1. Product Name

Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS) Plastic Pipe and Fittings for Drainage, Waste and Vent Systems

2. Manufacturer

For a list of member manufacturers, contact the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association, 800 Roosevelt Road, Building C, Suite 20, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137; phone: (630) 858-6540; fax (630) 790-3095; website: www.ppfahome.org.

3. Product Description

Basic Use: Sanitary drainage, waste, and vent systems and storm drainage systems. ABS pipe can be used in residential, commercial and industrial applications. Pipe and fittings are joined by solvent cementing. There is a full complement of ABS drainage pattern fittings available for DWV applications. Pipe and fittings are available size 1 1/4 inch through 6 inches in diameter.

Composition and Materials: ABS is a thermoplastic material made with virgin ABS compounds meeting the ASTM requirements of Classification 4-2-2-2-2 (pipe) 3-2-2-2-2 (fittings). Pipe is available in both solid wall and cellular core wall. These can be used interchangeably.

Grades: ABS pipe is identified as Schedule 40 pipe. This indicates the wall thickness of the pipe. The pipe can also be installed above or below grade.

Limitations: ABS pipe is intended to be used in any conventional sanitary drainage or storm drainage system. Pipe is resistant to certain chemicals; however, specific analysis must be performed before pipe is considered for any special waste system. Contact the pipe manufacturer for a detailed list of chemicals that can be satisfactorily discharged through ABS pipe.

Plastics are affected by ultraviolet (U/V) radiation. Pigments are added to the ABS to make pipe and fittings resistant to degradation. Pipe and fittings may be exposed to sunlight during construction; however, prolonged exposure is not advised. ABS pipe and fittings can withstand the normal temperatures encountered in a sanitary and storm drainage system. Recommended maximum temperature for continuous drainage applications is 180° F.

4. Technical Data

Applicable Standards: ABS, for DWV applications, conforms to either ASTM D 2661, ASTM F 628, or CSA CAN/CSA B181.1. ASTM D 2661 specifies requirements for solid wall pipe. ASTM F 628 specifies requirements for pipe and fittings having a cellular core. Solid wall ABS fittings conform to ASTM D 2661 or CSA CAN/CSA B181.1. Dimensions for drainage pattern fittings up to 8” size are shown in ASTM D 3311.

Quality Control. The ABS plastic raw material and pipe and fittings quality are prescribed by nationally recognized product standards. Each product is carefully controlled and tested to insure high quality end products. In addition to production quality controls, field representatives from independent third party certifying agencies make unannounced plant visits to inspect and insure standard conformity. Agencies that provide third party certification include the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), IAPMO–R&T Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), NSF International (NSF), and Underwriters Laboratories (UL).

Laying Lengths: ABS pipe is available in 10 and 20 foot lengths. Laying lengths for common fittings are identified in Tables 1 and 2.

In Canada, ABS pipe is also available in 12 foot lengths.

Expansion and Contraction: ABS pipe has a higher expansion and contraction rate than metallic pipe. The coefficient of linear expansion for ABS plastic is 0.0000560 in/in/°F. The rate translates into an expansion of 1.34 inches for every 20 feet with a temperature change of 100°F.

Where ABS pipe is subjected to severe temperature fluctuations, provisions for expansion and contraction must be provided. This can be accomplished with the use of expansion joints and offset piping arrangements or by making provisions at changes in direction.
**Hangers and Supports**: ABS pipe must be supported horizontally at 4 foot intervals. Support vertical piping at every floor level. Install hangers and supports to allow for thermal expansion and contraction.

**Fire Protection**: ABS pipe and fittings are combustible materials; however, they may be installed in buildings that require non-combustible construction. In all cases the model building codes have determined that ABS piping must be protected at penetrations of fire resistance rated wall, floor, and ceiling assemblies. The method of protecting the pipe penetration is by a through penetration protection assembly that has been tested and rated in accordance with ASTM E 814.

The important rating is the “F” rating for the through penetration protection assembly. The “F” rating must be a minimum of the hourly rating of the fire resistance rated assembly that has been tested and rated in accordance with ASTM E 814. However, they may be installed in buildings that require non-combustible construction.

Verify acceptance and installation of ABS piping systems with local code enforcement authorities having jurisdiction.

**Availability & Cost**

**Availability**: ABS pipe and fittings are available through local plumbing supply wholesalers throughout the United States and Canada.

**Cost**: ABS plastic pipe is less expensive than metallic piping materials used in sanitary and storm drainage systems.

**5. Installation**

**Preparatory Work**: ABS pipe must be cut square with a wheeled cutter, miter saw, or power saw designed for that use. Pipe ends must be deburred and wiped clean and dry.

**Methods**: Solvent cement, conforming to ASTM D 2235, is applied to joint surfaces. The joint is made while the solvent cement is still wet, and then rotate 1/4 turn.

**Precautions**: Joining of ABS pipe and fittings should be performed in well-ventilated locations. Contact of solvent cement with the skin must be avoided. Eye protection is recommended during solvent cementing. See ASTM F 402 for more safe handling details.

Protect pipe from coming in contact with sharp objects or building materials. Care must be exercised to avoid rough handling or abrasion of the pipe and fittings. ABS plastic pipe should not be installed in areas subject to high heat sources.

**Plumbing Codes**: ABS pipe is permitted to be used in any sanitary drainage, waste, and vent system and storm drainage system in the following model plumbing codes: BOCA National Plumbing Code, NAPHCC National Standard Plumbing Code, SBCCI Standard Plumbing Code, International Plumbing Code (IPC) and the IAPMO Uniform Plumbing Code (2000 version). Previous versions of the UPC limit the installation of ABS plastic pipe is limited to buildings three stories above grade or less in height. However, many jurisdictions that use this model code have deleted this restriction.

Verify acceptance and installation of ABS piping systems with local code enforcement authorities having jurisdiction.

**6. Maintenance**

Standard drainage system chemicals and equipment can be used.

**Technical Services**

The manufacturers of ABS plastic pipe and fittings will provide technical manuals and engineering data upon request.

**More Information**

Additional product information is available upon request from the Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association, 800 Roosevelt Rd., Building C, Suite 20, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 (630) 858-6540; fax (630) 790-3095; website: www.ppahome.org.
### Table 1

**Laying Lengths (in.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pipe size</th>
<th>1/4 Bend</th>
<th>Long Sweep</th>
<th>1/8 Bend</th>
<th>1/6 Bend</th>
<th>1/16 Bend</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 1/4</td>
<td>19/16</td>
<td>2 1/4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7/8</td>
<td>7/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 1/2</td>
<td>1 1/4</td>
<td>2 1/4</td>
<td>1 1/8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 1/16</td>
<td>3 1/4</td>
<td>1 1/2</td>
<td>15/16</td>
<td>11/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3 3/16</td>
<td>4 1/16</td>
<td>1 3/4</td>
<td>1 11/16</td>
<td>13/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 7/8</td>
<td>4 15/16</td>
<td>2 1/16</td>
<td>2 1/16</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>5 (MIN)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2 (MIN)</td>
<td>3 3/8</td>
<td>1 1/2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Table 2

**Laying Lengths (in.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pipe size</th>
<th>GN</th>
<th>GJ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 1/4</td>
<td>3/4</td>
<td>19/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 1/2</td>
<td>1 1/4</td>
<td>1 1/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1 1/8</td>
<td>2 1/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>1 13/16</td>
<td>3 1/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2 1/4</td>
<td>3 7/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3 1/2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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