



A Division of The Society of The Plastics Industry, Inc.

Roy T. Gottesman
Executive Director

Nov. 20, 1989

To: VI Pipe Resource Organization
Dr. Frederic Clarke - Benjamin/Clarke
Dr. Joseph Zicherman, IFT Technical Services

For your information.

Roy

Wayne Interchange Plaza II
155 Route 46 West • Wayne, New Jersey 07470 • (201) 890-9299

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PLASTIC PIPE AND FITTINGS ASSOCIATION

CODE REPORT: September, 1989

The following is a summary of major code activity in which PPFA has been involved during September, 1989. Please feel free to contact the PPFA office for further information about any of these code actions.

LOG: IR #89-132, State of Massachusetts
MATERIAL(S) AFFECTED: ABS, PVC-DWV
ISSUE: Use of plastic pipe in residential structures up to 10 stories.

OVERVIEW: In 1988, the Massachusetts State Plumbing Board voted to allow the expanded use of ABS and PVC-DWV from 6-story residential structures to 10-story structures. On September 5, PPFA Field Representative Jack Lancaster attended a Board hearing at which a motion was heard to reverse the 1988 vote. That motion was rejected. At the October 4 Board meeting, an attempt to raise the issue again was halted by legal counsel for the Board, who ruled the matter could not be discussed further because of the action taken (rejection of the motion) in September. PPFA attended the October 4 meeting, but did not offer comment since counsel's ruling prevented union representatives from showing a video on ABS or offering further statements.

LOG: IR #89-16, ICBO Annual Conference
MATERIAL(S) AFFECTED: All
ISSUE: Use of plastic pipe in combustible construction.

OVERVIEW: A code change proposed by PPFA to clearly show the acceptance of combustible piping in the design construction for all types of buildings was recommended for denial by the ICBO Code Development Committee on Fire Risk earlier this year. However, the staff analysis provided with the denial was seemingly encouraging since it stated "There is nothing in Table 17-A that requires that piping for plumbing be noncombustible..." Thus at the ICBO Annual Conference on September 13, PPFA attempted to overturn the ICBO Committee recommendation against including language in the ICBO Uniform Building Code that would clearly indicate the permitted use of combustible pipe. The attempt was unsuccessful.

LOG: IR #89-23, National Standard Plumbing Code Hearings
MATERIAL(S) AFFECTED: ALL
ISSUE: Update of NSPC standards.

OVERVIEW: PPFA Field Representative Jack Lancaster was in Washington, D.C. on September 14 to attend the National Standard Plumbing Code hearings, during which plastic standards were updated.

CTL027365

LOG: IR #89-01 A-40 Committee
MATERIAL(S) AFFECTED: All
ISSUE: PPFA appeal to the secretariat.

OVERVIEW: In 1988, PPFA filed an appeal with the A40 Secretariat challenging the submittal of the document to ANSI as a proposed national standard. However, on September 23, PPFA formally notified the A-40 secretariat that it can agree to removing editorially the "combustible construction" restriction of plastic pipe in the A-40 standard.

LOG: IR #89-09, IAPMO Annual Conference.
MATERIAL(S) AFFECTED: PVC, ABS, ABSFC, PB, CPVC.
ISSUE: Combustible construction code changes.

OVERVIEW: PPFA Field Representatives Jack Lancaster and Ted Grizzell attended the IAPMO Annual Conference in Sparks, Nevada on September 26 and 27. They report these actions:

- 1.) PPFA was unsuccessful in its effort to reverse the action by IAPMO that removes PB from the Uniform Plumbing Code;
- 2.) PPFA was unsuccessful in reversing a code change that defined combustible construction in the UPC as buildings of wood structural members only, thereby more extensively restricting ABS and PVC-DWV;
- 3.) PPFA was unsuccessful in its request to remove the "combustible construction" language from the code;
- 4) PPFA was successful in overturning the Code Change Committee's recommended language for the UPC for testing of piping in fire-rated assemblies.

CTL027366

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The tabl titled "Inquiries by Jurisdiction" indicates whether code activity fell into the category of local, state or model code. "Natur of Inquiries" provides an indication of the kind of information requested. "Inquiries by Material" is a breakdown of which materials were affected by inquiry. "Inquiries by Issue" presents information on the subject matter of the inquiries. Total number of inquiries is reported in the "Inquiries by Jurisdiction" table. However, since an inquiry may involve more than one issue, material or nature, other tables may show varying numbers.

NOTE: Model code activity statistics are highest in th arly part of the year when the code change cycles begin. However, PPFA fieldmen participate in model code change cycles throughout the year.

SEPTEMBER 1989

INQUIRIES BY ISSUE

Code Updating-	- - - - -	-3
Fire Resistance &		
Fire Tests-	- - - - -	3
Installation -	- - - - -	-5
General Plastic Fittings		-1
Joining/Adapting -	- - - - -	-1
Combustion/Toxicity -	- - - - -	2
Toxicit-	- - - - -	-1
Noise-	- - - - -	-1

TOTAL: 17

INQUIRIES BY MATERIAL

All - -	3
PVC - -	2
ABS- -	-2
PB- - -	1
ABSFC-	-1

TOTAL: 10

NATURE OF INQUIRIES

Code-Expansion of Uses-	- - -	3
Code-Protection of Uses-	- - -	-2
Code Approval-New-	- - - -	-1
Standards for Plastic Pipe		-1

TOTAL: 7

INQUIRIES BY JURISDICTION

Model -----	4
State -----	1

TOTAL: 5

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