

# Tube Products

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## INTERNATIONAL



The trade magazine for tube and pipe products

May 2014



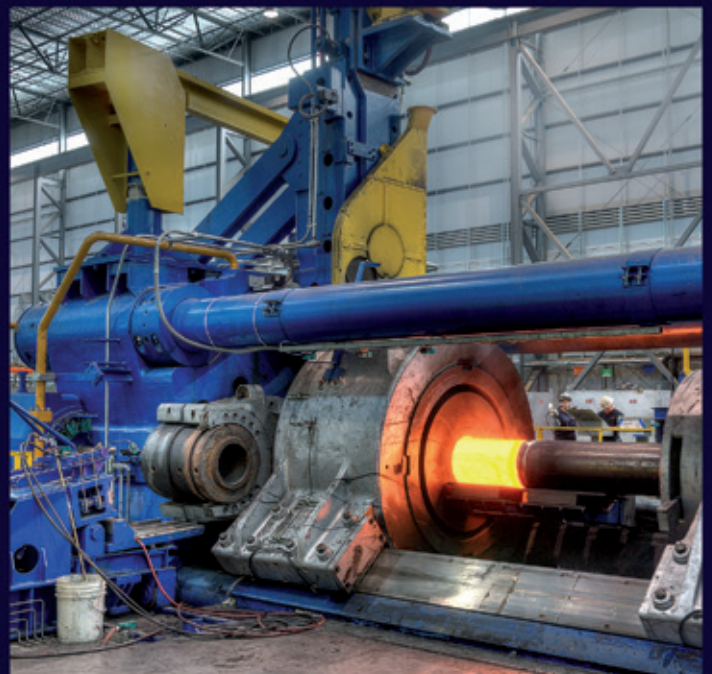
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# Tube Products

INTERNATIONAL

The trade magazine for tube and pipe products



## The May issue

Welcome to the latest issue of Tube Products International magazine. Inside you will find features on the important areas of oil and gas, water drainage and civils, and an interview with the talented team at STAROFIT. We also have an in-depth feature on powered pipe-threading tips written by Teodora Takacs of the Ridgid/Ridge Tool Company from Belgium.

This May issue of the magazine is being distributed at several important trade shows including the well-established Lamiera 2014 in the beautiful city of Bologna and at Tube Russia, which is now one of the leading tube shows in the world. A new show for us this year is IFAT in Munich, so we are very excited to be linking up with them for the first time. Although Tube Düsseldorf is now over for two years it is great to know that there are so many other fantastic tube shows on the horizon.

Many of you will just have returned from the Tube Düsseldorf show and I hope it was a great success for your company and that everyone had a safe journey back home. Our entire team flew out to Germany so after a long build up it is exciting to finally get to the show and see this important industry of ours in all of its glory.

The next issue will be distributed at Tube China and will have features on GRP and fibre glass pipes, pipe inspection and corrosion protection, and handling and logistics. Contact me at rory@intras.co.uk if you have any stories for the magazine.



**Rory McBride**  
Editor

# events calendar

## 2014



**14-17 May**  
**Lamiera** (Bologna, Italy)  
International Exhibition  
[www.lamiera.net](http://www.lamiera.net)



**3-6 June**  
**Tube Russia** (Moscow, Russia)  
International Exhibition  
[www.metallurgy-tube-russia.com](http://www.metallurgy-tube-russia.com)



**24-27 September**  
**Tube China 2014** (Shanghai, China)  
International Exhibition  
[www.tubechina.net](http://www.tubechina.net)



**21-25 October**  
**EuroBlech** (Hanover, Germany)  
International Exhibition  
[www.euroblech.com](http://www.euroblech.com)



**28-30 October**  
**Tube India 2014** (Mumbai, India)  
International Exhibition  
[www.tubeindia.com](http://www.tubeindia.com)



**10-12 November**  
**Fabtech** (Atlanta, USA)  
International Exhibition  
[www.fabtechexpo.com](http://www.fabtechexpo.com)



**2-4 December**  
**Valveworld** (Düsseldorf, Germany)  
International Exhibition  
[www.valveworldexpo.com](http://www.valveworldexpo.com)



**11-13 December**  
**Indometal Tube** (Jakarta, Indonesia)  
International Exhibition  
[www.indometal.net](http://www.indometal.net)

## 2015



**10-13 January**  
**Tube Arabia** (Dubai, UAE)  
International Exhibition  
[www.tekno-arabia.com](http://www.tekno-arabia.com)

# 20th Jubilee International Industrial Exhibition

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# business & market news

*Vallourec will supply pipes threaded with VAM 21 premium connections*

## Vallourec awarded contract for project in Brunei

Vallourec has been awarded a \$100mn contract for the supply of premium pipes with VAM 21 connections for the offshore ML-South Project, operated by Total's affiliate, Total E&P Borneo, in Brunei.

Following a successful exploration campaign, which started in 2007, Total is starting a drilling programme with six development wells from 2015.

ML-South is located in Block B offshore Brunei and is an extension of the producing Maharaja Lela Jamalulalam field, with water depth of approximately 65m, and is expected to hold important gas and condensate reserves.

The development wells will be producing at depth greater than 5,000m, in a highly corrosive environment and sustaining high pressure/high temperature (HP/HT). These conditions position the project at a new field development frontier.

Didier Hornet, managing director of Vallourec's oil and gas activities, commented, "We are honoured to have been selected by Total for this complex offshore project. This contract recognises Vallourec's ability to provide the most advanced premium tubular solutions and services in the most challenging environments. We will work alongside Total to develop the local contribution to this project."

Vallourec will equip the wells with premium pipes, the majority of which will be in high alloyed, corrosion-resistant grades, threaded with its latest premium connection, VAM 21.

Casing and tubing will be manufactured in Vallourec's European and Indonesian plants.

The pipes are expected to be delivered to Total E&P Borneo for drilling operations scheduled to start in the second half of 2015.

**Vallourec** – France  
contact@vallourec.com  
www.vallourec.com



## Senior appointments support growth plans

Premier Hytemp, a manufacturer of engineered alloy components for the oil and gas industry, has announced the appointment of two experienced industry professionals to its senior management team.

Campbell MacPherson, who has spent almost 20 years working in high-precision oil and gas engineering, joined the company in April as its chief executive officer, while Gavin Rippe took the post of chief commercial officer in March, bringing 15 years of experience of sales and marketing in the subsea oil and gas sector to the role.

Premier Hytemp operates in the manufacture and supply chain management of precision engineered alloy components used in safety critical applications in the energy sector, including wellheads, valves and downhole tools.

It provides a comprehensive package of solutions, from raw materials, bar and forged products to finish machined products, complete assemblies and testing.

Maurice McBride, chairman of Premier Hytemp, commented, "Campbell and Gavin have a wealth of industry experience, which will be extremely valuable to us as we pursue our growth strategy.

"Premier Hytemp has three decades of experience in the industry and a strong team in place across the business. They

will provide the leadership and insight to ensure that we increase our market share through our established relationships and new business, founded upon our integrity and thorough understanding of customer requirements."

**Premier Hytemp – UK**  
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*Campbell MacPherson, newly appointed chief executive officer of Premier Hytemp*



*Gavin Rippe, chief commercial officer*



## Fine Tubes develops management training

Fine Tubes, a manufacturer and global distributor of precision tubes for critical applications from aerospace to power generation, has been working with City College Plymouth to develop and implement a customer service-focused management training course.

Keen to enhance the general management capabilities of its customer service cell leaders, including their knowledge and understanding of core disciplines, Fine Tubes considered a number of options before opting to work with City College.

As a result of the collaboration, a number of Fine Tubes cell leaders are currently undertaking the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) Diploma in First Line Management (QCF) level 3.

Fine Tubes production manager Joe Doherty commented, "Working with City College has been an excellent experience, right from the initial meeting in which we outlined our requirements. They have tailored a programme that meets our specific needs and we have already seen a significant improvement in the confidence and ability of all the cell leaders currently taking the course. Equally important, they themselves have given very positive feedback on both the course content and the quality of the tutors."

Fine Tubes has headquarters and production facilities in Plymouth, UK, and sales offices in Munich, Germany; Orleans, France; New Delhi, India; and Houston, USA. The company manufactures both seamless and

welded tubes in a wide range of stainless steel, nickel, titanium and zirconium alloys, for critical applications in the oil and gas, nuclear and power, aerospace, chemicals and medical equipment industries.

Recent projects for which Fines Tubes has supplied specialist tubing include the Airbus A380 and A350 series, the Sukhoi Superjet 100, the Skylon reusable space plane, the Gemasolar power station and CERN's Large Hadron Collider.

**Fine Tubes Ltd – UK**  
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**City College Plymouth – UK**  
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[www.cityplym.ac.uk](http://www.cityplym.ac.uk)

## Updated Stauff catalogue

The revised, and in some areas significantly expanded, general product catalogue is now available from Stauff, the Germany-based fluid technology specialist.

*The Stauff One product catalogue provides general, ordering and technical information*



In a total of 682 pages, the 'Stauff One' – initially released in spring 2011 – provides all relevant general, ordering and technical information about the company's wide range of fluid technology products for mechanical and plant engineering and maintenance, consisting of industrial pipework components, test equipment and hydraulic accessories from own development and manufacturing.

In addition to several new series of filter housings for hydraulic applications, the most relevant new products added to this edition of the catalogue include various Diagtronics innovations, such as the practical PPC-04-plus range of handheld hydraulic testers with new sensors, and the LPM-II particle monitor for in-line installation.

In order to meet growing market requirements, Stauff has also added further designs and sizes of SAE flanges and high-pressure ball valves for regulating, throttling and shutting off fluid media in industrial and mobile hydraulics.

In addition to the German language version, printed English and French versions of the Stauff One general product catalogue are available. For on-screen viewing, the company provides a CD-ROM with PDF files in all three languages.

Users of mobile devices can visit [www.stauff.com/one](http://www.stauff.com/one), where suitably presented versions of the catalogue can be viewed.

Walter Stauffenberg GmbH & Co KG was founded in the 1950s in Werdohl, in the German province of North Rhine-Westphalia, and was initially a contract turning shop. The company operates under the trade name Stauff, developing, producing and marketing fluid technology components for use in plant construction and mechanical engineering.

**Walter Stauffenberg GmbH & Co KG**  
– Germany  
[sales@stauff.com](mailto:sales@stauff.com)  
[www.stauff.com](http://www.stauff.com)

## Pipe and tube conference

The Tube & Pipe Association, International (TPA), USA, and the International Tube Association (ITA), Germany, are to host their fifth conference devoted to updating seamless and welded tubular product technology and processes, scheduled for 16-18 September 2014 in Houston, Texas, USA.

'Pipe & Tube Houston 2014 – Developing Technology for Enhanced Profitability' will showcase innovative and engaging sessions that push the boundaries of tube and pipe technology across multiple industries, such as OCTG, medical and automotive, and will feature tube and pipe related services and enabling

technologies such as lubrication, degreasing, NDT, quality assurance and metallurgical services from both developers and end users. An exclusive tour of Boomerang Tube in Liberty, Texas, will also be offered.

**Pipe & Tube Houston – USA**  
[www.pipetubeconf.com](http://www.pipetubeconf.com)

## McElroy gains new distributor in Africa

McElroy has announced the addition of a new distributor that will sell and service its range of fusion machines in Northern Africa. Soudure Plastique of Casablanca, Morocco, is an established company specialising in polyethylene pipe equipment and electro-fusion machines used in the gas and water industry.

"Our products continue to attract

distributors all over the world who want to offer the best and most reliable equipment in thermoplastic pipe fusion," said Chip McElroy, president and CEO. "We are excited to play a crucial role in the fusible pipe movement in this new market."

McElroy has had a presence in South Africa for many years through its Rho-Tech distributor. The addition of Soudure

Plastique in the North will make it more convenient to equip contractors and pipeline owners throughout the continent with advanced fusion equipment.

**McElroy – USA**  
[fusion@mcelroy.com](http://fusion@mcelroy.com)  
[www.mcelroy.com](http://www.mcelroy.com)

**Soudure Plastique – Morocco**  
[www.soudureboutabout.com](http://www.soudureboutabout.com)

## Valve World Expo 2014

Valve World Expo takes place for the third time in Düsseldorf from 2 to 4 December 2014. With exhibition space of more than 16,000m<sup>2</sup> already sold and 522 exhibitors from 35 countries confirmed, the event is fully booked. The fair presents valves and fittings along with relevant components and parts, actuators and positioners, pumps, compressors, engineering services and software.

Exhibition halls 3, 4 and 5 will be occupied, and both the North and the South entrance will be open. Traditionally, European companies from the UK, Italy, Spain, the Czech Republic, Turkey, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Finland, Poland, Russia and Germany are represented in great numbers. Many exhibitors travel to Düsseldorf from overseas countries such as the USA, India, China, South Korea and Taiwan to attend the trade fair and the congress.

Once again, the Valve World Conference will take place at the same time. The conference has been incorporated into the layout of hall 4. Workshops on a variety of topics will be offered in addition to the lectures. Experts from around the world will be on-hand to engage participants in an exchange on the innovations from the growing valve technology segment and related upstream and downstream technologies.

Messe Düsseldorf GmbH – Germany  
www.messe-duesseldorf.de

## Fabrication contract for Gulf Coast investment

CB&I has been awarded a contract to provide pipe fabrication for The Dow Chemical Company US Gulf Coast Investment Program. Dow's investment plan includes construction of a new propylene and ethylene production unit in Texas, and four new polyethylene plants in Texas and Louisiana.

"CB&I's strategically located fabrication facilities, production management systems and manufacturing technology give us the unique capability to provide complete piping solutions for major energy infrastructure projects," said Luke Scorson, president of CB&I's fabrication services operating group. "This distinct expertise offers our customers greater quality, efficiency and schedule reliability, and in turn, we help our customers get their products to market faster."

CB&I – USA  
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## MRC announces Chevron award

Chevron USA Inc has added MRC Global and its subsidiaries as a strategic valve supplier on the Future Growth Project in Kazakhstan. Chevron has also extended its worldwide master contract to enable MRC Global and its subsidiaries to transact business with Chevron in Australia for approved pipe, valves and fittings (PVF).

The companies have also reached an agreement allowing subsidiaries of MRC Global to provide PVF products for maintenance, repair and operations (MRO) to Chevron's operations in Thailand.

"We are very pleased that Chevron

added MRC Global as a strategic PVF supplier in these major international operations," said MRC Global's chairman, president and CEO, Andrew Lane. "Chevron has been our largest customer for the past four years. As MRC Global has grown and expanded internationally, we are now in a position to serve our top customers on a much broader scale and have worked closely with Chevron to add PVF capabilities and support in Australia, Kazakhstan and Thailand to our current North America base MRO business."

The announcement follows previous expansions to the worldwide master agreement naming MRC Global

as a preferred supplier to Chevron's operations in Canada, Brazil and Angola.

"Our worldwide master agreement is built upon more than 60 years of servicing Chevron's business around the world," said Mr Lane. "A relationship that began with MRC Global supporting Chevron's Richmond, California, facility in the 1950s now spans six continents and expands each year as MRC Global continues to look for additional areas to further serve Chevron by creating the most efficient and effective PVF supply chain possible."

**MRC Global Inc – USA**  
[www.mrcglobal.com](http://www.mrcglobal.com)

## Technip awarded contract in Brunei

Technip has been awarded a contract by Total E&P Borneo BV, covering engineering, procurement, supply, construction and commissioning (EPSCC). The project aims at the modification of the onshore facilities as well as the construction of a new onshore pipeline, in order to transport Maharaja Lela & Jamalulalam South (MLJS) gas to the Brunei Liquefied Natural Gas (BLNG) plant. The onshore modification work includes de-bottlenecking of the processing

plant to enable handling up to five million cubic metres per day (annual average) from the greater MLJ field, and associated assistance in start-up and performance testing.

Technip's operating centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, will execute the contract with support from the office of the group based in Brunei. The project is scheduled for completion in the second half of 2015. Lim Kwee Keong, senior

vice president of Technip in Asia Pacific, stated, "Following the front-end engineering design that we have completed in 2012, Technip was keen on undertaking the EPSCC contract. Vital for the brownfield tie-in of the MLJS project, our familiarity with the onshore facilities has made the difference and gave us leverage in this much sought-after development."

**Technip – France**  
[www.technip.com](http://www.technip.com)

## Nelson expands Brazilian operations

Nelson Global Products Inc has announced a second recent acquisition in Brazil: structural tube manufacturer TuboPress.

TuboPress produces structural tube assemblies such as step-ladders and many others used by agricultural and construction vehicle manufacturers.

The company, founded in 2003, is centrally located with close proximity to major commercial vehicle manufacturers. Paulo Kunzel, former owner of the business, will continue as the operation's general manager.

"We continue to execute our growth plan through strategic acquisitions as we broaden the Nelson portfolio of products made in the South American market," said Sergio Carvalho, president of Nelson's on-highway business unit. "We were impressed by TuboPress's growth and its close relationships with key customers which are market leaders."

TuboPress will also be the home of Nelson's new exhaust product line in South America.

"We're continuing to execute our

strategic plan in South America and to expand our product offering," stated Tom Gosnell, CEO of Nelson. "Our large multi-national customer base will benefit from local availability regardless of where they produce commercial vehicles."

In May 2013, the company acquired Envall, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, which makes hydraulic and structural tubes and low-to-high pressure hydraulic hoses.

**Nelson Global Products – USA**  
[www.nelsonglobalproducts.com](http://www.nelsonglobalproducts.com)

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## Pipeline equipment companies combine

Sawyer Manufacturing Company, USA, has joined PSW Consultants Ltd, UK, in the creation of Sawyer International – a global provider of pipeline and welding equipment.

“PSW has built a strong international presence over the past two decades, and the Pipeswizord brand is known on job sites across the world,” said Warrick Howard, PSW’s international sales director.

“Our partnership with Sawyer Manufacturing has enabled us to effectively double our product range instantly, giving our distributors a much broader range of products to service their customers’ needs. Sawyer Manufacturing has a strong reputation for quality US-manufactured goods, and combined with our EU manufacturing facilities, we can push forward as a global brand capable of servicing all pipeline fit up requirements from Austria to Zambia.”

Sawyer International is positioned to meet the needs of the growing pipeline industry with an increased product line and access to additional markets. Customers will benefit from innovative equipment, services and solutions available through Sawyer’s global, multi-channel network. The new Sawyer International will focus initially on generating increased exposure in the US, Russian and Asian markets.

Through unified product lines, Sawyer International will offer a scope of equipment for welders in the pipeline



industry. A central European fulfilment warehouse will decrease customer lead-time and equipment costs, and new products introduced into the market will benefit from locations in the USA and Europe.

The expansion of Sawyer International creates new growth and revenue opportunities, which extend to the work force, allowing room for expansion and future advancement for existing employees. There is also an opportunity for new distributor partnerships across the globe. At the present time, the merged companies will continue to manufacture and distribute equipment through their current avenues.

**Sawyer Mfg Co – USA**  
warrick@sawyeremfg.com  
www.sawyeremfg.com

**PSW Consultants Ltd – UK**  
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## Sekisui to exhibit at IFAT 2014

Sekisui SPR will present its product and service portfolio at the IFAT trade fair for potable water, wastewater, waste and resource management in Munich, Germany, 5-9 May. With 'Underneath the city' as its slogan, the company will introduce technologies for pipe rehabilitation at stand 121 in hall B5.

Visitors to the exhibition will be presented with a holistic approach to the management of pipe systems with services and technologies from the fields of inspection, design, installation and maintenance. The focus will be on a broad technology portfolio for trenchless rehabilitation of potable water, water and sewage pipes with the spiral-wound pipe, cured-in-place pipe, and fold-and-form processes.

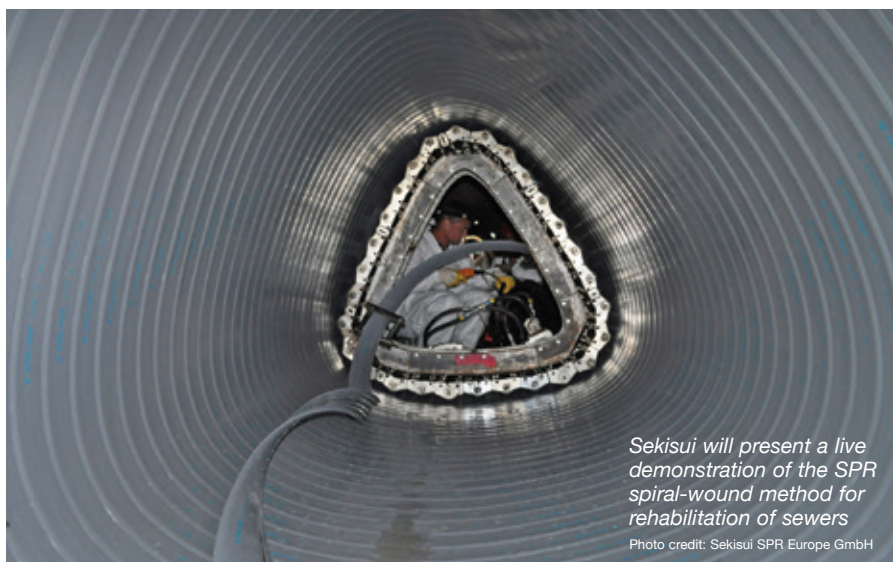
The technologies fulfil the various requirements of maintaining infrastructure. They are characterised by short construction times and less strain on local residents and the environment.

Visitors can also expect to see a live demonstration of the SPR™ spiral-wound technology.

With this method, an endless PVC profile strip is fed from a spool placed above

ground into the machine stationed directly in the sewer, and formed into a watertight pipe inside the old pipe.

**Sekisui SPR Group** – Germany  
www.sekisuispr.com



*Sekisui will present a live demonstration of the SPR spiral-wound method for rehabilitation of sewers*

Photo credit: Sekisui SPR Europe GmbH

## Stainless steel event

The 'Stainless steels hot news on: regulations – laws – directives – certifications' event, organised by Centro Inox in partnership with Unsider, will be held in Milan on 29 May. From the point of view of regulations, laws and standards, the world of stainless steel production and distribution is going through an important period, due to the updating, integration and revision activities, which represent a point of reference for those who must be informed on the inclusion of new alloys, those who must buy appropriate materials, and those who want to be up-to-date on physical and chemical characteristics and end uses.

A one-day seminar has been organised, aimed at discussing and clarifying the different issues included in the agenda, and in particular the updating status of the laws and regulations referring to the main iron and steel products, and the major current regulation and standard projects, in a period in which new steel grades have been launched and are increasingly used for specialised applications. In addition, the relevance of imports of stainless steel products originating from Far-East countries to Europe should not be underestimated.

Problems arising in connection with issues such as non-compliance with international standards can become the cause of claims and counterclaims between suppliers and users, which may depend on misunderstanding or incomplete, incorrect information.

**Centro Inox** – Italy  
www.centroinox.it



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## IPP Group's new appointments

IPP Group has appointed Ian Crabtree as business development director.



*Ian Crabtree,  
business  
development  
director*

Mr Crabtree has served as managing director of International Piping Products Middle East FZC since 2012, and was previously group sales director. He has more than 25 years' experience supplying into the oil, gas and petrochemical industries, both domestic and international.

IPP CEO Jared Ayres commented, "We welcome Ian's return to the UK office to strengthen our sales and management team. I would like to thank him for his two years in the Middle East where he has developed a progressive company and opened many new doors."

Mr Crabtree will continue to have involvement with IPP Middle East as

well as being responsible for developing new business globally.

IPP Group has also made two new key additions to its QA and project management team. Caroline Adams is appointed as quality systems manager, with responsibility for developing the ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management System throughout the IPP companies based at the facility in Barton Under Needwood, UK. David Such joins the group as project manager, and will be handling the project management of the IPP Scomark facility.

**IPP Group Ltd – UK**  
sales@ippgrp.com  
www.ippgrp.com

## Asahi/America to move to new HQ

Asahi/America Inc, a manufacturer of corrosion-resistant thermoplastic fluid flow solutions, will move its corporate headquarters to Lawrence, Massachusetts, USA, in October 2014. The 200,000ft<sup>2</sup> facility will house all of the company's current operations, as well as providing room for aggressive development plans.

"I am pleased that we have been able to secure a state-of-the-art facility in Lawrence for our new headquarters," said Dan Anderson, senior vice

president of sales and marketing. "This facility will be the perfect venue to showcase our products and grow our business."

The new headquarters will not only include office space and an expansive manufacturing and warehouse floor, but will also allow the 43-year-old company to host meetings, provide training seminars and better serve customers. There are no anticipated interruptions in business or to services.

Asahi/America specialises in solutions for fluid handling systems. Its corrosion-resistant thermoplastic fluid handling products include valves, actuators, pipe and fittings. The company maintains an extensive custom fabrication department, and provides on-site consultation, supervision and training where required.

**Asahi/America, Inc – USA**  
asahi@asahi-america.com  
www.asahi-america.com

## Expansion of production facilities in Brazil

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc (ADS) has announced the start-up of a second manufacturing facility in Brazil for its joint venture with Tigre SA. Located in Maceio, Alagoas, in the northeast of Brazil, the facility will double Tigre-ADS's annual capacity of HDPE pipe. The new facility will be the fourth operating plant in South America for the joint venture.

"From day one, Tigre has shared our commitment to making quality products and exceeding customer expectations

anywhere in the world, and that has led to the success of this venture," said Joe Chlapaty, ADS chairman and CEO. "We are excited to extend the Tigre-ADS offering throughout such a vibrant market."

Established in 2009, Santiago, Chile-based Tigre-ADS manufactures and distributes HDPE pipes for a wide range of markets, including storm water management, sanitation, mining, agriculture, telecom and electrical, throughout South America.

The joint venture also has operations in Antofagasta, Chile and Rio Claro, Brazil.

The newly added capacity will allow Tigre-ADS to continue to meet the needs created by rapidly expanding infrastructure development across South America.

**Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc – USA**  
info@ads-pipe.com  
www.ads-pipe.com



## Approval from US subsea systems manufacturer

Arc Energy Resources has been approved as a supplier of specialist weld overlay cladding services to FMC Technologies, a manufacturer of subsea systems, equipment and technologies required to explore, drill and develop offshore oil and gas fields.

The approval follows a thorough review of results from FMC Technologies audits as well as supporting technical approval of Arc Energy Resources' facility in Eastington, Gloucestershire, UK.

The FMC Technologies Global Supplier Review Board approved Arc Energy Resources weld overlay cladding services for special processes on all FMC Technologies materials and products. The approval is valid for direct and indirect supply to FMC Technologies from November 2013 to November 2018.

FMC Technologies' subsea systems business has a presence in all of the world's major basins with high-pressure, high-temperature (HPHT) trees and wellheads, subsea controls and systems or production optimisation services, as well as the growing demand for deep-water oil and gas production with subsea separation, boosting and processing systems.

Arc Energy Resources' weld overlay cladding services provide durable anti-corrosion coatings to protect technologies that increase oil recovery for mature projects and develop new projects that may otherwise be considered economically unviable or inaccessible.



**Arc Energy Resources – UK**  
 sales@arcenergy.co.uk  
 www.arcenergy.co.uk

## Fifty years in the tube industry

After fifty years of working in the tube industry, Alan McGlade retired from UK-based piping product stockist DK Jones Ltd in April.

After leaving school at the age of 15, Mr McGlade started his career in 1964 as a post boy at South Durham Steel & Iron Co in Middlesbrough. After the company was taken over by British Steel Corporation (BSC) he worked his

way up to the position of senior buyer. He left BSC in 1976 to join North Sea Gas Services in the sales department, and after being employed by several other North East England-based tube companies he started the company Glade Fittings Ltd in 1987. When this company was sold to DK Jones Ltd in 2002, Mr McGlade joined the sales department, where he has worked ever since.

During his career in the industry, Mr McGlade has developed a long relationship with many colleagues, customers and suppliers and, for the last 12 years, has been a valuable and knowledgeable member of the DK Jones sales force. After attempting to master the game of golf for the last 20 years, during his retirement Mr McGlade intends to spend more time river fishing, working in his newly acquired allotment, and relaxing by taking long walks in the country with his wife and dog.



Alan McGlade has retired after fifty years in the industry

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## Steel distributor opens new UK branch

Hub Le Bas, a distributor of precision steel tube in the UK, has added a new branch to its national network. Hub Le Bas Bristol, located in Avonmouth, will stock the range of steel products currently offered by the business to customers throughout the country.

The area covered by the branch will include the south west of England and South Wales. The move will enable Hub Le Bas to offer existing and potential customers a 48-hour delivery service anywhere in the region, and will create up to 12 new jobs.

Hub Le Bas is a part of Caparo Group and is a national stockist and distributor of steel products. The business has access to a total stock of over 8,000

steel product lines totalling around 6,000 tonnes. The Bristol branch consists of a 30,000ft<sup>2</sup> warehouse plus offices, and has access to the entire Hub Le Bas product range, including precision welded ERW tube, cold finished seamless tube, carbon hollow bar, structural hollow section, gas list tube, merchant bar, stainless steel welded tube and metallic conduit systems for electrical cable distribution.

Precision welded ERW tube is available in round, square, rectangle, oval and tunnel shaped profiles, while special shapes and tubes for specialist applications are also supplied on request. A cut-to-length service is offered as a standard extra process for customers, and additional services

such as laser cutting, end-forming and plating are available as required.

Speaking at the branch opening, Hub Le Bas managing director Ian Hardy said, "Today's market conditions are particularly challenging for steel distributors but Hub Le Bas is bucking the trend. Our new branch demonstrates our confidence that we have the right formula for success – listening to our customers, providing a great range of competitively priced products, and most of all delivering a great service across the board, whether you need a single length of tube or several tonnes of product."

**Hub Le Bas – UK**  
bristolsales@hublebas.co.uk  
www.hublebas.co.uk

## Special piping materials celebrates 25 years

UK-headquartered Special Piping Materials (SPM) has announced that it is re-branding to commemorate 25 years of success as a specialist supplier of alloy pipe, fittings and flanges to the oil and gas and water treatment industries.

The family-owned company is modernising its logo to mark the occasion and ensure that the brand remains at the forefront of this fast-paced sector. In the last 25 years SPM has grown from a single office in Manchester, UK, to a global network of seven sales offices and warehouses

across five continents. During that time the business has become recognised as a major supplier of a wide variety of Duplex and Super Duplex stainless steel products, and from the start of 2014 it extended its range to include NORSOK M-650 approved forged pressure fittings in the same grades.

Les Buckley, managing director of SPM, said, "For the past 25 years we have invested heavily in our people, products and processes, which has resulted in the company becoming known for delivering on price, quality and market expertise.

"To ensure our success continues in the future we need to ensure that the company evolves alongside the sector which is why we have taken this step to remodel the brand and broaden our product range.

"It positions SPM as front-runner in the field. Our reach around the globe will grow further in 2014, with the opening of a warehouse in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, during the first quarter of 2014."

**Special Piping Materials Ltd – UK**  
www.spm.co.uk



Gagan Sood

## Relocation of Indian office

Fine Tubes is strategically relocating its office in India to keep up with the growing demand for its tubing products.

As a result of the company's increased global capabilities following its partnership agreement with US-based Superior Tube Company, Fine Tubes had identified the need for additional resources and a larger facility in India. In order to maintain service levels across a wider customer base in the region, Noida – an industrial hub near Delhi – was the first choice for the new office location.

Gagan Sood, Fine Tubes' business development executive, India, commented, "With an ever increasing demand for Fine Tubes high specification tubes in India and Superior Tubes coming on board as a strategic partner, it was necessary to relocate to a new office with greater resources. The new facility situated in the industrial hub of Noida will ensure we will continue to provide high levels of service to our customer base."

**Fine Tubes Ltd – UK**  
sales@finetubes.co.uk  
www.finetubes.com

## Logstor adds director

Logstor has appointed Kim Christensen, president of Danfoss Heating Solutions, to its board of directors.

Mr Christensen also serves on the board of directors of the Danish Intelligent Energy Alliance and a number of Danfoss subsidiaries.

The chairman of the board of directors, Anders Thelin, commented, "Kim is a highly valuable addition to the board

of directors, and we are pleased that Logstor will be able to benefit from his vast technology and industry expertise. With his extensive global management experience from the Danfoss Group, Kim will contribute to the realisation of our ambitions to strengthen and grow the company in the coming period."

**Logstor A/S** – Denmark  
logstor@logstor.com  
www.logstor.com



Kim Christensen

## ICoTA Europe's appointments

Oil and gas industry body, the Intervention & Coiled Tubing Association (ICoTA) European Chapter, has appointed a new chair and vice-chair.

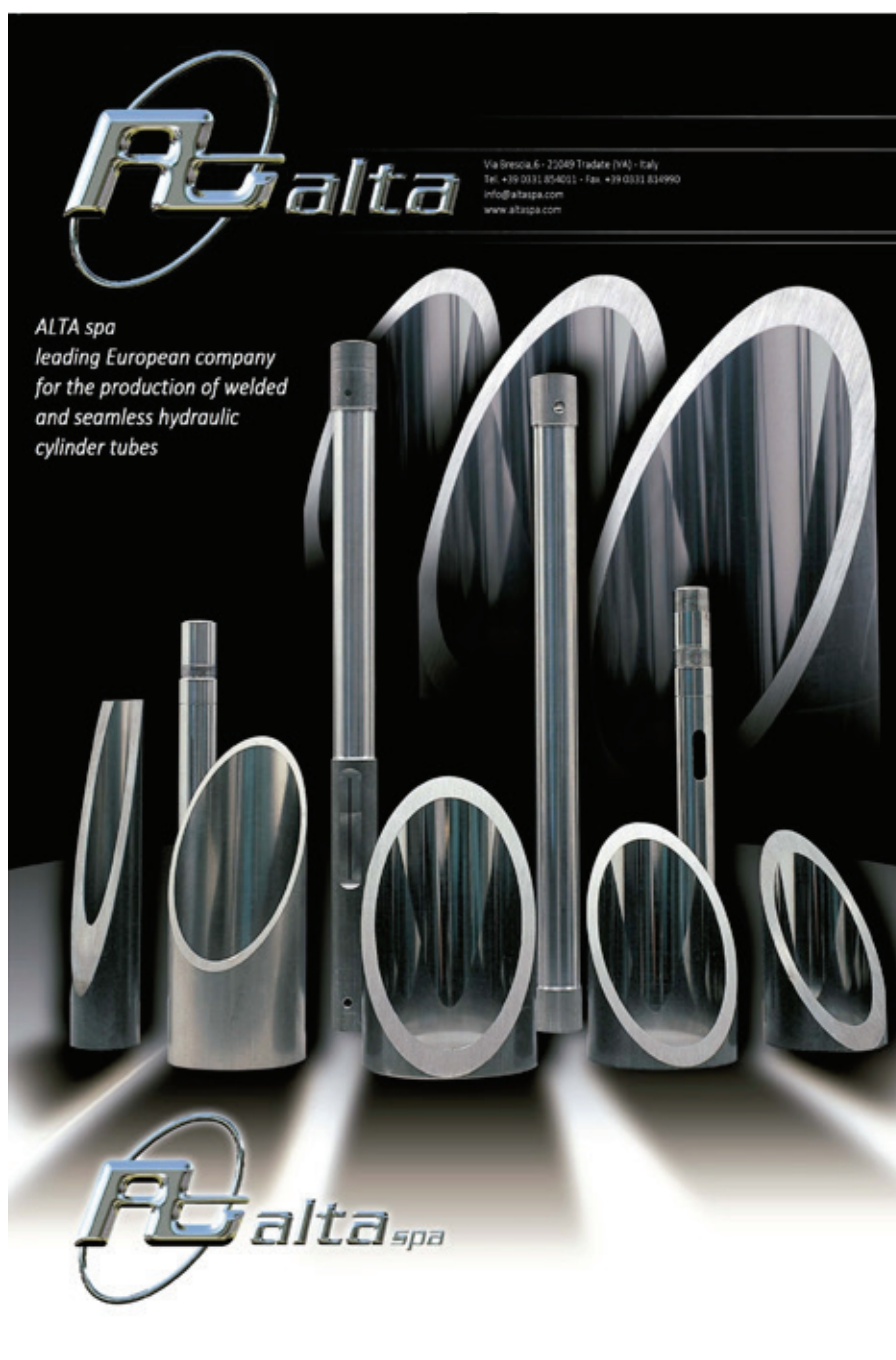
Former vice-chair Kelly Murray will take the helm as chair of the organisation, becoming the first woman to do so in the chapter's 20-year history, while fellow committee member Andrew Loudon has been appointed as the new vice-chair.

Mrs Murray becomes chair after spending five years as an ICoTA committee member, where she has played a pivotal role increasing awareness of the organisation within the industry and the wider community. Most notably she has played a vital role in organising the SPE ICoTA Junior Energy Apprentice competition, aimed at encouraging school pupils to think about a career in the oil and gas industry.

Both appointments were announced at the ICoTA European Chapter's annual dinner at the Marcliffe Hotel, Aberdeen, attended by more than 300 leading figures from the region's intervention and coiled tubing industry.

Commenting on her appointment, Mrs Murray said, "ICoTA offers a vital platform through which to exchange practical knowledge and share innovative ideas."

**ICoTA Europe** – UK  
www.icota-europe.com



## New steel grade ASME certified

The new ferritic steel grade VM12-SHC, developed by Vallourec, has been certified by ASME (Code Case 2781). VM12-SHC has already been used for many years in European design for modern high temperature power plants and heat recovery steam generators (HRSG), and can now be used for all ASME design.

Vallourec states that the product is optimally suited for replacing grade X20CrMoV11-1 superheater pipes in existing power plants. VM12-SHC extends Vallourec's range of ferritic seamless steel tubes for power plants.

The letters 'SHC' refer to one of the new steel's key properties: super high corrosion resistant, they qualify tubes

made from this grade for extremely corrosive steam-carrying pipes for high-temperature applications up to 620°C. According to Vallourec, the steel's special chemical composition puts it in a performance class unparalleled in its category in terms of creep strength and resistance to steam oxidation.

The ASME certification procedures provided an opportunity for VM12-SHC to demonstrate its behaviour under the obligatory tests and checks. As shown by the test results, the steel combines excellent mechanical and physical properties with an oxidation resistance comparable to that of the austenitic steel grade TP347FG and surpassing those of steel grades T91 and T92.

One of the most important criteria relevant to a material's suitability for a given application is its processing behaviour, notably in terms of cold bending properties and weldability. In this particular area, VM12-SHC passed all of the standardised tests (eg creep tests, creep rupture tests on tube bends and stress crack detection after welding).

VM12-SHC is produced at European Vallourec locations. Tubes in the new steel grade are available heat-treated and with wall thicknesses of up to 12mm.

**Vallourec Deutschland GmbH** – Germany  
[www.vallourec.com](http://www.vallourec.com)

## German supplier to manufacture in USA

Rattunde, a Germany-based manufacturer of finished length tube and solid bar production systems, has been operating in the North American market for over seven years. The company is building a 30,000ft<sup>2</sup> facility near its current location in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The plant will continue to house the North American sales and service operations and will allow for expanded spare parts inventory and manufacturing operations, including the production of tooling and various machine components. The new

facility will also house a technical centre with a machine on-site at all times for demonstration and training. Future plans call for an expansion of the building to over 100,000ft<sup>2</sup>, enabling Rattunde to produce its entire finished length tube and solid bar production systems there. This decision was reached after analysis of the current and anticipated business needs of the company.

According to Rattunde Corporation president Richard Stadler, growth of the company into diverse markets throughout North America made the

new facility a logical choice. "There were several reasons why we wanted to remain in the greater Grand Rapids area, but one of the main reasons is the excellent talent base here. Companies are built on people and, whether you are looking for an experienced veteran of industry or a fresh graduate from one of our ranking high schools, colleges, or universities, outstanding people can be found here."

**Rattunde & Co GmbH** – Germany  
[acs@rattunde-co.de](mailto:acs@rattunde-co.de)  
[www.rattunde-co.de](http://www.rattunde-co.de)



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## Delivery of large titanium alloy tubes

Tool Peaks secured an order for 430 tons of titanium seamless tubes in December



2012. The company's wholly owned subsidiary, titanium tube mill Xuyi Titan and Materials Co, Ltd undertook the production throughout 2013.

Among the order was 60,000 pieces of titanium Grade 12 of 16m per length. Titanium molybdenum nickel alloy tubes were used to satisfy the strict anti-corrosion requirements.

Xuyi Titan completed the delivery of this huge titanium Gr 12 seamless tubes order in January 2014.

"In order to maintain a good position we have to put more effort into exploring markets and reducing production costs, but not at the cost of quality," said Ken Su, president of Tool Peaks and Xuyi Titan. "We have diversified our production structure towards a higher level; more updated products fall into our category, such as pipe fittings and machined parts."

**Tool Peaks Industries Ltd** – China  
terry@tool-peaks.com  
www.titool.com

## Molecor plans partnership in Malaysia

Spanish company Molecor Tecnologia SL, a specialist in technology and production of PVC pipes, has entered into a memorandum of understanding with Fitters Diversified Berhad, to invest in creating Molecor (SEA) Sdn Bhd, as part of its international expansion strategy.

The joint venture combines the molecular orientation technology patented by Molecor and the reliability of a firm with almost 30 years of experience in Malaysia and the Southeast Asia region.

Fitters is an investment and manufacturing company established in Malaysia in 1986. The company's main activities are in fire-safety materials, equipment and fire-prevention systems.

The company reported a strong profit increase in 2013, which motivated it to launch a new line of business exclusively using molecular orientation technology made by Molecor.

This commitment is realised with the establishment of Molecor (SEA) Sdn

Bhd, of which Fitters is the major shareholder.

"We're clearly convinced about the PVC-O pipe possibilities worldwide and the entrance in the Asian market with a reputed partner is a new business venture model with a promising future," commented Ignacio Muñoz, CEO and founder of Molecor Tecnologia.

**Molecor** – Spain  
info@molecor.com  
www.molecor.com

## Metalube awarded ANP licence to trade in Brazil

Metalube's subsidiary in Brazil has received regulatory approval from Agência Nacional do Petróleo (ANP) for all its lubricant products.

ANP is the Brazilian government agency that issues licences for all chemical products manufactured both inside Brazil and also imported. The ANP licence enables Metalube Brazil to market products to end-user clients in the non-ferrous tube and wire drawing industries in Brazil.

General manager Ricardo Neves manages the company's Brazilian operation, and has worked in the

lubricant industry for the past 15 years with ITW Rocol in São Paulo state.

Commenting on the new licence, Metalube's commercial director, Douglas Hunt, said, "We started our application process for this licence over a year ago and are thrilled to now be able to launch and sell our products into such an exciting market place. We will be heavily focusing our efforts on Brazil to enable the business to flourish and develop."

**Metalube Ltd** – UK  
post@metalube.co.uk  
www.metalube.co.uk



*Ricardo Neves, general manager of Metalube's Brazilian operation*

## New research and development facility

Val-Matic has built a new 7,000ft<sup>2</sup> research and development facility in its second manufacturing plant located in Addison, Illinois, USA.

The R&D facility includes a materials lab with equipment for testing elastomers and metals.

A flow lab equipped with a battery of water pumps was also constructed, to perform dynamic check valve tests and water flow tests to determine flow and torque characteristics of various valves. In addition, a 5,000-gallon air tank allows full-scale air flow testing of large air valves. The facility is available for

technical hands-on training of industry professionals.

Val-Matic has also made a number of personnel changes and promotions, which became effective on 1 January. Patricia A Nuter, previously president and chief executive officer, will assume the role of chairman of the board of directors, where she will continue to play an active role in daily operations.

Ted Makowan was appointed president and chief executive officer. Mr Makowan has been with Val-Matic from its inception in 1966 as co-founder. During his career with the company he has

served in various roles that include vice president of sales and marketing, and most recently executive vice president and chief operating officer.

John V Ballun, who previously served as vice president of engineering, has been promoted to executive vice president and chief operating officer. Mr Ballun has been with Val-Matic for 18 years and has worked in the waterworks and power industries for over 30 years. He has also held leadership roles for the Manufacturers Standardization Society, serving as president.

Val-Matic manufactures air valves, check valves and quarter turn shut-off valves for water/wastewater, power, industrial, fire protection and HVAC applications.

**Val-Matic Valve & Manufacturing Corp – USA**  
[valves@valmatic.com](mailto:valves@valmatic.com)  
[www.valmatic.com](http://www.valmatic.com)

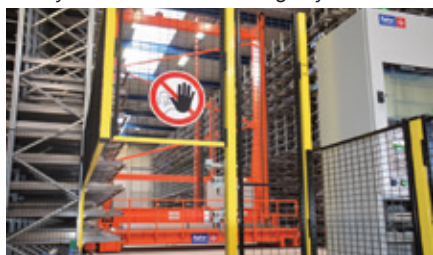


A flow lab is part of Val-Matic's new R&D facility

## New premises and automatic storage system

Paul Meijering Metalen bv has moved to a new business location in Zaltbommel, Netherlands. With 11,000m<sup>2</sup> of warehouse capacity and an office of 1,000m<sup>2</sup> the company is able to offer its customers more quality and service.

*Paul Meijering Metalen is using Fehr's Honeycomb automatic storage system*



The company is the first in the Netherlands to store its tubes using the Honeycomb automatic storage system from Swiss company Fehr. Around 1,800m<sup>2</sup> of tubes are stored in the 11-metre-high cartridge system. The system automatically checks whether the correct amount of tubes are picked or stored. The robot operating within the system saves warehouse employees a large amount of work and ensures that errors are reduced to zero.

**Paul Meijering Metalen bv – Netherlands**  
[info@paulmeijering.nl](mailto:info@paulmeijering.nl)  
[www.paulmeijering.nl](http://www.paulmeijering.nl)

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# products & developments



*NEMO can be used for coating all subsea equipment, including jumpers*

## Custom coating for high-temperature subsea operations

Bredero Shaw has developed a new custom coating product designed to be used for subsea pipeline components and equipment used in high-temperature, high-pressure situations.

The new product – network epoxy modified olefin (NEMO) – answers the need for a coating material to be used on irregularly shaped parts of subsea production systems such as bends, spools, terminations (PLETS), jumpers and goosenecks. The range includes NEMO 1.1 and NEMO 2.1, and has been successfully tested on applications

up to 120°C, with tests on-going for 130°C and 140°C. NEMO 1.1 is an epoxy-urethane hybrid suitable for low-pressure casting applications.

It overcomes the problems associated with traditional PU systems, and can be used up to a maximum continuous operating temperature of 95°C. NEMO 2.1 also has speed and demould times similar to PU and can handle continuous operation up to 120°C.

NEMO is a significant addition to Bredero Shaw's Complete Coating

Assurance model of integrated services for offshore pipeline coating. All three types of subsea flow assurance coatings, including line pipe, field joint and custom coating, are now available for use from wellhead to platform. The company states that Complete Coating Assurance creates a coating system that reduces schedule risk, performs at depth for decades, and reduces risk throughout the life of the pipeline.

**Bredero Shaw – USA**  
solutions@brederoshaw.com  
www.brederoshaw.com



## Thermal insulation with improved technical properties

The new AF/Armaflex Class O brand thermal insulation, incorporating a full range of elastomeric tubes, self seal tubes, coils, tape, flat sheet, self-adhesive sheets, continuous sheet (rolls) and pre-insulated pipe supports, is now available with all the products providing the same technical values for the first time.

The new range from technical insulation manufacturer Armacell is suitable for refrigeration and air conditioning, chilled water, process lines and heating and ventilation pipe and ductwork

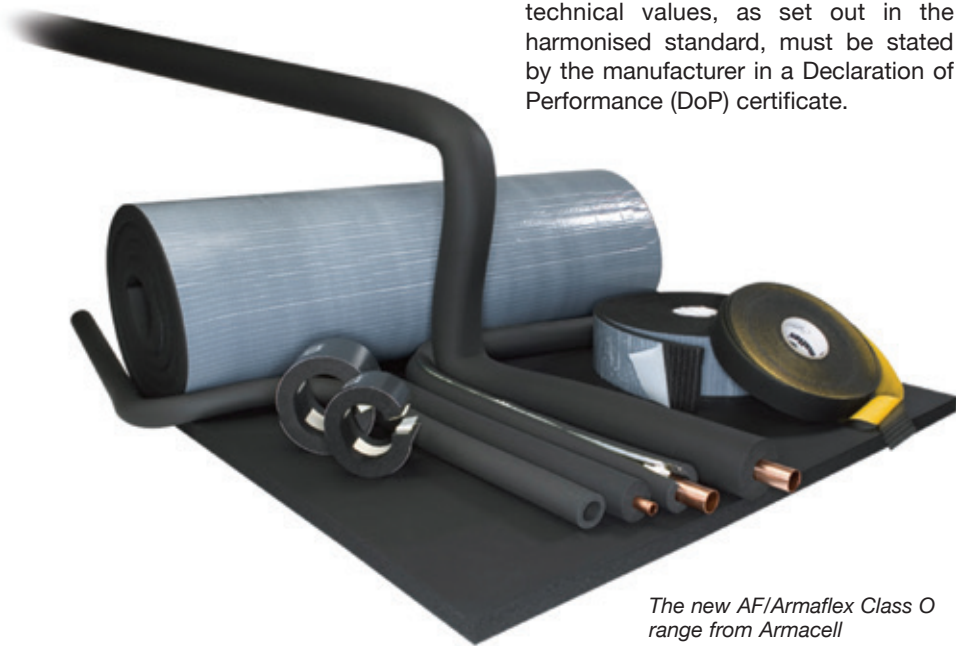
applications. The products replace the previous Class O Armaflex range, with the new AF/Armaflex Class O tube and sheet product codes now prefixed with AF-CO for ease of identification.

The Construction Products Regulation introduced in 2013 means it is mandatory for Armaflex and other thermal insulation products to carry a CE Mark. The legislation sets out a harmonised European standard (hEN) for declaring the technical values of flexible elastomeric foams and new testing procedures to determine the stated performance. The obligatory technical values, as set out in the harmonised standard, must be stated by the manufacturer in a Declaration of Performance (DoP) certificate.

A new, improved formulation of Armaflex has therefore been developed to meet these obligatory European fire performance, thermal conductivity and water vapour diffusion resistance values. The new formula AF/Armaflex Class O range, manufactured in the UK, has a Euroclass Fire Rating of Bs3-d0 (the European equivalent to a Class O rating) and improved thermal conductivity performance. The water vapour diffusion resistance performance is also improved.

The product is free from medium chain chlorinated paraffins (MCCP), which construction product agencies in Sweden and Norway have ruled against because of the threat they have been found to pose to marine wildlife.

The new formulation is also used to manufacture the Armaflex Tuffcoat range of products, which are the AF/Armaflex Class O material laminated with a tough white or black PVC covering to protect against UV, weathering and impact damage when installed outdoors. From 2014, the Tuffcoat range includes additional pipe diameter sizes up to 89mm OD, with tube and sheet wall thicknesses of 25mm and continuous sheet rolls and self-adhesive continuous sheet options also available.



*The new AF/Armaflex Class O range from Armacell*

**Armacell UK Ltd – UK**  
[info.uk@armacell.com](mailto:info.uk@armacell.com)  
[www.armacell.com](http://www.armacell.com)

## Pipe fittings for permanent welds

Erne Fittings makes safe pipe fittings for permanent welds for use in the construction of power stations, refineries, oil and gas plants, and other demanding applications.

It supplies butt-weld fittings such as elbows, tees and reducers from 21.3 to 1,016mm (½" to 40") external diameter, and wall thicknesses up to 50mm, made of alloyed, unalloyed, stainless

steels and exotic materials for the approved market.

With four production sites across Austria, Germany and Saudi Arabia and a fully automated high-rack shelving warehouse for around 10,000 storage spaces and over 3,000 items, Erne Fittings ensures availability of more than 95 per cent for the entire stock programme.

Erne also offers a professional project management system with standardised work instructions and checklists. Knowledge of applications, materials and standards and extensive technical expertise ensure that international projects run smoothly.

**Erne Fittings GmbH – Austria**  
[office@ernefittings.com](mailto:office@ernefittings.com)  
[www.ernefittings.com](http://www.ernefittings.com)

## Shelter and pipe-handling system

Pipeline projects can be delayed significantly or completely shut down due to severe weather. McElroy's new QuickCamp system aims to overcome these obstacles.

The QuickCamp system allows operators to butt fuse polyethylene pipe from 8" IPS to 36" OD (225 to 900mm) day or night, within a lit, insulated and climate-controlled enclosure when conditions are either too wet, windy, hot or cold to fuse pipe outdoors. A single operator can load and align pipe by remote control from inside the shelter

with the MegaMc® PolyHorse®, allowing for increased productivity even in bad weather. The heated and air-conditioned QuickCamp Shelter protects the fusion joint from the elements and keeps the operator comfortable and focused on the work at hand.

The QuickCamp also makes it easier to fuse in accordance with ASTM standards, which require special provisions when butt fusing in sub-zero weather, and is an improvement over common provisions such as tents, hot air devices and heating blankets.

The QuickCamp Shelter is a 20 x 8ft container that folds out into a 21ft 8" x 24ft 7" shelter housing a hydraulically powered 1236/900 or 824/630 fusion carriage.

It can be set up easily and quickly by two people, and there is enough extra space inside for an office, break room or storage of extra gear. It also includes electrical outlets to power personal equipment.

The fusion carriage can be moved by up to 18" so that the pipe ends can be adjusted for proper face-off when pulling pipe through the shelter. It can also slide out of the shelter for in-ditch use or fusing stub ends and fittings.

The QuickCamp system includes the QuickCamp Shelter housing a 1236/900 or 824/630 fusion carriage, MegaMc PolyHorse, MegaMc rollers and pipe stands. The shelter can also be purchased separately.

**McElroy Manufacturing, Inc – USA**  
fusion@mcelroy.com  
www.mcelroy.com



McElroy's QuickCamp system

## Benefits and uses of Inconel Alloy 625

Rarely does an alloy become a standard material of construction in a wide variety of industrial applications. Inconel Alloy 625 is, however, such an alloy. Jan Ward, CEO of nickel alloy specialist Corrotherm, explains its form and uses.

Ever since its introduction to the market in the early 1960s, Inconel Alloy 625 has proven to be a valuable and versatile material that is able to solve a wide variety of design and application problems.

The alloy has the ability to resist low temperature aggressive corrosion environments, as well as hostile high temperature environments, and performs with a high level of strength that has enabled it to be specified frequently in a cross section of industries.

The original goal for the application of Inconel Alloy 625 was for main steam-line piping. Since then, it has been used extensively in a variety of industries, including aerospace, chemical processing, marine and pulp and paper.

As an indication of its versatility, slight modifications in composition and mill practice have dramatically increased the fatigue life of thin sheet, thereby increasing the design capabilities in critical turbine components. The weldability of the alloy, and its ability to be joined to other alloys with different compositions, has also led to the use of Inconel Alloy 625 filler metals for welding dissimilar materials.

The latest developments have led to Inconel Alloy 625 being used as weld overlaid or co-extruded product for

superheater tubing and is playing a major role in the worldwide growth of municipal waste-to-energy and bio fuel production.

Corrotherm International has an extensive range of material supply that includes over 110 nickel alloy grades, together with the complete range of Duplex and Super Duplex, copper nickel and titanium. The company is able to supply a wide range of product forms, which enables it to supply complete packages of pipe, fittings, flanges, plates, bars and welding consumables. It can also accommodate small quantities and one-off items made to order in any product form or alloy.

**Corrotherm International – UK**  
info@corrotherm.co.uk  
www.corrotherm.co.uk

## All-in-one insulation kits

Auburn Manufacturing, Inc (AMI), a developer, manufacturer and marketer of textile products for extreme temperature industrial applications, has introduced a new removable/reusable (R/R) insulation kit system for components on chilled water or dual temperature systems where vapour condensation control is a primary consideration.

The Ever Green® Chill-In vapour sealed insulation blanket system is a quick and easy solution for combatting condensation, corrosion and energy waste.

It prevents surface condensation when used on a 42° chilled water line up to a relative humidity range of 85-90%.

“What we observed in the institutional/commercial market was that while piping in chilled water systems and dual temperature systems is generally well insulated, the components such

as valves and fittings are not, and the result is a significant energy loss as well as water condensation and corrosion of the components and adjacent pipes,” said Kathie Leonard, president and CEO of AMI.

“The reason why components are left bare is most often due to their convoluted shapes and the need for access during periodic maintenance and inspection. Chill-In blanket systems are designed to be removable and reusable after installation, making them ideal for re-insulation or retrofit jobs.”

Rated to min/max 32°F/250°F, Chill-In R/R kits contain everything that is required for on-site fabrication and installation. Included are: a quilted 4 x 8ft modularised, flexible, insulated blanket with a zero-perm vapour retarder; a 75ft roll of 4"-wide zero-perm pressure sensitive tape; a 3 fluid oz tube of silicone caulk; and a utility knife.

The fabrication and installation process is straightforward. First, measure the component to be insulated, to determine the length and width of the insulation blanket. Then cut the blanket to size, tape all exposed blanket edges, wrap the insulation around the pipe component, tape to adjacent insulation on pipe or equipment, and apply silicone caulk to any blanket penetrations to create a vapour-tight seal.

Ice white in colour, the 2"-thick, low-density Chill-In blanket meets 25/50 per ASTM E84. It consists of a fibreglass core sandwiched between woven fabric and laminated to a very low permeance multi-layer fabric on both sides. The quilted design aids in the flexibility, measuring and installation around convoluted surfaces. The fibreglass insulation meets ASTM C553, Type V.

**Auburn Manufacturing, Inc – USA**  
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*Progress is Life*

## Large diameter seamless pipes

Interpipe has begun production of large diameter seamless pipes according to GOST and EN standards. The pipes are developed at Interpipe NTRP, where the previous maximum range was limited to 377mm.

In October 2012 experimental pipes of 426mm in diameter with 10mm wall thickness were produced for Belorussian consumers. In January 2013 a new size of 406.4mm in diameter with wall thicknesses of 50 and 68mm was made

according to GOST standard for the 32XA steel grade. These were developed for Polish consumers. Finally, in the third quarter of 2013 Interpipe produced and delivered to German consumers pipes of 406.4mm in diameter with 10 to 70mm wall thickness in accordance with European standards EN 10210-1, 2 and EN 10297-1 in steel grades S355J2H/E355.

Ivan Mazanka, regional sales director for Europe at Interpipe, said, "Big diameter

seamless pipes are currently in high demand globally; however, the number of suppliers for these products is limited. For this reason manufacturing pipes with diameters of 406.4 and 426mm is a very good opportunity for us to meet these needs by delivering high quality products in accordance with our European customers' requirements."

**Interpipe** – Ukraine  
sales.eu@interpipe.biz  
www.interpipe.biz

## Longitudinally welded stainless steel tubes for heavy-duty service

Welded tubes manufactured by Schoeller Werk have passed approval tests as transmission in railway applications. With these tubes, the customer will get products with the same hardness specifications but at around 50 per cent lower costs, according to the manufacturer.

The company has received the first order for longitudinally welded tubes to be used as transmission in trains. In the past, only seamless tubes were used

for this application. As prices are lower and lead times shorter, the customer will change to welded tubulars as transmission pipes in braking systems.

Schoeller Werk had conducted comprehensive tests on 5km of sample tubes at the customer's facilities. In these tests, the company proved that longitudinally welded tubes are equal to seamless tubes in terms of mechanical properties and surface quality. The result is a multi-year supply agreement.

Brake lines are safety-critical equipment. Therefore, the customer had defined exacting specifications for the mechanical and chemical properties, the tolerances and the surface quality. Schoeller Werk met these specifications.

The new tubes are made of the same material as those used in the past: grade 1.4301 with an elevated nickel content. With a weld strength reduction factor of 1.0, the Schoeller tubes feature the same strength value as seamless tubes of identical dimensions. The contract provides for the supply of ten different sizes with outside diameters between 6 and 28mm. Schoeller Werk is able to make the complete size range in its own production plant.

Stefan Brillung, manager industrial sales at Schoeller Werk, commented, "Many engineers still consider seamless tubes as 'sacred cows'. Yet, our longitudinally welded tubes have already proved to be successful in many applications, including highly demanding and safety-critical ones. But this recent order speaks for itself. Featuring a weld strength reduction factor of 1.0, our tubes can be installed without having to make any changes to the design. Tubes of the same dimensions provide the same strength but cost much less."

**Schoeller Werk GmbH & Co KG** –  
Germany  
info@schoellerwerk.de  
www.schoellerwerk.de

*Stainless steel tubes on their way to the heat treatment section*



## Inflatable weld purge dams

Sumner Manufacturing has introduced the third generation of its Purge Star inflatable weld purge dams for use with stainless pipe from 50 to 400mm diameter (2" to 16").

Purge Star inflatable purge dams can be used to quickly and efficiently create a reduced-oxygen weld chamber where it is critical to avoid oxidation in the weld.

"Sumner's third generation of Purge Star purge dams are the result of applying feedback from hours of field use by our customers," stated Sumner president Rob Collins. "Purge Star purge dams still provide welders with an inexpensive, time-saving, reusable device that not only performs a critical application of increased weld quality, but increases weld production rate and uses less argon than ever. Using an inflatable weld purge dam system, purging a 6" pipe to less than 1 per cent oxygen content takes less than three minutes."

Purge Star weld purge dams are constructed using a primary and secondary inflatable dam at either end that are covered with heat- and spark-resistant double-stitched Proban® cotton and connected with a 12-14" armoured stainless steel spinal hose. The primary dam is fitted with a primary hose to inflate the dams and a hose outlet for venting excess argon. The primary dam on 12", 14" and 16" models is also fitted with a secondary hose that can be used to bypass inflation and quickly flood the weld chamber with argon.

The third generation of purge dams combines the weld chamber vent, secondary outlet for the weld chamber, pre-set pressure relief valve and connection to the secondary dam into a single apparatus for greater efficiency. The exterior of the primary dam now includes two size hose barbs for 1/4" and 3/8" fittings, and a gas exhaust port to fit a gas analyser hose.

The secondary dam has a reinforced eyelet pull loop for feeding and retrieving the purge dam system inside pipe. Both the primary and secondary dams are now fitted with quick-disconnect metal fittings for connecting and disconnecting the armoured stainless steel spinal hose.

The system works by connecting the primary inflation hose to the argon supply hose. Once the purge dam system has been positioned with the primary and secondary dams on either side of the weld, the flow of argon to the purge dams can begin. Argon inflates the primary dam, vents through the reactive valve to the weld chamber and flows through the spinal hose to

inflate the secondary dam. When the weld chamber is fully pressurised, argon exhausts in the vicinity of the weld and through the argon vent hose. Welding can begin once the oxygen level has reached acceptable levels.

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## Carbon steel fittings

Hebei Haiyuan Pipe Fittings is an ISO-certified manufacturer of carbon steel butt weld fittings according to ASTM A234 WPB, and carbon steel forged flanges to ASTM A105/N.

80 per cent of the company's products are exported, to countries including Poland, Singapore, UAE, Netherlands, Indonesia and Iran.

**Hebei Haiyuan Pipe Fittings Co, Ltd** – China  
steel\_fittings@hotmail.com  
www.csfittings.com

## Stainless steel composite tubes

Smart Stainless Tubes Pvt Ltd is a manufacturer of stainless steel composite tubes, based in India. The tubes provide the qualities of stainless steel for external applications. They have a 0.3mm layer of stainless steel on top of a 1 to 1.2mm-thick carbon steel tube.

The carbon steel core provides structural strength, and the stainless steel layer provides the shine and anti-corrosive protection. The tubes are used in ornamental applications of stainless steel tubes such as railings, balustrades, door handles, handlebars, grills, gates, medical and office furniture, and for long lasting civic amenities like bus stands and lamp posts.

To manufacture these tubes, carbon steel strip of the required grade is rolled and HF welded into a tube. As the formed tube passes through the second welding head, a sleeve of stainless steel strip is formed around the carbon steel tube, and TIG welded. A sophisticated rolling process ensures that there is no air gap between the carbon steel and stainless steel layers. The tubes can be bent and welded like pure stainless steel tubes using TIG welding. Tubes are available in sizes of 19.05 to 63.5mm OD with 1.2 to 1.5mm total thickness.

**Smart Stainless Tubes Pvt Ltd** – India  
marketing@smarttubes.in  
www.smarttubes.in

## Modular inflatable bladder system

Aquasol Corporation has launched the patent-pending I-Purge™ and I-Purge X modular inflatable bladder systems. The versatile I-Purge and I-Purge X modular system components combine to offer the welding industry customised solutions for pipe purging.

Equipped with Aquasol's quick-connect fittings, components easily snap on and off in seconds. A variety of standard harness lengths allow the user to customise length based on individual project needs, enabling placement of the bladders outside the heat-affected zone. The flexible, high heat harnesses allow for navigation through elbows and T-joints, and have a central point marked with a luminescent indicator for easy alignment with the centre of the root gap.

The I-Purge modular system consists of two spark-resistant, inflatable bladders connected by a high-heat resistant bridge harness. The design allows for the creation of a pipe reducer by simply connecting two bladders of different, yet similar, diameters.

A tri-flow hose maximises efficiency by enabling bladder inflation and quick flooding of the purge area with noble gas.



*Aquasol's I-Purge X inflatable bladder system*

An innovative tubing system provides separate connections for inflation of bladders along with introduction of inert gas to the weld zone to expedite the purging process. The inflated bladders create an airtight seal against the pipe walls. Another connection enables monitoring of exhaust gases, ensuring an oxygen-free environment.

Aquasol's patent-pending diffuser evenly distributes gas throughout the purge area, reducing turbulence.

Once the weld is complete, the bladders can be deflated, extracted, cleaned and stored in the provided carrying bag.

The I-Purge can be modified with the Isolator™ adaptor kit into a one-sided plug. An isolator can be used to close off the end of a pipe for servicing, cleaning, inspection or sealing.

The I-Purge modular system can be used multiple times thanks to its durable construction and high quality components. Bladders are available in sizes ranging from 2" to 48" and may be purchased either individually or as a complete system.

**Aquasol Corp** – USA  
info@aquasolcorporation.com  
www.aquasolcorporation.com

## Award winning metering ball valve

Ham-Let's metering ball valve (MBV), which incorporates both metering and shut-off functions in one unit, has been patented in the USA, and has won the company recognition for its innovative technology.

The MBV series valve combines an accurate micrometer control mechanism for gases and liquids with a sealing mechanism in a single unit. It is easy to install and does not require multiple connectors and pipelines. It is reliable and easy to operate, and can reduce the length of the line in the system.

The valve is a single unit that replaces the two separate valves previously required, decreasing installation and maintenance costs while reducing the risk of faults. *Flow Magazine's* 2012 winner of innovation award, the MBV was awarded US Patent USPTO 8590569, and patents have also been applied for other markets.

"The MBV series delivers industry's



Ham-Let's metering ball valve

highest degree of accurate metering flow for moderate pressure applications," said Ham-Let's VP engineering and R&D, Felix Shestatsky. "It features an innovative and unique shut-off capability which allows full control of the process, from extra fine regulation to a complete valve shut-off."

With the choice of three precision stem tapers enabling metering at flow

capacities as low as  $C_v=0.0001$  with up to 11 handle turns, the MBV series meets the demand for highly precise flow control. The MBV offers five different O-ring materials providing wide temperature and chemical coverage, making it suitable for analytical instrumentation industries.

"The technology used in previous micrometer valves is based on an extremely delicate needle that is easily broken and cannot guarantee that the valve is completely sealed," said Mr Shestatsky. "In order to hermetically seal a system, the system engineer would have to add a second valve – most commonly a ball valve – to detach and seal the line. This entailed many disadvantages including extra costs, complicated installation, additional pipelines, multiple potential leakage points and more."

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## The journey of Steamline Industries

Steamline Industries was originally formed as Triveni Group of Companies in 1981, by Surendra Sharma (chair managing director).

This was followed by the formation of Steamline Industries Ltd (SIL) in 1991, along with Virendra Sharma, Jitendra Sharma and Devendra Sharma, to create a reliable source of supply of various steel and allied products, along with a large procurement network all over India and overseas.

The company has been catering to the projects and on-going maintenance requirements of leading industrial organisations in India.

SIL states that it has established itself as a reliable and consistent source of supply to leading corporate industries such as steel, power, infrastructure, material handling, oil, gas, chemical, fertilisers, pharmaceuticals, dairy, sugar and EPC, developed by the company in the last two decades.

As a continuation of its mission, SIL endeavours to further strengthen its competence in the manufacturing of stainless steel pipes and tubes. The company has achieved the milestone of setting up a state-of-the-art manufacturing plant, which it claims is leading it to attain global excellence by continuously developing and providing the best quality products and services.

SIL says that it has established its position in the stainless steel pipe industry with a strong footing on modern infrastructure with strict adherence to quality standards, timely delivery and competitive pricing, and that it has become one of the leading companies in the domestic and international market for seamless and welded pipes and tubes, including U-bends.

Surendra Sharma commented that he believes there is no “secret formula for winning”, but that focus should be on “continuous efforts towards betterment with open mind, sticking to zero compromise and ensuring perfection for consistent quality and performance with highest standards of ethics and commitment.” He added, “SIL is in process of scaling up its capacity at least double.”

Tarak Kavi has taken the role of executive director – technology of pipe manufacturing division of SIL, with wide experience in leadership and technology in the industry. Under his guidance and expertise, SIL has established its current position. Mr Kavi has played a key role in framing the marketing strategies establishing SIL in local and overseas global markets, including the USA and Europe.

SIL's entire team has a single and clear focus to respond positively and proactively to the range of needs of its customers, and the company draws its strength from technical excellence and highly trained, motivated manpower.

Continuous upgrading, production and testing facilities to keep pace with innovations and improvements in the field are the on-going missions of the company. SIL states that it will continue to concentrate on the satisfaction of customers including EPC contractors all over the world by offering products from a single source, as its key to success.

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## ERW steel pipes

Rama Steel is an ISO 9001:2008 certified manufacturer of MS ERW steel pipes and tubes in black and galvanised, pipes in round and hollow sections (rectangular and square), grooved pipes and swaged steel tubular poles.

The company's total installed capacity is 100,000 metric tons per year, and its pipes are promoted under the brand name 'TTT Rama'.

Rama Steel's range includes MS ERW black and galvanised pipes from 15 to 350mm diameter. Pipes conform to various international standards, including EN, BS and ASTM specifications in various classes. Rama Group has the latest technology plant and machinery, which includes sophisticated testing equipment.

The company has been recognised as Start Export House by Government of India, and holds various awards from EEPC India in recognition of its exports.

Pipes are rolled on the company's fully automatic computerised tube mill installed with Kusakabe Japanese technology. The tube mill, which operates at a speed of 110m/min, is equipped with online NDT, eddy current testing, which monitors weld quality.

Rama Steel products are approved and certified by EIL, SGS, DNV, BVQI, TUV, etc. For Europe, the company also has CE approval.

**Rama Steel Tubes Ltd – India**  
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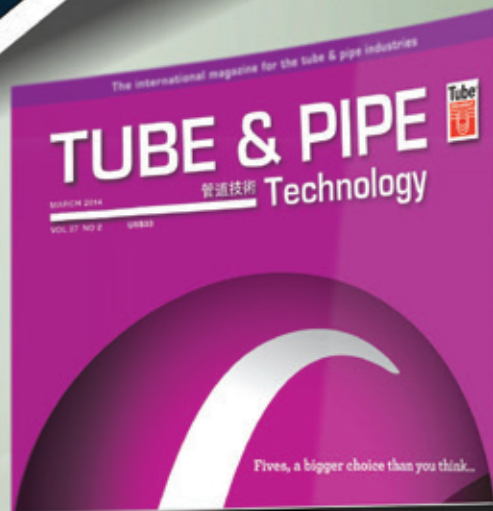
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## HDPE conduit for wind farms

Some of the largest wind farms in the USA use large diameter, solid wall HDPE conduit to protect electrical cables and the environment. While the conduit provides long life, it also helps projects to be cost effective.

"HDPE conduit has the right cost-to-benefit ratio that includes the pipe stiffness necessary to withstand the weight of deep burial while being able to be flexible and strong enough to allow for horizontal directional drilling (HDD)," stated Tony Radoszewski, executive director of the Plastics Pipe Institute (PPI), a trade association representing all segments of the plastic pipe industry.

"It is ideal especially for projects where there is a need to reduce the amount of digging such as in a wetland or by going under roads to keep them intact. HDPE conduit can be 'snaked' underneath. Plus, the HDPE conduit is flexible enough to resist seismic shifts. The polyethylene itself is chemically resistant to high acidity or alkalinity from the soil as well as being waterproof – all of which protect the cable inside. The length of HDPE conduit in either long 'stick' sections or hundred-foot coils can reduce the number of mechanical joints necessary for the installation,



Fusing conduit for a wind farm

which in turn reduces the overall project costs."

HDPE conduit does not require the cathodic protection that would be needed to prevent corrosion of a pipe with a metal surface.

The Beebe Wind Farm in Breckenridge, Michigan, has 34 turbines operational with another 16 to come on-stream by the end of 2014. The crew from MJ Electric, LLC found the use of HDPE conduit also sped installation and enabled the crew to use either cut-and-cover trenching or horizontal directional drilling. The 34.5kV lines are housed in the 8" diameter HDPE conduit and are buried as deep as 30ft, with some runs being 1,000 to 2,000ft long.

MJ Electric was responsible for the underground collection system, substation and subsequent transmission lines at Beebe. The company used HDPE conduit exclusively for underground boring operations for runs under roads, ditches, ponds and creeks, and under environmentally sensitive areas.

The large gauge collector circuits typically take 10-15,000ft of conduit, which was provided for the Beebe project by Endot Industries Inc in 40 and 50ft lengths. Called Enduct IDE 850, SDR 11, the side walls are 3/4" thick with a nominal outside diameter of 8.6", and it complies with the ASTM F2160 standard 'Standard Specification for Solid Wall High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Conduit Based on Controlled Outside Diameter (OD)'.

Mr Radoszewski commented, "When a crew is trenching down some 25ft, using HDPE conduit sections that are put together on the surface or coming off a coil is quicker and safer than having the crew doing the work down in that trench. I've seen crews cut a trench, heat fuse a couple of hundred feet of 50ft section HDPE conduit and cover it up in just a few hours. And with a maxi-coil, the process is really fast. That can't be done with any other material."

Plastics Pipe Institute Inc – USA  
[www.plasticpipe.org](http://www.plasticpipe.org)

## Uniquely contoured ball valve



Quadrosphere ball valve from Val-Matic

The QuadroSphere® ball valve, recently acquired by Val-Matic Valve & Mfg Corp, is a forged steel trunnion ball valve used in applications where typical trunnion ball valves experience problems.

The unique contoured ball features four recessed surfaces creating additional flow paths, allowing the flow and particulates to move freely above, below and around the sides of the ball when moving from closed to open position. Seat ring contact to the ball has minimal contact area, which reduces wear and operating torques, due to less friction. With a fraction of the resistance across the seating surfaces when cycling, wear is reduced up to 70 per cent, which

improves the performance life of the ball and seats.

The QuadroSphere is available in sizes 2 to 24 NPS and in ASME pressure classes 150-2500 with a variety of body, seat and seal materials to meet specific application requirements.

Val-Matic's headquarters is located in Elmhurst, Illinois, USA, with additional manufacturing facilities in Addison, Illinois, totalling over 177,000ft<sup>2</sup> of manufacturing and office space.

Val-Matic Valve & Mfg Corp – USA  
[valves@valmatic.com](mailto:valves@valmatic.com)  
[www.valmatic.com](http://www.valmatic.com)

## Seamless copper and copper alloy tubes

Multimetals Limited is a manufacturer and exporter of seamless copper and copper alloy tubes with applications for defence, power, oil refineries, ship-builders and repairers, condensers, heat exchangers and ACR.

The company's product range includes seamless tubes of copper, capillary, cupro-nickel, admiralty brass, aluminium brass and other brasses such as bare, low fin and 'U' bend tubes.

Copper alloy rods, profiles and wires of alloys such as aluminium and manganese bronze, phosphor bronze, naval brass, copper nickel, nickel silver and tellurium copper have also been incorporated.

Multimetals has won 15 Export Excellence awards in India in the last 17 years, with shipment to all the continents across more than 60 countries worldwide.

The company has a range of certifications, including ISO 9001:2008, ISO/TS 16949:2009 and ISO 14001; prestigious works approval by Lloyd's Register; approval by Germanischer Lloyd (GL); self-certification of AD 2000 Merkblatt W6/2 from TUV, Germany; PED certification for Pressure Vessels Directive from TUV, Germany; certificate of recognition by Russian Maritime Register of Shipping; certificate of accreditation by NABL, India; and enlisted with Engineers India Ltd (EIL).

Multimetals manufactures other copper-based alloy semis such as tellurium copper and nickel silver in the form of hollows, sections, profiles, rods and wires.

It also manufactures fittings and flanges, flat bars and bus bars in copper and copper alloys to cater to power, energy, marine and process industries.

**Multimetals Ltd** – India

sales@multimetals.in

www.multimetals.in

## Steel pipes from China

Cangzhou Spiral Steel Pipes Group, based in North China, manufactures SSAW, LSAW, ERW, seamless steel pipes and galvanised steel pipes.

The company has been granted ISO and API 5 L certificates.

**Cangzhou Spiral Steel Pipes Group Co, Ltd** – China

ada@cnspipe.net

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## Coating for intricate components

Hardide Coatings, a specialist in advanced surface coating technology, has developed a new surface engineering technology to protect both internal and external surfaces of components from wear, erosion and acidic corrosion. Using advanced tungsten-carbide based coatings, the company provides engineered solutions to the challenge of increasing critical component lifetime.

Using low temperature chemical vapour deposition (CVD), the coatings can be applied to a wide range of metallic substrates and complex geometries. This is an important development for the tube and pipe industry as the coating could be highly beneficial for small sections of critical components and small diameter pipework.

This is particularly true for high-risk areas of systems where problems of abrasion occur, reducing the life of pipes, elbows, pumps, valves, separators and casings. Use of Hardide coatings can increase the lifetime of critical components.

CVD coatings are crystallised from the gas phase atom-by-atom, producing a conformal coating that can coat internal and external surfaces and complex shapes. CVD takes place in a vacuum chamber reactor at a temperature of approximately 500°C.

The coatings are a metallic tungsten matrix with dispersed nano-particles of tungsten carbide typically between one and ten nanometres in size. Dispersed tungsten carbide nano-particles give the material enhanced hardness that can be controlled and tailored to give a typical range of hardness of between 1,100 and 1,600Hv and, with some types of Hardide coating, up to 3,500Hv. Abrasion resistance is claimed to be up to 12 times better than hard chrome or 500 times better than Inconel.

Nano-structured materials are known to possess toughness, crack and impact resistant features. For example, Hardide-T has proven this by withstanding 3,000 microstrain deformation without any damage; this deformation will crack or chip most other thick hard coatings.

Other key properties include resistance to acids (including H<sub>2</sub>S) and the absence of porosity. The highly mobile reaction products fill pores and defects in the coating as it grows. The porosity, measured as the difference between theoretical and actual material density,



Hardide coated cylinder

is less than 0.04% while the coating completely covers the substrate without any through pores starting from less than 1 micron thickness. Unlike sprayed tungsten carbide, Hardide does not use cobalt, which can be affected by acids. This is especially important for processing sour oil.

A number of Hardide coating variants are offered to solve problems such as severe wear, corrosion or galling. Applications range from topside to downhole including mud pumps, metering, control and shut-off valves, centrifugal and axial pumps, as well as bends, liners, elbow joints and flanges.

The coatings can also be used for fracking and drilling tools including mud driven hydraulic parts, rotors, stators and drive parts for turbo-drilling tools. Other successful applications include ejector pumps and combustion tubes for bio-fuel applications.

**Hardide Coatings Ltd – UK**  
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Combustion tube being pre-treated for Hardide coating

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## Stainless steel flanges and forged fittings

Hilton Metal Forging Ltd is a producer of forged components, with a capacity to manufacture in the size range 0.5 to 750kg in closed-die forgings.

Products include stainless steel forged flanges, high-pressure fittings (socket weld and screwed ends), elbows, tees, cross, couplings and lap joint stub ends.

Products are supplied in a wide range of grades, including 304L/1.4307, 316L/1.4404, F321/1.4541, 316Ti/1.4571, Duplex, Super Duplex, 904L, Inconel and Monel, and are used in many industries and sectors, including oil and gas, refineries, petrochemical and engineering.

Hilton Metal Forging has a full range of facilities, from cutting shop to finished product and quality control in-house.

The cutting shop is equipped with a number of fully automated bi-metallic band saws, allowing it to meet forging capacity with minimum cutting losses.

The forge shop with a 2-tonne, 3-tonne bell drop, 16-tonne Russian pneumatic hammer, and a 2,000-tonne forging press, has an installed capacity of 14,000tpy, and allows the production of forged components that can be customised as per customer specifications.

Machining standards are maintained for all forged components as a result of the CNC machines installed.

Hilton Metal Forging has its own in-house heat treatment facility, allowing complete control over the quality of forged components. Various heat treatment processes can be undertaken

in accordance with customer requirements and standards.

The company also has a fully equipped die shop, with a 3-axis vertical machining centre along with other supporting machines.

High quality dies and tools are used to make precision dies.

All products undergo stringent quality checks at each stage of the manufacturing process, and the company has complete in-house quality control and laboratory facilities.

All necessary equipment is available to check forged products, including physical, chemical and impact tests.

**Hilton Metal Forging Ltd** – India  
[www.hiltonmetal.com](http://www.hiltonmetal.com)

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## New casting material for low-temperature applications

Particular demands are placed on steels that are used in the low temperature range: they have to withstand temperatures down to  $-196^{\circ}\text{C}$ . To date, austenitic steels have been used. However, because of their low yield strength, these are subject to the risk of early deformation and must therefore be cast with very thick walls.

This was the starting point for the development of the new low-temperature material Dux Cryo<sup>®</sup>, which displays higher strength values with good toughness. The advantage for use is that the casting can be constructed with thinner walls, saving both weight and costs.

Instead of austenitic steel, Schmolz + Bickenbach Guss has started using martensitic steels for jobs in the low-temperature range, as a result of an extensive research project funded by the German federal ministry of economics and technology.

These materials are excellent for tempering and therefore also display higher yield strength ( $R_{p0.2} \approx 490\text{N/mm}^2$ ) than the alternative of austenitic steels – a property that is particularly advantageous in such extreme temperatures.

However, particular demands are placed not only on the strength but also on the toughness ( $KV (-196^{\circ}\text{C}) \approx 40\text{J}$ ). The prerequisite for high strength at low temperatures is primarily a low content of selected trace elements. Otherwise, the segregations caused result in embrittlement of the casting.

“For us, the challenge lay in achieving reliable manufacture of the castings with a focus on optimised structure and therefore adequate strength – without cracks appearing in the casting volume,” explained Dr Petra Becker, head of research and development at Schmolz + Bickenbach Guss.

The new Dux Cryo material is suitable for all areas in which work is carried out at temperatures between  $-100^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $-196^{\circ}\text{C}$  and therefore wherever cryogenics such as dry ice or liquid oxygen and nitrogen are used. This applies to air liquefaction and separation systems, in which air components are separated using thermal separation processes to extract nitrogen, oxygen, argon and other noble gases in high-purity concentration, as well as in liquid and gaseous form.

Another application is the liquefaction of natural gas, where the natural gas is cooled to as low as  $-164^{\circ}\text{C}$  in LNG terminals. The demands on the components used are high. Similar demands apply for cold grinding and cryogenic recycling. These processes are used, for example, in the food industry and in the area of composite materials. The aim here is the grinding of materials with a low softening point.

**Schmolz + Bickenbach Guss** – Germany  
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## Butt weld fittings

CSM Fitting Co, Ltd produces stainless steel, titanium, nickel and nickel alloy butt weld fittings. The company's mill produces elbows, reducers, tees, stub-ends, caps and other fittings in accordance with GB 12459, ASTM A 403, DIN 2609 and EN 10253-4 standards. CSM's products are used in the fields of paper making, shipbuilding, chemical industry, petroleum industry, refinery, electricity power, building construction, medicine and the food industry.

The company controls the entire manufacturing process, and all fittings are subject to strict in-process inspection at each stage of the production process, from starting material to shipping of finished product.

**CSM Group – China**  
[csm@nonferrous-metal.com](mailto:csm@nonferrous-metal.com)  
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## Stainless steel twin ferrule fittings

Schwer Fittings manufactures twin ferrule fittings from stainless steel. Standardised tolerances and surface finish ensure leak-proof pipe connections in high-pressure and vacuum applications. The design largely allows vibrations and pressure pulses to be absorbed, without any fear of leakage. This design, technical manufacturing, and quality properties ensure twin ferrule fittings have a wide range of applications in industry, laboratory, and measurement system areas. The use of high quality stainless steel guarantees a long service-free life, including in the chemical industry.



u2 twin ferrule fittings, from 316 stainless steel as standard, are supplied assembled and ready to use. Even under heavy vibration conditions the couplings ensure a safe operation at high pressure or vacuum. This is achieved through the following design details. The back ferrule affords damping of tube circuit vibrations through a spring-like action, and prevents a carry-over of tightening torque from the coupling nut to front ferrule.

The front ferrule circumferentially seals the surface between the tube and coupling. Due to the inner taper the front ferrule is pressed into the tube so that a pressure-tight impression is formed. Silvering of the coupling nut thread prevents seizing of the stainless steel coupling. This allows multi-use of a coupling. A deep pipe bore and entry taper guarantee accurate positioning and centring of the tube.

**Schwer Fittings GmbH – Germany**  
[info@schwer.com](mailto:info@schwer.com)  
[www.schwer.com](http://www.schwer.com)



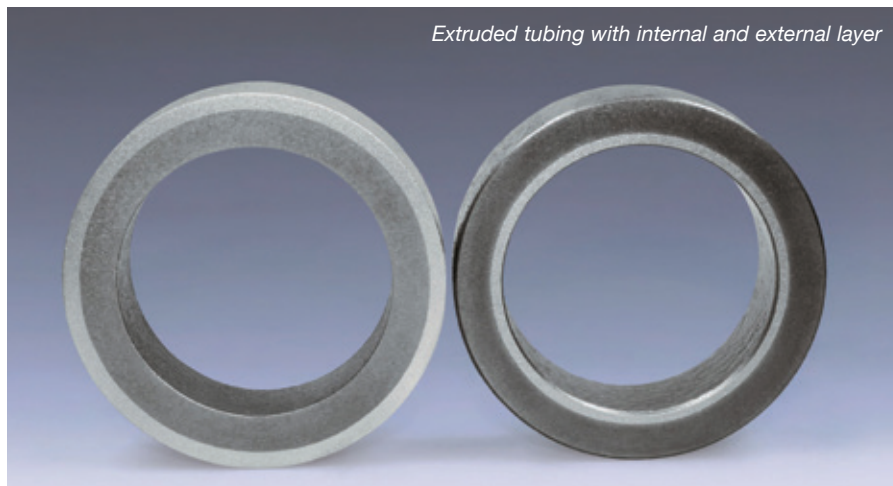
## Composite tubes

Hoesch Schwerter Profile develops products in collaboration with specific fields of industry and customers.

Modern power stations and industrial plants are two areas where special steel solutions are used that are required to withstand extreme loads.

The classic seamless steel tube for pressure vessels represents a key construction element in the building of thermal plants. The requirements for boiler construction steels become more exacting if, instead of conventional boiler fuels such as coal, oil or gas, other sources of energy are used that result in strongly corrosive combustion products. For instance, boiler tubes in a waste incineration plant are not only exposed to thermal loads, but are also subject to corrosive attack, fundamentally triggered by the chemical element chlorine.

For this specific application, the conventional boiler tube used in plant construction with its proven component strength was equipped with a 'coating' using a corrosion-resistant austenitic material. The intention behind this combination of materials is to allow the carbon steel to handle the thermal-mechanical load on the tube, while the austenite provides protection against corrosion from the prevailing environment.



Extruded tubing with internal and external layer

Clad pipes (where the corrosion-resistant layer is applied to the tube body by welding) have one or two layers of corrosion-resistant outer covering, approximately 2.5mm thick. This is applied using fusion welding, which creates overlapping welding beads.

During welding, there is an intermixing of a few tenths of a millimetre between the carbon steel and the austenite. In metallurgical terms this is equivalent to a 'dilution' of the high-alloy layer material. Since it is obtained via the liquid phase, the layer material is characterised by a casting structure typical of welding.

The development of composite tubing pursued by Hoesch Schwerter Profile GmbH was undertaken with the aim of overcoming the known disadvantages particular to clad pipes.

The carbon steel component and austenitic layer of the extrusion billet are manufactured in a common hot

forming process at around 1,150-1,250°C. The metallurgical connection between the two materials is achieved in the solid state using pressure-accelerated solid state diffusion. A diffusion zone approximately 10µm thick forms between the materials, which is responsible for a high-strength, oxide-free metallurgical bond of materials.

The fine microstructure configuration of the layer and base material is preserved, with no variation in the alloy concentration. Smooth surface structures avoid deposition of corrosion-promoting ash and salt particles from the flue gas. Special cross-section forms such as fin tubes, omega tubes or double omega tubes are possible. Cold bending is also possible, since there is no cast structure created by cladding.

**Hoesch Schwerter Profile GmbH** – Germany  
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[www.hoesch-profile.com](http://www.hoesch-profile.com)

## New name for continuous weld product

Wheatland Tube, a manufacturer of steel pipe and tube solutions, has announced a new name for its continuous weld (CW) pipe. Wheatland CW pipe will now be manufactured and sold under the SureThread™ brand name.

"This name speaks to the excellent threading and fabrication characteristics of CW pipe," said Mark Magno, president of Wheatland Tube's pipe division. "Many of our customers tell us that our CW pipe 'threads like butter' and doesn't have hard spots

commonly seen on imported ERW pipe, so the SureThread name just made sense."

SureThread pipe features a uniform grain pattern and smooth surface that the company says is proven to cause less wear and tear on tools and dies than traditional ERW pipe.

SureThread is used for mechanical and low-pressure applications, as well as steam, water, gas and air lines applications. Wheatland Tube is North America's only full-line producer of

SureThread ASTM A53 CW and electric resistance weld (ERW) standard steel pipe.

"We recently surveyed contractors, and 72 per cent of respondents indicated they believe our SureThread product to be easier on their tools. That means reduced wear and tear, which helps tools last longer," added Mr Magno.

**Wheatland Tube** – USA  
[info@wheatland.com](mailto:info@wheatland.com)  
[www.wheatland.com](http://www.wheatland.com)

## Push-in fittings for harsh environments

LIQUIDLine and INOXLine push-in fittings are designed for industrial applications requiring the connection and distribution of cooling water, compressed air, gases and liquids. In the search for a solution for especially harsh production environments and higher temperatures, Eisele decided on a high-quality fixed pipe connection that combines all the advantages of the Eisele modular system.

For cooling water applications or especially demanding and corrosive industrial applications, Eisele recommends the combination of LIQUIDLine or INOXLine push-in fittings with highly resistant ProWeld hoses. This combination is suitable for use in extreme conditions and at temperatures up to 100°C, but even this solution approaches its limits in the case of increased abrasion and wear from weld spatter, aggressive cleaning agents, extreme heat, soiling or mechanical stress.

Such conditions exist, for example, in foundries, the semiconductor industry or automobile manufacturing. At temperatures above 100°C the bursting pressure of hoses declines. The advantage of pipes is that their pressure resistance is virtually constant.

Standard systems from Eisele are suitable for combination with pipes. Customers can therefore use pipes at temperatures up to 120°C, with the flexibility and convenience of push-in fittings. For stronger thermal loads, Eisele fittings can be equipped with seals that are designed for higher temperatures. Metal pipes can be used wherever a flexible connection is not needed. At high temperatures and unfavourable ambient conditions, a pipe connection is even more economical than a hose connection in the long run.

Eisele delivers push-in fittings with diameters from 4 to 20mm, which also makes the concept suitable for the main air supply in machine construction. This type of compressed air connection requires little maintenance and offers a long service life. The optimised fitting geometry ensures high flow rates. Depending on the particular application, different seal materials


such as FPM, EPDM or NBR can be used. The advantage of push-in fittings over compression ring fittings is that they allow faster connecting and disconnecting.

Eisele offers the option of using pipes instead of hoses especially for the LIQUIDLine fittings made of dezincification-resistant brass and INOXLine fittings made of stainless steel. The application parameters are based on the respective product series. Series 17 and 26 with a seal on the push-in fitting can withstand pressures up to 16 bar, while series 17a and 24 with a double O-ring seal achieve an even better leak-proof seal, making them suitable for higher pressures.

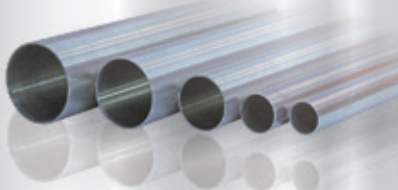
All fittings are designed for temperatures from -20 to +120°C. For more extreme conditions, they can be equipped with other seals, on request. Dezincification-resistant brass is suitable for water and cooling water. Stainless steel V2A and V4A is resistant to cleaners, acids and caustic solutions.

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## Tubing for gasoline direct injection

Engineering and advanced materials group Sandvik is introducing a new type of seamless stainless steel tube called Pressurfect™ to meet growing demands from car makers to handle higher fuel pressures in gasoline direct injection (GDI) engines.

The new tube will be available in two grades: standard Pressurfect, an austenitic chromium-nickel steel for fuel rails and fuel lines; and Pressurfect XP, a Duplex (austenitic ferritic) stainless steel for demanding fuel rail applications.

As the automotive industry seeks out different paths towards “sustainable mobility”, GDI is proving to be one attractive alternative. The technology enables car makers to produce more compact engines with lower emissions and sustained power, while being affordable for mass production.

Faced with tougher emissions regulations in Europe, the USA and

China, manufacturers are seeking better ways to get “clean power” from smaller combustion engines.

The race is on to find the ultimate combustion, a process that often involves raising pressure in the fuel management system and so requiring stronger and lighter tubing.

The growing use of corrosive ethanol blends at higher pressure in the fuel systems is another driver behind Sandvik’s materials development.

According to the company, the goal was to develop a strong, corrosion-resistant material that could handle higher pressures with zero risk of stress corrosion cracking.

The new Pressurfect is claimed to offer mechanical strength and consistent quality that is superior to conventional welded or carbon steel tube. This is largely due to the steel’s microstructure

and low carbon content, which have been optimised to avoid jeopardising properties like corrosion resistance and mechanical strength. The material has also been optimised for machinability, including drilling, turning and other tasks.

Pressurfect XP is a lightweight Duplex stainless steel tube for GDI fuel systems. The material’s mechanical strength enables tube walls to be 30 to 40 per cent thinner, while still handling the same pressure as thicker tubes.

The Duplex material has also been optimised to reduce stress corrosion cracking and fatigue. In addition, it improves the brazing process, with little pre-heating or retouch required when mounting the injector ports or other fuel systems.

**Sandvik Materials Technology** – Sweden  
www.smt.sandvik.com








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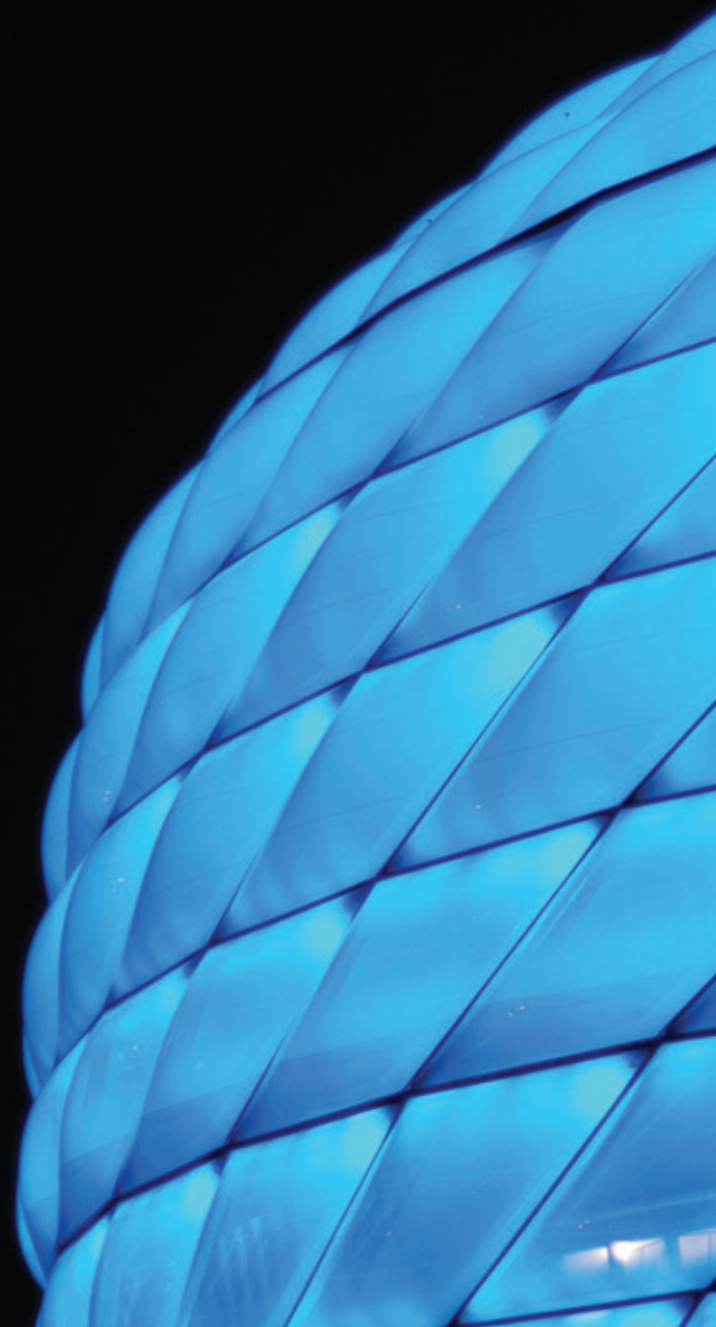
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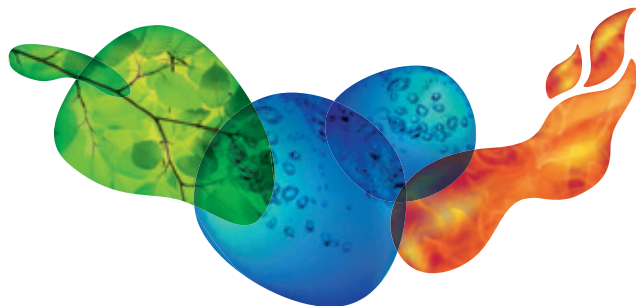
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D-81823 München, Germany  
Tel: +49 89 949 20285  
exhibiting@ifat.de

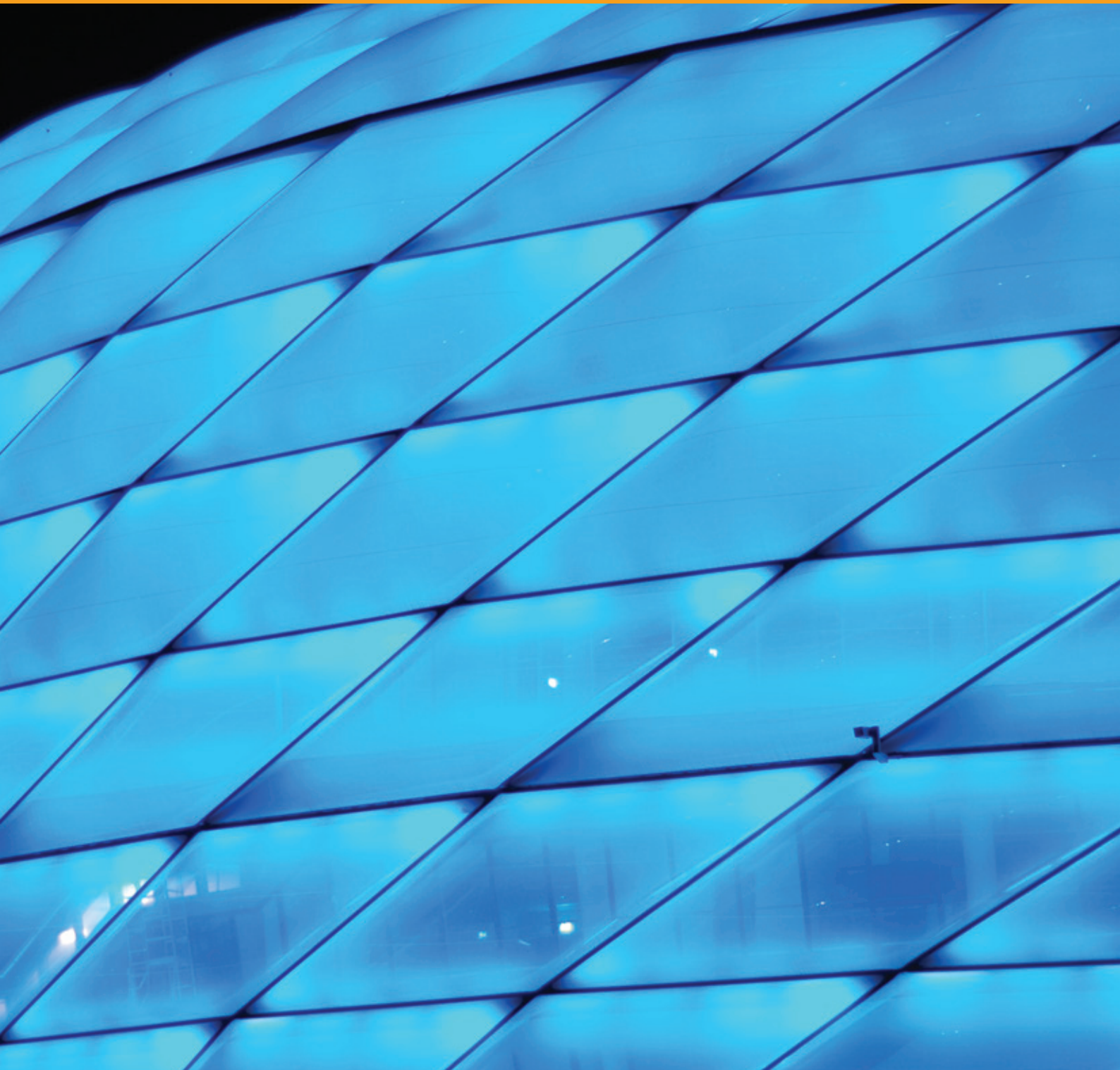
## Opening times

5-8 May: 9.00am – 6.00pm  
9 May: 9.00am – 4.00pm

**The number one  
industrial gathering**



**5-9 May 2014**

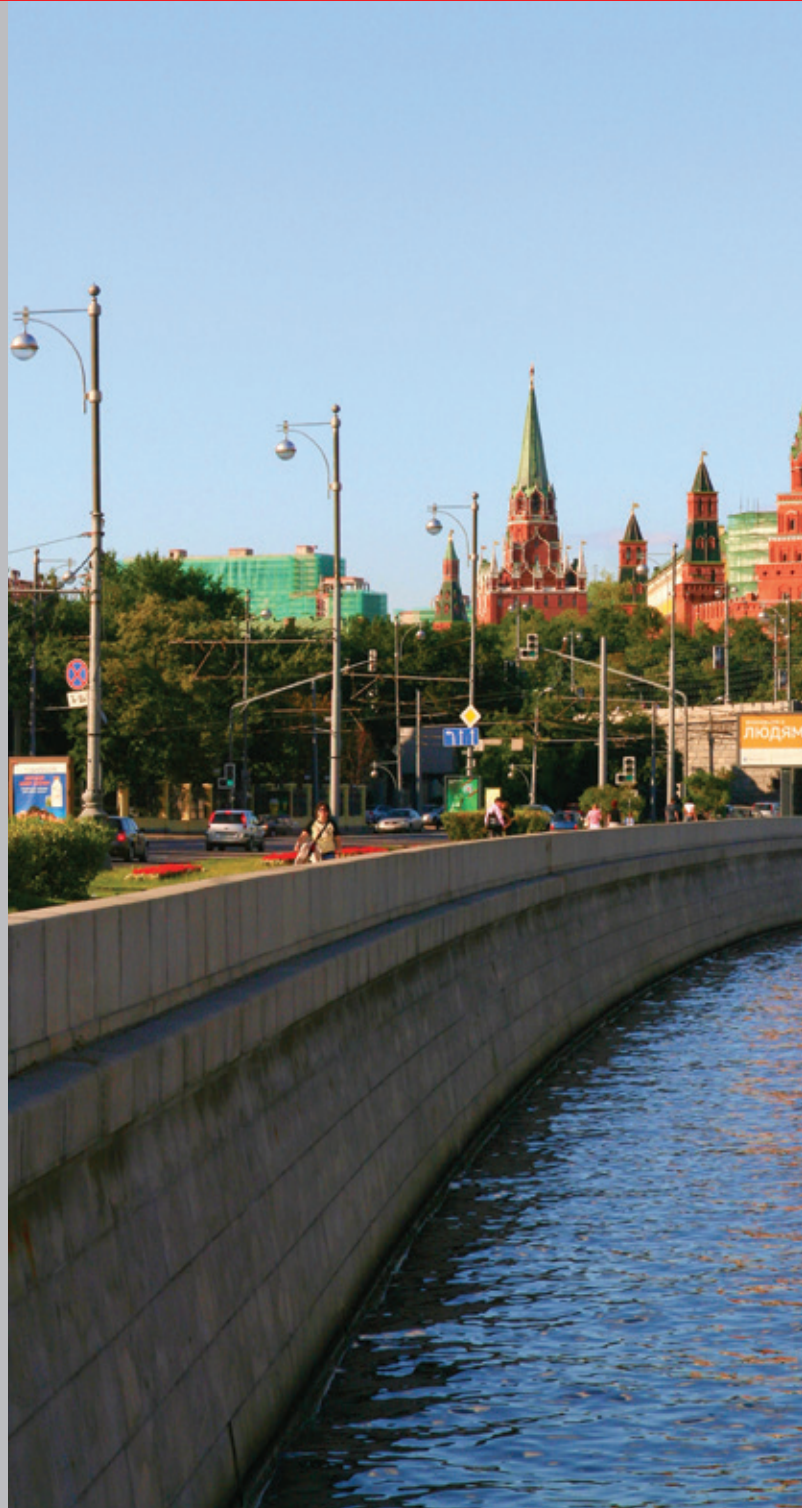


**[www.ifat.de](http://www.ifat.de)**

# Tube Russia 2014

Despite a difficult economic environment over the past few years, the tube industry is now looking to the future with optimism thanks to the constantly improving investment climate in Russia. Investment activities are up, the construction sector is picking up speed again, and consumption remains a strong pillar of this upswing. The trade fair is one of the most important trading and contact platforms in Russia and for the neighbouring states. The organisers are aware of the optimism prevailing in the industry and can now already see a positive trend in exhibitor registrations.

Messe Düsseldorf GmbH, Messe Düsseldorf Moscow OOO and its Russian partner Metal-Expo have secured official participations from Germany, Italy, Austria and China. The trade fair is supported by the leading international industry associations AMAFOND – Italian Association for Foundry Machines and Products, ITA, VDMA – German Engineering Association, EUnited Metallurgy – The European Metallurgical Equipment Association, CEMAFON – The European Foundry Equipment Suppliers Association, and CECOF – The European Committee of Industrial Furnace and Heating Equipment Associations, as well as by the important partner MC-CCPIT – Metallurgical Council of China Council for the Promotion of International Trade.



## Venue

Pavilion 3 + 7  
ZAO Expocentr Exhibition Centre  
in Krasnaya Presnya  
Moscow, Russia  
[www.expocentr.ru](http://www.expocentr.ru)

## Organisers

Messe Düsseldorf GmbH  
Phone: +49 211 45 60 01  
Infotel: +49 211 45 60 900  
[www.messe-duesseldorf.de](http://www.messe-duesseldorf.de)

## Opening times

3-5 June: 10.00am – 6.00pm  
6 June: 10.00am – 4.00pm

# Metallurgy-Litmash

3-6 June 2014



[www.metallurgy-tube-russia.com](http://www.metallurgy-tube-russia.com)

# Oil and gas

A nighttime photograph of an industrial facility, likely an oil or gas processing plant. The scene is dominated by several tall, dark metal lattice towers that rise into a dark blue sky. The towers are illuminated from below, creating a stark contrast with the dark background. In the foreground, there are various pieces of industrial equipment, including pipes, valves, and smaller structures, all brightly lit with yellow and white lights. The overall atmosphere is one of intense industrial activity. In the background, there are silhouettes of hills and some distant lights, suggesting the facility is located in a rural or semi-rural area.

According to a recent study by the INGA foundation, some \$14.2bn per year, or \$313.1bn total, midstream natural gas investment will be needed to accommodate new gas supplies — particularly from the new, prolific shale plays — and growing demand for gas in power generation, industrial applications, and exports. Natural gas midstream infrastructure includes mainlines, laterals, processing, storage, compression, and gathering lines. Meanwhile, some \$2.5 billion per year, or \$56 billion total, of investment will be needed for NGLs infrastructure (transmission pipelines, pumping, fractionation, and NGLs export facilities); while \$12.4 billion per year, or \$271.8 billion total, of investment will be needed for crude oil infrastructure (gathering pipeline, lease equipment, mainline pipeline and pumping, storage laterals, and storage tanks).



## Strengthening USA ties with service agreement

UK-based oil and gas asset integrity and corrosion management firm Lux Assure is developing a presence in the USA by establishing a sales and service agreement with Brown Corrosion Services Inc, who will handle the business development of the company's corrosion management products CoMic™ and OMMICA™, and the deployment of CoMic in the USA.

Lux Assure CEO Charles Cruickshank commented, "The USA has long been a target for us, and we are delighted to be working alongside such a well-established company to enable us to introduce and develop our ground-breaking technology and services in the region."

The two companies exhibited at the NACE Corrosion 2014 conference in

San Antonio, Texas, USA, in March. Personnel were on-hand to explain the products, CoMic corrosion management tool, and OMMICA hydrate inhibitor monitoring technology.

Jerry Brown, president of Brown Corrosion Services, said, "Lux Assure has developed a suite of products that fit perfectly into our remit and we are excited to present them to our clients, as well as to help build and grow the company's profile and reach in the region.

"We have many years of experience in all aspects of corrosion monitoring, inspection and prevention, and are confident that working with Lux Assure

will be a mutually beneficial service for both companies, as well as our client base."

**Lux Assure Ltd – UK**  
contact@luxassure.com  
www.luxassure.com

**Brown Corrosion Services, Inc – USA**  
sales@browncorrosion.com  
www.browncorrosion.com



Charles Cruickshank,  
Lux Assure's CEO

## Inauguration of Vallourec Saudi Arabia

Vallourec has inaugurated its new premium finishing plant for oil and gas tubes in Saudi Arabia. Located in Dammam, the unit is dedicated to heat treatment and threading for the full range of VAM® premium connections, with an annual capacity of 100,000 tons.

Resulting from the 2011 acquisition of Saudi Seamless Pipes Factory Company Ltd, the finishing plant includes heat treatment and finishing lines, which were upgraded by Vallourec and completed by an additional premium threading line and a coupling shop. Total investment amounted to approximately \$200mn.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, Philippe Crouzet, chairman of Vallourec's management board, said, "This state-of-the-art finishing plant in Dammam enables Vallourec to support local customers with the most advanced premium products for their growing oil and gas projects, and with increased services thanks to high flexibility and short delivery times."

With this plant in the Middle East, Vallourec is reinforcing its presence

in a region where numerous oil and gas projects require high added-value tubular solutions. Vallourec Saudi Arabia will mainly supply oil company Saudi Aramco, along with other regional operators. The unit is fully qualified to carry out all operations required in the

production of VAM premium connections using hollows provided by Vallourec's pipe mills, including VSB in Brazil.

**Vallourec – France**  
contact@vallourec.com  
www.vallourec.com

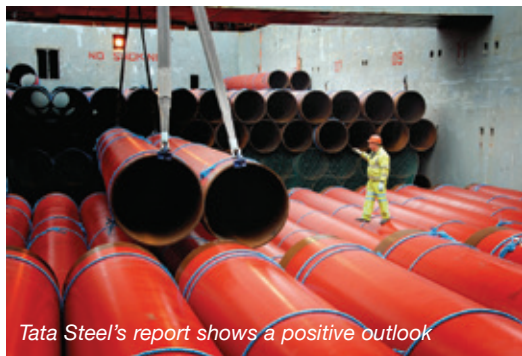


Vallourec Saudi Arabia

## Strong outlook for offshore pipe industry

The European outlook for the offshore pipe industry in 2014 is positive, according to a report conducted by Tata Steel, a supplier of deep-water pipe line solutions.

The study points to high energy demand from Africa, Asia and BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) nations, which will continue to drive offshore developments. It also highlights the growth in deep water developments in Africa and Europe as signs that the offshore pipe line industry is set to continue its recovery.



Richard Broughton, commercial manager for the pipe lines division of Tata Steel, said, "Whilst it is undeniable that the economic recovery has been sluggish and as a consequence progress in major infrastructure projects has been delayed, we are now experiencing real signs of recovery and a change in momentum, both onshore and offshore.

"Budgets will continue to be challenged, but the industry will continue to step up to the challenge, push the boundaries and drive innovation."

Investment in deep water exploration has increased significantly over the past year and is expected to continue as easy-to-reach reserves continue to be depleted.

Also emphasised is the likely growth in pipe line transportation as new sources of shale gas come on line. In particular, the report highlights Russia as a region of significance for 2014.

Mr Broughton added, "Increased investment from operators will see infrastructure requirements grow. Already we are beginning to see the signs of this offshore activity in regions like the Gulf of Mexico, where spending will represent a third of all deep water activity globally, and the Middle East, where existing brownfield infrastructure needs to be replaced and new installed. Both represent significant opportunities for the pipe line industry. Shale will also play an important role, particularly as renewable energy progress has been intermittent."

The European operations of Tata Steel comprise Europe's second largest steel producer.

The company supplies steel and related services to construction, automotive, packaging, rail, lifting and excavating, energy and power, aerospace and other demanding markets worldwide.

**Tata Steel Europe Ltd – UK**  
[www.tatasteeleurope.com](http://www.tatasteeleurope.com)

## Approval from oil companies

TMK, a producer of tubular products for the oil and gas industry, has received official confirmation that its pipes made from the company's own Russian-produced billets are eligible for use by Iraq's South Oil Company (SOC). SOC's engineers visited TMK's Russian facilities to get an overview of pipe billet production technology. Based on their technical report, TMK's pipes received the Iraqi Ministry of Oil approval for being used by SOC.

"TMK has put a lot of effort into securing its presence on the Iraqi market, which boasts strong potential for further growth," commented TMK CEO Alexander Shiryayev. "The decision made by the national Ministry of Oil proves the high quality of our pipe and billet, putting them alongside those made in the US, Japan and Western Europe. From now on, TMK is fully capable of delivering pipe to both South Oil Company and any other state-controlled oil and gas producer in Iraq."

In a separate development, Taganrog Metallurgical Works (TAGMET), a TMK subsidiary, has been qualified by Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) as an approved supplier of TMK UP PF and TMK UP PF ET premium connections.

TMK UP PF connections are used in tubing and casing pipe strings for wells with intense borehole crooking, while TMK UP PF ET connections ensure high tightness of the casing string at extreme loads and torque, and can be used in complex oil and gas production technologies, such as drilling with casing.

"KOC qualification of our TMK UP connections offers new opportunities to promote our products in the Middle East," said Mr Shiryayev. "Expanding sales of high-margin premium pipe products is TMK's strategic priority."

**TMK – Russia**  
[tmk@tmk-group.com](mailto:tmk@tmk-group.com)  
[www.tmk-group.com](http://www.tmk-group.com)

## GRP systems

With a 50-year company history, Fiberdur is an experienced manufacturer of glass fibre reinforced piping systems. The company's service covers a wide range of GRP pipes and fittings made of epoxy resin, vinyl ester resin and polyester resin. This flexibility allows the company to engineer customised piping systems meeting high quality requirements.

Fiberdur piping systems are resistant against many corrosive, abrasive and chemical media, as well as being high-pressure resistant. The material properties make Fiberdur GRP pipe systems a choice for any application with high forces and high temperatures.

**TPR Fiberdur GmbH & Co KG – Germany**  
[info@fiberdur.com](mailto:info@fiberdur.com)  
[www.fiberdur.com](http://www.fiberdur.com)

# Interpipe reaches new milestone in Iraq

Interpipe is continuing its development in Iraq with comprehensive collaboration with the Ministry of Oil in the Republic of Iraq. One of the steps of the partnership was the organisation of a conference for more than 100 representatives of the Ministry of Oil and the largest state oil and gas companies.

Anatolii Marynets, the ambassador of Ukraine to the Republic of Iraq, supported the conference, emphasising that further development of cooperation between Ukrainian and Iraqi companies will have a positive impact on prospects of business

relations between the countries. During the visit, a number of key meetings were held with acting Iraqi oil minister Hassan Fayad Nima and his deputies, as well as the management team of several oil and gas companies, where Iraqi officials expressed strong interest in Interpipe as one of the approved suppliers of tubular products for the state oil companies.

Andrey Burtsev, Interpipe's Middle East regional sales director, commented, "Iraq is amongst the leading oil producers in the world. As such there is increasing demand for OCTG pipes, as well as pipes

for pipelines. Successful cooperation with the Ministry of Oil and state oil companies in the Republic of Iraq are yet another milestone for Interpipe in its plans to build a stronger presence in the country."

Interpipe also took part in the 4<sup>th</sup> Basra Oil and Gas exhibition, where a series of meetings were held with South Oil Company, key contractors and other players in the Southern Iraq oil market.

**Interpipe** – Ukraine  
sales.eu@interpipe.biz  
www.interpipe.biz

# Project management consultancy

Technip has been awarded by Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company (ADMA-OPCO) a contract for project management consultancy services for the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) phases of the Zakum Oil Lines Replacement Project-Phase 1.

The project serves ADMA-OPCO's objective of replacing aged oil pipelines in the Zakum field, aiming to enhance integrity assessment and sustain oil production. The first phase consists of about 90km of oil pipeline replacement

and associated wellhead tower modification work.

With Technip's scope of work covering the overall management consultancy of the EPC phases, the group's operating centre in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, will carry out the project, which is scheduled to be completed in 2016. The contract reinforces Technip's positioning on project management consultancy (PMC) activities.

Leveraging its experience in executing challenging projects, the group has

developed a comprehensive competency and created an entity dedicated to PMC, providing experienced personnel.

**Technip** – France  
www.technip.com

# NGLTech chooses Everything3D

NGLTech Sdn Bhd has chosen Aveva Everything3D (E3D) as its first and primary 3D design tool. NGLTech is a technology development and licensing company focusing on developing solutions for the improvement and enhancement of processes in upstream oil and gas.

Everything3D is a multi-discipline 3D plant design solution that combines 3D graphics and user interface technologies with data management to deliver a comprehensive, productive and tightly integrated 3D plant design solution.

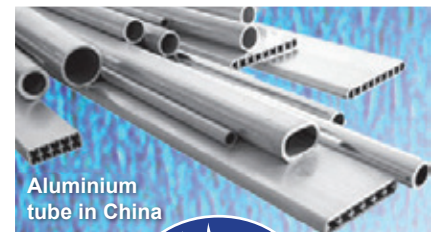
The advanced functionalities of the new Aveva design software will play a strategic role in the evolution of NGLTech's business operations, helping it to improve profitability by

reducing risk and minimising project costs.

"We see 3D design as the future for NGLTech, and Aveva E3D offers the ability to dramatically reduce rework by minimising design inconsistencies, while creating deliverables more quickly and cutting project cost," said Abdul Rashid Serkawi, principal consultant, NGLTech. "Furthermore, Aveva E3D is incredibly easy to master, making the adoption of 3D design straightforward."

**Aveva Group plc** – UK  
www.aveva.com

**NGLTech Sdn Bhd** – Malaysia  
contactus@ngltech.com  
www.ngltech.com



Aluminium tube in China



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Fax: +86 510 85061423  
E-mail: sales@hatal.com.cn

[www.hatal.com.cn](http://www.hatal.com.cn)

Lamiera is an international exhibition of metal forming machine tools and related technologies, which will be back in Bologna from 14 to 17 May 2014 to showcase the best products of the sector.

The stars of Lamiera 2014 will be: sheet metal forming machines, welding, cutting, and oxy cutting machines, bars, processing machines, tubes, presses, shearing and punching machines, finishing machines, components and accessories.

Featured for the first time during the seventeenth edition of Lamiera will be BLECH ITALY, a themed area dedicated to materials and carpentry, sheets, steel coils, tubes and profiles, semi-finished and finished products.

In 2012 Lamiera was attended by 18,000 visitors, mainly from the following sectors: general mechanics (17%), metallurgy (16%), machine tool (11%), building (10%), household appliances (6%) and food and packaging (6%). This year it is hoped even more visitors will be welcomed to beautiful Bologna.



## Venue

Bologna Fair  
Piazza della Costituzione, 6,  
40127 Bologna, Italy

## Organisers

CEU-CENTRO ESPOSIZIONI UCIMU SPA  
In co-operation with SENAF SRL  
Email: lamiera.esp@ucimu.it

## Opening times

9.00am – 6.00pm daily

# Lamiera 2014

14-17 May 2014



[www.lamiera.net](http://www.lamiera.net)

# Water, drainage and civils

In the parlance of the fight ring, the specialities in this section punch above their weight. Even when a water, drainage or civil project is relatively modest in scope, it imposes outsize responsibility: above all on the manufacturers of the tubing products central to its design, construction and operation. A faulty water or drainage pipe is always problematic; a civic installation undermined by a tubing problem could inconvenience or even endanger the wider public.

The new industrial imperatives – faster, greener, safer – multiply the obligations of tubemakers even as the “old” considerations – budget, quality, service – surrender none of their urgency. Fortunately, the professionals who supply tubing products for the demanding uses of water, drainage and civil projects are conditioned by necessity to thinking (and manufacturing, warranting and delivering) in superlatives.

## HDPE pipes for shipyard air duct system

Asset International Ltd, a manufacturer of Weholite HDPE plastic sustainable drainage and water management products, has moved into the ventilation sector, with the provision of a network of HDPE pipes to service a new extension at the Pendennis Shipyard in Falmouth, Cornwall, UK.

Pendennis is a superyacht builder with a heritage spanning 25 years, during which time it has completed over 200 refit projects and created 30 custom new build yachts. In early 2013, Pendennis commenced the major development of its Falmouth location, in order to respond to an increased number of refit enquiries as well as to provide facilities for larger 60m+ vessels. The extension will see the creation of three new marine facing sheds and workshops, as well as expanded office, workshop and crew facilities. The project is partially funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

In order to facilitate the extension Pendennis appointed Midas as the main contractor to undertake the required works. Asset International was appointed by SCB Groundworks, a sub-contractor on the project. Asset was specifically involved in providing a large network of underground pipes in order to service an airtight duct, designed to carry air from the plant room to vast blowers within the workshop. These giant blowers help to dry the fresh paint on the hulls of the superyachts built or refitted at the shipyard.

Asset supplied 750m of 1,350mm diameter Weholite, along with prefabricated access shafts. Weholite exploits an advanced technology polyethylene material and is used primarily in water infrastructure projects across the UK. It is lightweight, durable, easy to install, abrasion resistant, and tolerant of ground movements.

Paul O'Regan, technical sales engineer at Asset International, said, "Weholite lends itself to underground air duct systems

such as the one installed at Pendennis Shipyard, due to its versatility and ability to be fabricated easily into complex arrangements.

"This is essential when the air duct needs to navigate around a multitude of other services that need to be installed.

"We were thrilled to be involved with the Pendennis Shipyard expansion. The work they do in refitting and building luxury superyachts is not only impressive but also extremely interesting and the level of engineering on-site is something to behold."

Andy Mansell, quantity surveyor for SCB Groundworks, commented, "After looking at several different options, Weholite proved to be the most suitable solution and offered both programming and economical advantages."

Asset International has exclusive UK and Ireland rights to manufacture the Weholite range of structured wall pipe.

Originally developed in Finland, Weholite is manufactured in internal



Asset supplied 750m of Weholite pipe for the network of underground pipes

diameters from 400 to 3,500mm. The low-pressure pipe offers the construction and water industries a solution across a range of applications, including surface drainage, foul sewers, inter-process pipe work, culverts, attenuation tanks, ducting and outfalls.

**Asset International – UK**  
sales@weholite.co.uk  
www.weholite.co.uk



Pendennis Shipyard in Cornwall



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Tube and Pipe  
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Non-Ferrous Metals,  
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and Products**

**3 – 6 June 2014**



**Krasnaya Presnya  
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In co-operation with



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RyfischD@messe-duesseldorf.de  
[www.messe-duesseldorf.de](http://www.messe-duesseldorf.de)



## Water, drainage and civils

# Wasser Berlin International

Wasser Berlin International – the International Trade Fair and Congress for Water and Wastewater – has enhanced its trade fair concept, creating added value for exhibitors and trade visitors. From 24 to 27 March 2015 Wasser Berlin International will be organised in a more structured format.

In future, the hall layout of the trade fair will reflect the economic cycle of the water industry, whose 360° approach symbolises the principle of sustainability, as well as demonstrating that the event showcases products, services and solutions from all parts of the water industry.

In 2015, for the first time, the Wasser Berlin International Congress will take on the format of a Hall Forum. No extra charges will be made for the congress.

The concept of the congress will be more tightly structured. On 24 and 27 March 2015 at one session, and on 25 and 26 March 2015 at two sessions respectively, the focus will be on the latest water industry and policy-making topics at national and international level. In addition, specialist symposiums dealing with individual topics in greater detail will be taking place in close coordination with trade fair events.

In addition to No Dig Berlin, the trade fair section with an accompanying symposium on trenchless construction, a further independent section under the heading of Flood Management Berlin is being organised, to deal with flood control, water engineering and disaster management.

New features will include a board meeting area, which will be set up in the Palais am Funkturm next door to Wasser Berlin International. Members of Wasser Berlin, the organisation that sponsors and promotes the event, will be able to hold their general meetings, annual conferences and other internally organised events parallel with the specialist events at Wasser Berlin International.

**Messe Berlin GmbH** – Germany  
[wasser@messe-berlin.de](mailto:wasser@messe-berlin.de)  
[www.wasser-berlin.com](http://www.wasser-berlin.com)

*The Brandenburg Gate  
in Berlin*





## Water and drainage using PVC-O pipes

The demand of water infrastructure is growing worldwide, but the economical situation challenges to lower the cost of materials and installation, pushing installers and pipe manufacturers to find new solutions.

The latest technological developments make PVC-oriented (PVC-O) pipes available as an efficient water conveyance system. The molecular orientation process enhances physical and mechanical properties in PVC pipes, while still retaining chemical properties. Molecor specialises in the development and marketing of PVC-O pipe technology.

PVC-O pipes manufactured by the Molecor technology process require fewer raw materials, and therefore



*Molecor provides a wide range of PVC-O pipe diameters and pressures*

reduce costs. They are also energy efficient and eco-friendly, not only because of the technology process, but also due to the subsequent use. The pipes are employed as both water mains and secondary feeders in a range from DN 90 to 800mm for medium and

high-pressure pipelines (PN 12.5 to 25 bar). PVC-O pipe water conveyance applications include water supply, irrigation, pressured waste water collection, recycled water, and other specific purposes such as urban supply, industrial and fire protection.

Founded in 2006, Molecor develops advanced technology and products for molecular orientation applied to PVC pipes, increasing the range of DN and pressures, offering the automatic (ISS+) or manual insertion of the gasket in the socket, and entering new product segments such as PVC-O fittings.

**Molecor Tecnología SL** – Spain  
info@molecor.com  
www.molecor.com

## Polypipe doubles large diameter manufacturing capacity

Polypipe, a manufacturer of sustainable drainage, water management and cable protection products, has more than doubled its Loughborough, UK, production capacity and workforce, to meet demand for its Ridgistorm-XL large diameter pipe system.

The multi-million pound investment into the expanded 55,000ft<sup>2</sup> facility increases the company's capacity to manufacture and fabricate Ridgistorm-XL, which incorporates fully engineered modularised chambers and fittings.

Ridgistorm-XL is a plastic pipe solution with large diameters available in sizes from 750 to 3,000mm. The strong and versatile piping system is used across a wide variety of construction sectors for applications as diverse as flood alleviation, air ventilation, renewable energy and rainwater harvesting.

Polypipe's larger fabrication capability will also increase its modularisation output. The facility will help to service demand for products such as Polypipe's engineered Ridgistorm-XL chambers, which can incorporate various items including non-return valves, penstocks, flap valves, gate valves, flow controllers, weir walls and even pumping stations.

The company's off-site construction and ability to provide pre-fitted components within chambers allows for systems to be delivered ready to drop into position, creating a number of health and safety benefits, as well as opportunities to reduce time, labour and plant costs.

Emma Nicholls, marketing communications manager at Polypipe, commented, "We are delighted that our new line is up and running. Demand for Ridgistorm-

XL has continued to grow since its launch six years ago, to the point where we needed to explore increasing our production facilities. With the new line added, we can continue to produce quality engineered products in much larger quantities, as well as offering an even bigger and better fabrications service."

**Polypipe** – UK  
civilsenquiries@polypipe.com  
www.polypipe.com

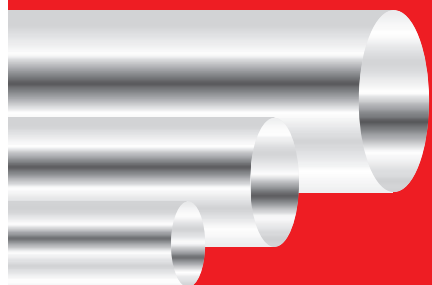


*Polypipe's larger fabrication capability will increase its modularisation output*



# Tube

## CHINA



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### 24.-27.09.2014

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[www.tubechina.net](http://www.tubechina.net)

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International Tube Association

Organizers:



Metallurgical Council of the China Council  
for the Promotion of Int'l Trade (MC-CCPIT)  
Metallurgical Center for International  
Exchange and Cooperation

Messe Düsseldorf (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.  
Units 307-308, Tower 1, German Centre  
for Industry and Trade Shanghai  
98 Keyuan Road,  
Zhangjiang Hi-Tech Park  
Pudong, Shanghai 201203, P.R.China  
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s.fischl@messe-duesseldorf.de  
BurbullaK@messe-duesseldorf.de  
www.messe-duesseldorf.de



## Welding for plastic pipes and fittings

Ritmo SpA is an Italian manufacturer of certified welding machines for plastic pipes and fittings for the transport of water, gas and other fluids under pressure. The most-used welding method for plastic pipes is butt fusion, while electrofusion is the best solution when it comes to repairing existing conduits.

Within its butt fusion line, Ritmo has many solutions. The Basic line offers five easy-to-use, reliable and precise models, with a working range from 40 to 355mm OD. The Dragon Digital electronic thermoregulator and the SMARTLock fast-locking adapter system (patented by Ritmo) speed up welding preparation time without using any additional equipment.

An evolution of the Basic line, Basic Easy Life features a special gearcase and is able to manage the welding process semi-automatically. The electronic system ensures the continuous repeat of welding cycles and automatic control of the pre-set parameters; the operator only needs to validate the welding phases. The user-friendly graphic display allows a quick setting of the desired parameters.

The Easy Life system can store up to 4,000 welding cycles and sum them into a PDF file. This report can be transferred to a PC through a USB port and data-management software. The Basic Easy Life system is available in seven models, with a working range from 40 to 630 mm OD. For the largest diameters (500 to 1,600mm OD), Ritmo offers the Delta range of machines. The Delta series allows various accessories, including cranes and trolleys, bringing the product closer to the client's exact needs, no matter how rough the working conditions are.

Ritmo SpA – Italy  
info@ritmo.it  
www.ritmo.it

## Acquisition of stake in pipe seal company finalised

Trelleborg has finalised the acquisition of the 51 per cent stake in the North American group Max Seal, which develops and manufactures polymer-based sealing systems for various types of pipes deployed in water and wastewater systems.

The business has its main facility in Tijuana, Mexico, and a sales company in the USA. Net sales in 2013 amounted to approximately SEK 80mn. Trelleborg provides engineered polymer solutions that seal, damp and protect critical applications in demanding environments.

Trelleborg – Sweden  
www.trelleborg.com



**STAROFIT**  
STAHL-ROHR-FITTINGS

# Interview with Stefan Reiners, Steffen Knese, Claudia Renz and Christopher Klose of Starofit

Stefan Reiners, Steffen Knese, Claudia Renz and Christopher Klose are sales managers at STAROFIT and work in the export team. In total they have more than 30 years of experience in the steel trade industry.

■ ***What does your company specialise in and why is it the best at what it does? Please tell us briefly about your main products.***

**Christopher Klose:** STAROFIT specialises in distributing buttwelding elbows and fittings in steel, alloy steel and stainless steel. We are a major supplier in Europe; our extensive stock programme enables us to satisfy unusual demands and cater for complex requirements. Furthermore, STAROFIT's success relies on know how, motivated and well-trained employees and reliability. I believe the confidence our customers place is reasoned by our excellent customer service.

■ ***Could you tell us about some of the recent projects you have been working on at STAROFIT and about the role and responsibilities of STAROFIT in the market?***

**Claudia Renz:** STAROFIT is known as a reliable partner in the market, exclusively serving trading companies. Due to our deep product range, we are not a typical supplier for entire piping projects; rather we maintain the role as the niche supplier for complementary piping products. This means we provide our partners and customers with the ability to supply complete project packages to their customers.

**Stefan Reiners:** We are continuously working on the extension of our stock programme with new material grades and dimensions to provide products that are sustainable under extreme conditions. Our mission is to provide high quality goods and services to customers, which makes it also our responsibility that we are able to fulfil demands immediately.

■ ***What are the future plans for your company? Do you see a lot of potential for growth in the developing areas of the world, for example?***

**Christopher Klose:** Globalisation of the market is still going on, which means the process of the internationalisation of the market hasn't stopped. It is obvious that STAROFIT can't ignore this development, which means we have to extend our global network of partners to serve existing customers on a new level and to reach new potential customers. In this regard, we follow our philosophy to serve other trading companies in the piping sector only and treat them as partners. Additionally, as already mentioned we work continuously on the extension of our stock programme. We are extending our stock programme regarding the diversity of dimensions and the variety of material grades. We see our future as a niche supplier for value-added piping products and excellent services to our partners and customers.

■ **What's the most enjoyable and satisfying thing about working for your company in your current role? What does your work during an average day involve?**

**Claudia Renz:** I think everyone who works in exports values the international environment. We deal with companies from all over the world, which means that we also deal with people with different cultural backgrounds. This context makes our daily business extremely rich in variety and fascinating at the same time.

■ **What is the toughest aspect of your job in the daily business and in general? What are the most difficult threats and challenges you have to cope with?**

**Steffen Knese:** There are a lot of possible pitfalls in our daily business. Examples would be changes in delivery times, unsatisfying quality of incoming goods, unexpected inspection results, etc. The most unfavourable pitfalls are those which are independent from our activities and can't be directly influenced by us. To avoid these pitfalls STAROFIT set up a quality management system, including internal processes, a rigorous supplier selection, and meticulous testing of products to qualify for the STAROFIT-Standard.

**Christopher Klose:** From my perspective, one of the toughest aspects of our job is the development of the prices in our sector. Frequently, low budget products are competing against our high quality products. Needless to say, this development is not new and results from a stronger competition in the market. We have to prove our reliability, flexibility and expertise every day to demonstrate that our products are top class and our services are excellent.

■ **How do you see the tube and pipe industry changing over the next five to ten years following the global recession? What do you think the industry and governments in Germany (and Europe) can learn from the past few years?**

**Claudia Renz:** The development of the local tube and pipe industry is nearly parallel to the development of the local economy. There will always be up and downs, but every new development brings also new possibilities and challenges along.

**Christopher Klose:** The only way to cope with this challenge is to diversify the business operations on markets, which are at most independent from each other. Companies have to be active in booming and vibrant areas, but it is also necessary to remain active in more mature markets. Especially small and mid-sized enterprises have to find their own niche to have a chance in the international competition on the global market.



■ **What advice would you give to someone trying to make a career as an engineer, for example, in the modern tube and pipe industry? If a student or young person wanted to get involved with your company what should they do and what should they study?**

**Steffen Knese:** In Germany, we offer young people the opportunity to do apprenticeships after school to learn how to work in a company in a specific job. This approach is the so-called "dual system", which means that the apprentice works in the company and studies at a vocational business school. Generally, these programmes last for three years and are available for different jobs at our company. This combination of theory and practice is extremely successful and is becoming an "export hit" to other countries.

**Stefan Reiners:** In particular, STAROFIT is very successful with this approach. Almost 90 per cent of our current staff started as an apprentice at STAROFIT. Apprentices at STAROFIT are already during the programme full-value employees. The different types of apprenticeship STAROFIT offers are well-planned programmes to become a fittings specialist step by step in his/ her job. We also enable our young employees to study (eg at university) besides the job.

Since it was founded on 1 April 1975 by Rüdiger Klose (who continues as managing director to this day), STAROFIT has been a pipe trade specialist.

The company focuses on the storage and distribution of elbows and butt-weld fittings made of steel and stainless steel.

In Ganderkesee near Bremen, Germany, it has 20,000m<sup>2</sup> of storage space that houses fittings in more than 50,000 different sizes and more than 100 different materials – materials suitable for high and low temperatures, high pressures and aggressive media.

Its products are used around the world in a range of industrial sectors, such as plant engineering, power station construction, shipbuilding, machine construction, pipe construction and petrochemistry.

For more than 30 years, STAROFIT has specialised in butt-weld fittings. STAROFIT's "full warehouse" policy – it has (virtually) everything in stock – provides its customers with a key market advantage.

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# Powered pipe-threading tips: 2" pipe

By Teodora Takacs, business development manager, Ridgid/Ridge Tool Company, Belgium

Threading pipe has been popular since the 1940s and used for pipe applications ranging from potable water systems and heating and boiler applications in residential to a variety of commercial settings. Today, threading is most prevalent in industrial and commercial applications as piping technology and materials (plastic and copper) have evolved.

However, in order for threading to be effective and safe, there are a few rules to play by. Here, let's remind ourselves what those rules are by taking a look at best practices for threading 2" pipe – a common diameter you'll come across in the field.

## Step 1: Decision time – power or manual threader?

To prepare for a job that will require pipe threading, a couple of decisions need to be made. The first step is deciding between using a manual threader or a power threader. To do so, ask yourself: "How many threads do I need to produce?" Then consider the man-hours it will take to complete the job. If you have multiple threads to cut, limited man power, and a power threader is at your disposal, then a power threader is far and away the better choice.

## Step 2: Setting up

The set-up of your power threader on a job site is very important. You must ensure that you are able to set up on a relatively flat surface, with minimal pitch to your machine. If you need to improvise, set up your machine on a surface with a concrete base, such as a garage floor.

You will also want to set up as close to your power source as possible. Minimising extension cord use is important to avoid a drop in voltage and thus power to your machine. If an extension is necessary, it is recommended to use a low-gauge cord, which limits the inconsistencies of power supply on some jobsites.

## Step 3: Select your pipe

With the machine set up, you are ready to thread and can begin setting up your pipe. In most cases, the pipe lengths will be 6m long. As a reminder, schedule 40 pipe 2" thick against 6m in length will weigh around 1.6kg per 0.3m. Remember this when transporting your pipe around a job site. Caution when doing so is essential to the safety of both yourself and others working in the area.

## Step 4: Load the pipe

It does not matter if you load your pipe from the rear or front of the machine, but you must take appropriate precautions when doing so. Most importantly, it is vital to ensure the rear (work holder) and front chucks are opened to a diameter larger than the diameter of pipe you are loading into your machine. If you are loading 2" diameter pipe into a 2" machine, for example, then both chucks need to be opened to the maximum allowable travel. Failure to do so runs the risk of ramming the pipe's end into the chuck jaws, which could damage the jaws or the plates holding the jaws in place. This kind of abrupt stoppage also offers potential to injure the operator.

## Step 5: Pipe support

It is highly recommended that you use a roller pipe support out of the back of the machine when threading a full length of pipe (6m). The pipe support should be placed approximately 2.5m behind the machine to ensure a level pitch in relationship to the rear chuck. Remember, you will also need approximately 20-25cm of pipe extending out of the front chuck when setting the work in place. This travel distance, of course, can vary based on the type of threading machine used.

## Step 6: Know the functions of your machine

Threading machine operations typically consist of three functions: the thread, the ream and the cutting of the pipe. This terminology indicates that the machine includes built-in tools to perform these various tasks. 'Power drive' is another term that will come up. If that is the case, external hand tools will be used to perform the thread, ream and cut. On a threading machine, the pipe reamer is the first tool to the right, and most tradesmen will make this their first operation. Threading will follow and cutting will be last.

## Ridgid – company background

Ridgid has been manufacturing and selling tools to the pipe working and contracting industry since 1923, when it was founded in North Ridgeville, Ohio, USA, to manufacture a revolutionary style of heavy-duty pipe wrench.

Since then, the company has developed into one of the world's largest suppliers of tools to the professional trades.

As time passed, the company expanded its product line to include many other tools. In 1943, growth was such that the company had to move its headquarters to its current facility in Elyria, Ohio. Ridgid manufactures over 300 different

tools in more than 4,000 models and sizes, ranging from the original Ridgid pipe wrench to pipe/tubing tools, pressing tools for joining copper tubing, pipe and drain cleaning equipment and the latest diagnostic inspection and locating tools.

The company's products are distributed on six continents and in more than 155 countries. Markets are served from a 125,000ft<sup>2</sup> central distribution facility in central Ohio. Other stocking warehouse locations include Europe, Canada, Central and Latin America, Australia, the Middle East, Japan, the Far East and Africa.

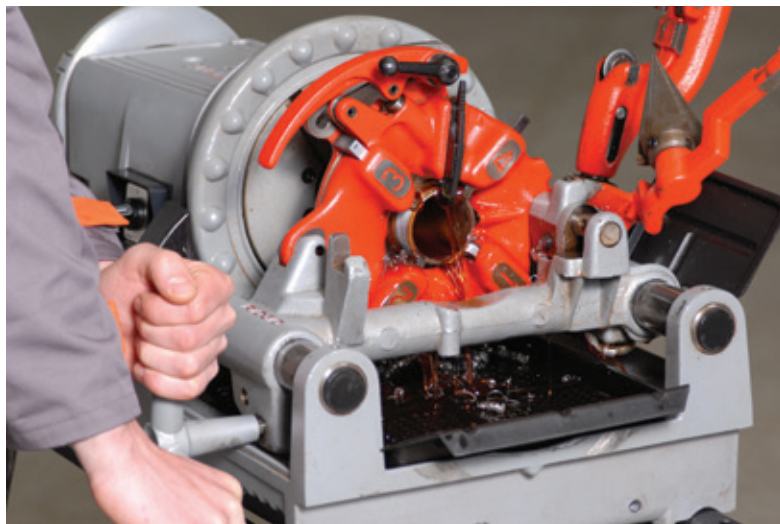
Ridgid products are sold to end users through professional tool distribution and large retail channels. In the USA, Ridgid tools are available at over 4,000 distributor locations.

The company manufactures products on three continents to serve the world market. The main manufacturing facility and world headquarters are in Elyria, Ohio, where pipe working products are produced. Other US manufacturing facilities are located in Erie, Pennsylvania, and Orange, Virginia. Overseas manufacturing facilities include Sissach, Switzerland; Gevelsberg, Germany; Cluj-Napoca, Romania; and Shanghai, China.

## Step 7: Ream the pipe

Reaming of steel pipe is required by code. Removing the steel burr (created when cut by a pipe cutter) on the inside diameter of the pipe allows for unrestricted flow of fluids, steam and wires that may be intended to go through the pipe.

To begin the threading operation, ensure your die head has the corresponding size of dies for the diameter of pipe. Next, set your die head to accommodate this size. As a reminder, threading 1/8" to 2" pipe requires four sets of dies: 1/8" – 27 threads per inch (TPI); 1/4" to 3/8" – 18 TPI; 1/2" to 3/4" – 14 TPI; and 1" to 2" – 11 1/2 TPI. The ream is completed when you see the burr has been removed.



## Step 8: Threading the pipe

To begin threading, pull the die head down so it sits on the carriage. Prior to advancing the die head, start the machine to begin rotating the pipe in a forward, counter-clockwise direction. Next, advance the die head to the rotating pipe. Apply pressure after the throat of the dies makes contact with the end of the pipe. Note: the dies are designed to engage the end of the pipe at this point. That is what allows you to cut the thread under the power of the rotating pipe.

A standard-length thread is typically completed when the last tooth on the dies comes flush with the end of the pipe. This will give you a standard length of thread, allowing you to manually thread on a coupling (approximately three turns, using a pipe wrench to tighten completely).

As a special side note, it is important that you use quality thread-cutting oil when threading. Not only will it lubricate the pipe, allowing for the dies to cut through the material with greater ease, but it will also perform a flushing function, moving chips away from the work to minimise torn threads. Additionally, threading oil 'cools the work', keeping dies from heating up during metal-to-metal operation.

Finally, if threading various material types, it is important that you use the best oil for the operation. Motor oils, lathe coolants and water are not suitable for threading.

## Step 9: Cutting the pipe

Once the pipe is threaded, cut the pipe to your desired length. To do so, make sure the pipe is not rotating, then pull the pipe cutter down on the carriage and place over the pipe. Close the cutter wheel up to the wall of the pipe and begin rotating the pipe forward. Once the pipe is moving, advance the cutter wheel until it breaks through the inner wall of the pipe. (Note: Do not stop rotating the pipe until the cut has been made completely through its wall). Once the cut has been made, you are ready to perform the next task on the uncut end.

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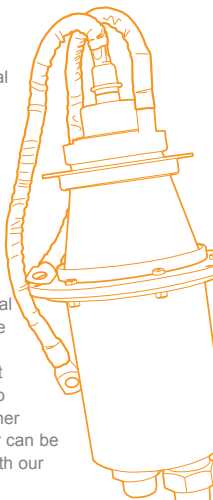
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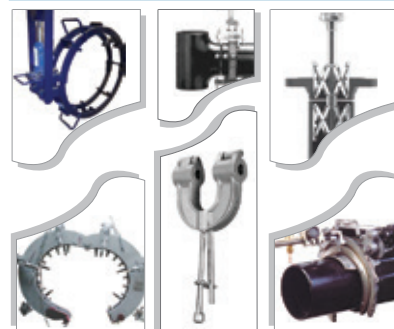
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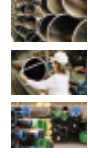
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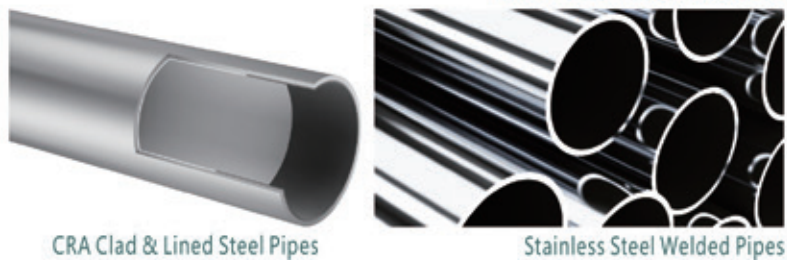
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