third attachment member comprises a third lug defining a third
hole for receiving said second fastener;

25 said fourth attachment member comprises a fourth lug defining a
fourth hole for receiving said second fastener.

18. The coupling according to claim 17, wherein a portion of said first
face surrounds said first hole, a portion of said second face surrounds said second

5 hole, a portion of said third face surrounds said third hole and a portion of said face surrounds said fourth hole.

19. The coupling according to claim 1, further comprising:

a first index mark positioned on said first attachment member;

a second index mark positioned on said second attachment

10 member; wherein

said first and second index marks align with one another when said first and second segments are drawn toward one another.

20. The coupling according to claim 19, wherein said first and second index marks are integrally formed with said first and second attachment members

15 respectively.

21. The coupling according to claim 4, further comprising:

a first index mark positioned on said first attachment member;

a second index mark positioned on said second attachment

member;

20 a third index mark positioned on said third attachment member;

a fourth index mark positioned on said fourth attachment member;

wherein

said first and second index marks align with one another, and said third and fourth index marks align with one another when said first and second
25 segments are drawn toward one another.

22. The coupling according to claim 21, wherein said first, second, third and fourth index marks are integrally formed with said first, second, third and fourth attachment members respectively.

5 23. The coupling according to claim 1, further comprising:

 a first tooth positioned at said first end of said first segment, said
first tooth projecting toward said second segment;

 a first socket positioned at said first end of said second segment,
said first socket receiving said first tooth when said first and second segments are
10 drawn toward one another.

 24. The coupling according to claim 23, further comprising:

 a second tooth positioned at said first end of said second segment,
said second tooth projecting toward said first segment;

 a second socket positioned at said first end of said first segment,
15 said second socket receiving said second tooth when said first and second
segments are drawn toward one another.

 25. The coupling according to claim 1, wherein each said first and second
segments comprises first and second arcuate projections on opposite sides of each
said segment, each said arcuate projection extending between said first and second
20 ends of said segments, each said arcuate projection being engageable with one of
said pipe elements when said first and second segments are drawn toward one
another.

 26. The coupling according to claim 1, further comprising a seal
positioned between said segments.

25 27. The coupling according to claim 26, wherein said seal comprises a
ring, said ring supporting said first and second segments in space relation
sufficient to insert said pipe elements into said central space.

 28. The coupling according to claim 1, wherein said first fastener
comprises a threaded bolt and nut.