

2 August 2017

## **NEW BPF PIPES GROUP RESOURCE WILL AID BEST PRACTICE APPROACH TO WATER INDUSTRY PE PIPE JOINTING**

The BPF Pipes Group is creating a key resource for a new generation of engineers and designers. The latest in its series of best practice guides covers the joining of polyethylene pipes for below ground water and wastewater applications.

Since the 1980s, the UK water industry has prided itself on high quality technical guidance for pipeline designers on the choice of materials, installation techniques and jointing solutions to ensure the best engineering and economic solutions can be chosen for any given application.

With the focus for AMP6 on long-term resilience of the UK's water supply combined with the ever-present pressure on construction and operating costs, it is important that decision processes can be supported by sound reasoning and practical knowledge. The new guidance document identifies the preferred method of joining for a range of applications, together with the basis for that recommendation and any suitable alternatives.

Julia Trew, who led the revision of the Pipe Materials Selection and the Polyethylene Pipe Systems manuals, is now Standards Manager at the BPF Pipes Group. "These manuals are over 20 years old and we are pleased to be able to provide modern, practical advice to a new generation of engineers and designers. Whilst financial pressures on water companies and their partners have increased over the years, the fundamental need to provide a reliable, durable and economic underground pipeline system remains the prime goal."

The BPF Pipes Group has made the new guidance available on its website, adding to a growing bank of short, easy to read and free to download, technical references. The guidance is available from <https://bfpipesgroup.com/support-downloads/guidance-notes/>

Craig Smith is Utilities Sales Manager at Georg Fischer, a BPF Pipes Group member company. He commented: "Each of the three jointing methods available for PE pipe - electrofusion, butt

fusion and mechanical fittings - can provide long-term, leak tight solutions. Working together as members of the BPF Pipes Group means we have been able to offer consistent and sound technical advice on the best choices for different pipe sizes and situations. We are pleased to be able to support our customers through the sharing of knowledge.”

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PHOTO-CAPTION: BPF Pipes Group is keen to share best practice knowledge

### **Contacts**

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### **About the BPF Pipes Group**

Part of the British Plastics Federation, the BPF Pipes Group is a trade association representing manufacturers and material suppliers of plastic piping systems across the UK. Committed to sustainable construction, its aims are to provide a forum for the exchange of technical expertise between member companies and to promote the importance of plastic as a pipework material, for the full spectrum of above and below ground, pressure and non-pressure applications. It also plays a key role in initiating and disseminating research and informing and influencing the standards bodies pertaining to plastic pipe systems. It works closely with the BPF and TEPPFA, the European Plastic Pipes and Fittings Association.