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NEWS

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VINYL CONDUIT SLATED FOR HIGH
GROWTH, SURVEY FINDS

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Sherry M. Carr

WAYNE, New Jersey, December 3, 1986 — Vinyl electrical conduit is growing in popularity with building industry professionals, a newly released study finds.

In a nationwide survey of residential construction specifiers, vinyl electrical conduit ranked highest of all products listed in the number of builders and architects who say they plan to use it more often in the future. Currently, nearly 25 percent of both groups state that they use vinyl. Of that total, 20 percent of the builders and 17 percent of the architects plan to use more.

Vinyl's durability and ability to perform to specification were cited as the top reasons for choosing it over competitive materials, participants said. Overall, durability is the number one concern builders and architects have about the products they specify, the survey found.

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Five hundred fifty architects, builders and code officials throughout the country participated in the study, which was sponsored by the Vinyl Institute, the trade association representing the leading manufacturers of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), or vinyl. Conducted by an independent research firm in New York City, the study was designed to determine where vinyl building products are used and why. It is the first time that such a study has been done on behalf of the vinyl industry, according to the Institute's director, Dr. Roy T. Gottesman.

Sixty-five percent of the code officials surveyed state that they favor the use of vinyl conduit in residential applications. Over 60 percent of the survey participants say that it is approved by their local code.

"Vinyl's unique combination of performance properties makes it an excellent candidate for conduit," notes Gottesman. "This survey confirms our belief that vinyl's durability, corrosion resistance and excellent non conducting properties will help it grow in this market."

In 1985, over 6.7 billion pounds of vinyl resin were sold in the United States according to statistics from the Society of the Plastics Industry. Rigid piping, at 2.8 billion pounds, is the largest single market for PVC.

The Vinyl Institute, founded in 1982, is a Division of the Society of the Plastics Industry. It is headquartered in Wayne, New Jersey.

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