

May 2024

DESIGNING AND SPECIFYING SAFE AND SECURE PE WATER PIPE NETWORKS

Design consultants now have everything they need for specifying safe and secure polyethylene (PE) water pipe networks, with the updating of three key documents by the BPF Pipes Group.

Specifications for PE Pipes and Fittings for Water Supply, Specifying Flanged Joints for PE Pressure Piping Systems and Joining of PE Pressure Pipes for Below Ground Water Applications are the comprehensive guidance documents that provide anyone designing, specifying, installing or onsite testing PE water pipe systems with everything they need to know for a safe, secure and long-lasting system.

The BPF Pipes Group also worked with Water UK to produce the new WIS 4-01-03 for hydrostatic pressure testing. This, along with the updated BPF Pipes Group guidance documents, goes a long way towards answering one of the UK Water Industry Research (UKWIR)'s Big Questions – 'How will we achieve zero leakage in a sustainable way by 2050?'

The new WIS marks a major step forward, replacing guidance previously in the WRc Blue Book (guide to testing of water supply pipelines and sewer rising mains) and Water UK's IGN 4-01-03. BPF Pipes Group members played a significant part in helping drive this project for the Water UK Standards Board.

David Williams chairs the BPF Pipes Group's Pressure Piping Systems Outside Buildings technical group and he commented: "The new WIS 4-01-03 marks a significant step forward in the drive towards leak-free pipe networks which we all want. We were delighted to have played a part in getting this through and hope our guidance will also assist those involved with the design, installation, testing and maintenance of PE pipe networks everywhere."

The BPF Pipes Group strives to promote best practice in the construction and use of all types of plastic pipes and fittings and its website contains many free-to-access technical documents and practical guidance.

The three recently updated guidance documents can be found at https://bit.ly/3YPiTax