

Use of K-Flex PE Polyethylene Insulation on CPVC Piping

CPVC piping is used in plumbing, fire sprinkler and other hot / cold water applications. Polyethylene insulation has been successfully used in conjunction with this type of piping for over 30 years.

Some CPVC resin producers (Lubrizol) or pipe manufacturers have an approved products listing for materials / products which they have tested and found to be compatible for use with their products. There is also a listing of products that they have found to be unacceptable, either through testing or historical / field experience. Some of these resin producers or manufacturers charge a significant initial fee for testing and listing and continue to charge significant annual fees to maintain those listings.

K-Flex PE polyethylene insulation falls into the “not tested” category. This means that K-Flex PE has not been found to be *unacceptable* for use by the resin producers, but that it has not been specifically tested for compatibility.

CPVC is not compatible with some rubber and flexible plastic materials containing certain types of plasticizers. Incompatible plasticizers include, but are not limited to, phthalates, adipates, trimellitates, dibenzoates, etc. K-Flex PE polyethylene insulation does not contain any of the above mentioned plasticizer families. It is our opinion that the plasticizers used in our products are either compatible with CPVC or are non-leaching.

It has been our experience that there have been no compatibility issues with polyethylene insulation products and CPVC-based resin piping products.

NOTE: While K-Flex PE is “plenum rated” per the requirements of NFPA 90A, K-Flex PE is a thermoplastic material and as such will not impart any fire resistance to any types of plastic piping. K-Flex PE must not be used on plastic piping in fire rated plenum applications.

For more information, please contact a K-Flex USA Technical representative.