

PVC-U PRESSURE PIPE

HANDLING AND STORAGE

While PVC-U pipes are light and easy to handle, careless handling can cause unnecessary damage. Pipes and fittings should not be dropped or thrown onto hard surfaces or allowed to come into contact with sharp objects, which could inflict deep scratches. PVC-U pipes should not be allowed to slide across sharp edges. During construction storage areas should be selected which are free from surface irregularities such as stones, branches or other sharp projections.

PVC-U pipes may distort under high loads. Therefore stack heights should be kept to a minimum for long-term storage. At elevated temperatures pipes may bow due to uneven heating of individual pipe lengths. Where this may be a problem during installation they should be protected from direct sunlight immediately prior to use.

If PVC-U pipes are stored for extended periods (> 12 months) they should be protected from direct sunlight by using hessian covers or similar which will allow adequate air circulation. Black plastic covers must not be used owing to the high temperatures developed when stored in the sun.

Socketed pipes should be stacked in layers with sockets placed at alternative ends of the rack, and protruding, to avoid uneven stacks and distortion. The sockets should not be allowed to carry loads.

If mechanical handling equipment such as forklifts or cranes are to be used on bundles, adequate spreader and lifting bars should be provided. Wire slings must be kept clear of the pipes. When unloading alongside excavated trenches, it is recommended that pipes be placed on the opposite side of the trench from excavated material.

Rubber rings, jointing fluid, solvent cement and priming fluid should be stored under cover until pipe laying commences.

The information contained in this document should serve as a guide only and is subject to change without notice. For more information please contact Iplex Pipelines Australia Pty Ltd.

