



PIPA

PLASTICS INDUSTRY
PIPE ASSOCIATION
OF AUSTRALIA LIMITED

POLYOLEFINS AND
PVC GUIDELINES
POP201

Resistance of Plastics Pipes
and Fittings to Water and
Wastewater Chemicals

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Resistance of Plastic Pipes and Fittings to Water and Wastewater Chemicals

In conjunction with the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA), PIPA has prepared this Guideline to address the resistance of non-metallic pipe and components to chemicals commonly used in water and wastewater systems. The guideline only considers chemical concentration and temperature. In some cases the influence of applied stresses can affect the chemical resistance and under these conditions pre-testing of the pipe or fitting under the actual working conditions may be required for critical applications.

Plastics pipe systems are often sealed by elastomeric materials at joints and hence they have been included.

The Guideline does not purport to be a comprehensive table of chemicals, and for chemicals not listed reference should be made to the manufacturer.

The information in this document was based largely on the information contained in ISO/TR 10358 – Plastic pipes and fittings – combined chemical resistance classification table. Other reference material used included “The UPVC Pipelines Design Textbook” (Iplex 1993), “Plastics Technical Manual” (George Fischer 1996) and “Engineering Materials” (6th Edition, Prentice Hall 1999).

NON-METALS																			
CHEMICAL	ABS		PE ²		PVC		PP		FRP ¹		TEFLON [®]		EPDM		NBR		VITON [®]		
	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	
	Ammonia Gas (dry)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	X	X
Ammonia Liquid	B	C	A	A	C	X	A	A	X	X	A	A	A	B	A	B	X	X	
Ammonia solution 25%	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	X	X	A	A	A	A	C	X	X	X	
Aluminium Sulphate	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-	-	A	B	A	A	A	A	
Chlorine Gas (dry, <150ppm H ₂ O)	C	X	X	X	A	C	X	X	A	C	A	A	X	X	X	X	A	A	
Chlorine Gas (wet, >150ppm H ₂ O)	X	X	X	X	C	X	X	X	X	X	A	A	X	X	X	X	A	A	
Chlorine Liquid	X	X	X	X	C	X	X	X	X	X	A	A	X	X	X	X	A	A	
Chlorinated Water (<5ppm)	A	C	A	C	A	B	A	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	
Chlorinated Water (up to 3500ppm)	B	C	C	X	A	B	A	C	A	X	A	A	B	C	X	X	A	A	

NON-METALS
CHEMICAL

	ABS		PE ²		PVC		PP		FRP ¹		TEFLON [®]		EPDM		NBR		VITON [®]	
	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C
Chlorine Dioxide	C	X	X	X	B	C	X	X	X A	X B	A	A	X	X	X	X	A	A
Citric Acid (up to 50%)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A A	A A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Fluosilicic Acid (25%)	A	C	A	A	A	A	A	C	C A	X C	A	A	C	X	C	X	X	X
Ferric Chloride (42% aqueous)	X	X	A	C	A	C	A	A	A A	A A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Ferric Sulphate (45% aqueous)	C	X	A	C	A	C	A	A	A A	A A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Hydrochloric Acid (30%)	A	C	A	A	A	A	A	C	B A	X C	A	A	A	C	X	X	A	C
Lime water (25% calcium hydroxide)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A A	B A	A	A	A	C	A	-	A	-
Magnesium Hydroxide	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C A	X A	A	-	A	-	A	-	A	-
Ozone	X	X	C	X	A	A	-	-	- -	- -	-	-	A	-	-	-	A	-
Potassium Permanganate (25%)	X	X	X	X	A	A	A	A	A A	X A	A	A	A	A	C	X	A	A

NON-METALS

CHEMICAL	ABS		PE ²		PVC		PP		FRP ¹		TEFLON [®]		EPDM		NBR		VITON [®]	
	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C	20°C	60°C
	Sodium Bisulphate	A	A	XA	A	A	A	A	A	A/A	A/A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Sodium Fluoride (4% saturated)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	-/A	-/A	-	-	-	-	A	C	-	C
Sodium Hydroxide (25%)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	X/A	X/B	-	-	A	-	A	-	A	-
Sodium Hydroxide (50%)	A	C	A	A	A	A	A	A	X/A	X/C	A	A	A	C	C	X	X	X
Sodium Hypochlorite (12.5%)	A	X	B ³	X	A	B	B	C	X/B	X/B	-	-	A	-	C	X	A	-
Sodium Silicate (20-40%)	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	C/A	C/A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A
Sulphuric Acid (98%)	X	X	A	X	A	C	X	X	X/X	X/X	A	A	X	X	X	X	A	A

KEY

- A** – Excellent resistance under normal conditions
- B** – Good resistance (some softening/degradation may occur over time)
- C** – Conditional/Limited resistance (consult specialist)
- X** – Not recommended
- No Data

NOTES:

- ¹ – Top/bottom figures refers to polyester/vinyl ester resin
- ² – Polyethylene materials for PE pipes, fabricated storage tanks and rotational moulded tanks.
- ³ – PE resistance to sodium hypochlorite is rated “B” based on continual long-term immersion at a strength of 12.5% hypochlorite. Intermittent use at a lower concentration can be rated “A”



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Disclaimer

In formulating this guideline PIPA has relied upon the advice of its members and, where appropriate, independent testing.

Notwithstanding, users of the guidelines are advised to seek their own independent advice and, where appropriate, to conduct their own testing and assessment of matters contained in the guidelines, and to not rely solely on the guidelines in relation to any matter that may risk loss or damage.

PIPA gives no warranty concerning the correctness or accuracy of the information, opinions and recommendations contained in the guidelines. Users of the guidelines are advised that their reliance on any matter contained in the guidelines is at their own risk.