

THERMOPLASTIC MATERIALS

UPVC (Unplasticised PVC)

Unplasticised Polyvinyl Chloride is the most widely used of all plastics and commonly used for pressure pipes. It is rigid, suitable for above and below ground applications. UPVC has good chemical resistance and is odorless and tasteless. It is for use with liquids and gasses with temperatures +32°F to +140°F (for higher temperatures see CPVC) at a wide range of operating pressures. Some poorer quality PVC can leach chemicals into that water which can build up in recirculation systems, however most modern pipe is built to specific standards (e.g. BS3505/6, ASTM D 1785, ASTM D 2241, DIN 8061/2, KIWA 49, BS4346 PART 1, DIN 8063) and as long as the pipe is rated as such, there should be no problems. UPVC is usually joined using a push fit solvent cement joint, requiring no special tools.

CPVC (Chlorinated PVC)

Chlorinated polyvinyl chloride, or CPVC, has been offering the process industry superior corrosion resistance, mechanical strength, and excellent life-cycle economics in a single package. Conceptually, CPVC is a PVC homopolymer that has been subjected to a chlorination reaction. It is generally inert to most mineral acids, bases, salts, and paraffinic hydrocarbon solutions. CPVC is not recommended for use with chlorinated or aromatic hydrocarbons, esters, or ketones. The upper temperature limit on CPVC is 200°F. There is no lower temperature limit on CPVC and the material will withstand pressure. At very cold temperatures, the material will become brittle and the impact strength will decline.

4120 NE Columbia Blvd. - Portland, Oregon USA 97211
Phone: 503-287-8383 - Fax: 503-281-9677 - www.fnw.com

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