HDPE Pipe
Responsible Infrastructure

August 2016 HDPE Pipeline

A Subtle Shift to PE Water Pipe

Industry veteran engineer Harvey Svetlik (GFCP) and our Executive Director, Peter Dyke collaborated on this common sense approach to infrastructure replacement. Given drought in the West, Flint in the Midwest, lack of infrastructure investment and the call for resiliency, it is time for municipal leadership to embrace efficient, effective and cost savings solutions.

If you are a public works officer, consulting engineer or maintenance worker, you have your routines, your preferences and your systems in place. If you regularly use PVC, ductile iron, clay, or concrete pipe, you probably have a yard full of it, just waiting to be picked up and used on the next repair. Life with pipes is predictable. Sure, you may see a few midnight breaks on Thanksgiving Day, but things work the way they always have.

When the cast, clay, PVC and DIP breaks, you know what to do. The trucks are dispatched and the crews dig up the roads to replace the failed pipe...with the same material that failed.

This reactive management system and repair cycle does keep the water flowing.

Pipe Fails. Repair. Repeat... Pipe Fails. Repair. Repeat....

Doing what we have always done is no longer good enough. HDPE is the no leak, no pit, no corrode, no break option.

But….does it really work? We see an average 14% of our nation's water lost from water plant to the user. We see 240,000 water main breaks each year and we are $2.1 trillion behind the water infrastructure replacement curve. Those telling numbers sound like a third world country's failure numbers. Not Old Glory's.

Game Changer

We often hear the terms "game changers" or "disruptors," usually in the context of some new technology. These innovators look beyond the routine to find better ways to make processes and systems more efficient. Companies with great ideas and products like UBER, Amazon and Tesla are revered. They make our society better by coming up with a better 'mousetrap.' As the custodians of our nation's water and sewer infrastructure, you have the opportunity to be your community's "game changer." Doing something you are not accustomed to might be scary, uncomfortable, or appear "risky," due to lack of information and product experience.

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AWWA Recap

The Alliance team attracted 1,000 people to its booth at the recent AWWA ACE 16 event in Chicago. During the event, the Alliance team demonstrations saw cast iron pipe bursts, electro fusions and butt fusions.

Take time to learn about HDPE Pipe. Your kids will be glad you did. These Texas water professionals learned about HDPE at a recent event.

iPad Winner – Congratulations to Frank Brown, PE, a senior civil engineer from Portsmouth, VA. Frank won the Alliance iPad at the ASCE Pipelines conference in KCMO two weeks ago. He was pleased as he had just bought one for his wife. Now it is his turn.

You too can win an iPad - drawing to be held at the end of August - by following us on FB and Twitter!

HDPE Quick Links

» Who We Are
» PePipe Offerings
» Our Website

A Subtle Shift to PE Water Pipe (continued)

But, This Is Not a Game

Will our infrastructure solutions ever evolve without our leaders seeking better solutions to everyday problems?

- How many of us still drive Model T Fords?
- Do you still play "Pong" with your best friend?
- How many of us still use rotary-dial phones?
- Do you still listen to music on 8-track tapes?

HDPE pipe is 50 years old, but with the new 21st century PE4710 resin, HDPE is the next substantial evolution in pipe.

No, you are doing things differently today because 21st century technology is better and more efficient. We are living in a new, different world… Pure, clean water is too precious to lose it into the ground through leaks. HDPE's 'no-leak, no-corrode, no-gasket system' is the new 21st century standard. It is a ***best practice***.

Early Adopters

The good news for you is that being a water-pipe game changer involves little risk to you or your community. It simply requires an investment in education to learn about true "No-Leak" HDPE systems. It requires a commitment from your community's leaders to allow the industry to train your staff and teach your engineers about the new, best practice in water and sewer systems.

There are even scores of early adopter municipalities that have already done the successful trial work. Talk to leaders in the municipalities listed at the right.

Other pipe materials being used in our cities are the same today as they were 50 to 100 years ago. Highly engineered, fourth generation PE4710 resin has replaced thousands of miles of pitted and corroded metal pipes. in 2015, US utilities installed 15,000 miles of HDPE pipe and the fittings, couplings and transitions have all evolved to meet the real-world needs of your water system.

As industry professionals, we should all demand better solutions from our pipe system suppliers. Doing what we have always done is no longer good enough. Future generations are dependent upon the decisions we make today. Our collective legacy is at stake. Contact us to schedule an HDPE educational seminar and learn about today's best practice. Your kids, and their kids are depending on you.

ASCE Recap

This is an important show for the Alliance because access to the leading civil engineering minds is important for continued growth of the game-changing technology. Over 800 engineers were in Kansas City, Missouri to share pipeline knowledge. The Alliance conducted butt fusion demonstrations and shared knowledge with interested engineers from all over the US.

The Alliance team met over 100 of the 800 engineers at the ASCE Pipelines show. Pictured: Karen Lively (Performance), Travis Schurz, (Industrial Sales), Chris Passmore (McElroy) and Dusty Langston (WL).

A Sampling of HDPE Municipalities

Napa Sanitation, Napa, CA
EBMUD, Oakland CA,
Colorado Springs, CO
San Antonio Water System, TX
Kansas Board of Public Utilities, KS
Water One, Lenexa KS
Springfield Utilities, MO

Palo Alto, CA	Los Angeles, CA
Butte, MT	Sacramento, CA
Houston, TX	Arlington TX
Lago Vista, TX	Broken Arrow, OK
Livonia, MI	Lake County, IL
Duluth MN	East Windsor MUA, NJ
Ft. Wayne, IN	Charlotte Water, NC
Atlanta, GA	Miami Dade, FL
Casselberry, FL	Virginia Beach, VA
American Water	Aquarion Water

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