



West Metro Fire Protection District

Life Safety Division

Technical Bulletin

Subject:	<i>CPVC Sprinkler pipe material compatibility</i>		
Code/Standard:	<i>2015/18/21 IFC, NFPA 13, 13R, 13D</i>	Bulletin No:	2022-001
Bulletin Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Fire Code Interpretation</i>	Effective Date:	<i>7/01/2022</i>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>West Metro Fire Protection District Policy</i>	Approved By:	<i>Brooks</i>

Scope/Purpose:

The manufacturers of CPVC piping used in fire sprinkler systems have determined there is a significant potential for failure when CPVC sprinkler pipe comes in contact with certain incompatible materials. The experience of the West Metro Fire Protection District is that monitoring and inspections, or reliance on the various trades to ensure compliance, are not sufficient given the dynamic nature and scheduling pressures of the contemporary construction site. In order to manage this incompatibility potential, the fire district provides the following approved management options.

Requirement(s):

Prior to installation, the general contractor, in conjunction with the fire sprinkler system installer, shall develop a plan that ensures CPVC sprinkler pipe is not exposed to incompatible materials. The general contractor in conjunction with the installing sprinkler contractor shall propose, for approval by the fire inspector, option(s) to be employed on the job-site to address the incompatibility concerns. Options, or a combination thereof, that may be proposed and approved:

- 1) Encase the CPVC sprinkler pipe in a compatible material approved by the CPVC manufacturer. This may include a wrap of an approved material, pipe insulation, etc. Manufacturer documentation of approval shall be maintained on the construction site and available for review.
- 2) Encase, enclose, or otherwise physically separate all other materials and products from the CPVC pipe. This may include raceways, baffles, chases, rigid conduit, etc.
- 3) Consider steel pipe as an alternative to CPVC to eliminate the need to separate materials and products.
- 4) Contract an APPROVED 3rd party inspector that will inspect, document, and certify that the CPVC pipe was free from all contact with incompatible or potentially incompatible materials. This inspection shall occur at the time that all materials, products, and installations have been completed in the vicinity of the CPVC pipe and at the time the enclosure (ceiling, walls, etc) are being installed. The cost for the 3rd party inspector serving this role shall not be the responsibility of the Fire District. Reports from the 3rd Party inspection shall be maintained on site and available.
- 5) Complete a 'CPVC Fire Sprinkler Pipe Compatibility Statement' prior to each rough inspection and just prior to ceiling installation as well as any other installation, including wall covering, that will conceal the CPVC. (SEE ATTACHED FORM)

Reference(s):

[Lubrizol Compatibility Program Link](#)

[Spears Compatibility Program Link](#)

Attachments:

CPVC Fire Sprinkler Pipe Compatibility Statement



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Life Safety Division

CPVC Sprinkler Pipe Compatibility Statement

Project Address:			
Project Name:		Permit No.:	
Inspection Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Rough Inspection <input type="checkbox"/> Entire Building, or <input type="checkbox"/> Area: _____	Date:	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-enclosure <input type="checkbox"/> Entire Building, or <input type="checkbox"/> Area: _____	Reviewed By:	

The manufacturers of CPVC piping used in fire sprinkler systems have determined there is a significant potential for failure when CPVC sprinkler pipe comes in contact with certain incompatible materials, even for short periods of time. In order to manage this incompatibility potential, the West Metro Fire Protection District (WMFPD) requires that proactive steps are taken to ensure incompatibility problems do not occur and potential violations are minimized or eliminated.

Prior to sprinkler system installation, the general contractor, in conjunction with the fire sprinkler system installer, shall develop a plan that ensures CPVC sprinkler pipe is not exposed to incompatible materials. The general contractor in conjunction with the installing sprinkler contractor shall propose, for approval by a WMFPD fire inspector, option(s) to be employed on the job-site to address incompatibility concerns. Utilization of this form is an approved method to assist in the management of CPVC compatibility. This form shall be completed prior to each sprinkler rough inspection and prior to ceiling installation. This form shall be maintained on the construction site and shall be available for review at any time.

By signing below, I attest that I have physically examined the entire scope of work installed by my company for the area(s) to be inspected or enclosed. I find that none of our installed products, equipment, hardware, or materials are in contact with the CPVC sprinkler pipe. If any of our installations do touch the CPVC sprinkler pipe, then I attest that compatibility documentation provided by the sprinkler pipe manufacturer is available on site which demonstrates the product or material is compatible with the CPVC pipe. Furthermore, I acknowledge that, upon inspection by a West Metro Fire Protection District Fire inspector, any and every instance where our installation is in contact with the CPVC sprinkler system in violation of the compatibility program associated with the CPVC sprinkler pipe in use will result in a **\$300.00 reinspection fee per occurrence which will be assessed to the general contractor and the inspection will be terminated. All future inspection will be suspended until the full fee is paid and all deficiencies corrected.**

General Contractor: _____
 Representative (print): _____
 Title: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____

Electrical Contractor: _____
 Representative (print): _____
 Title: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____

Mechanical Contractor: _____
 Representative (print): _____
 Title: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____

Fire Alarm Contractor: _____
 Representative (print): _____
 Title: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____

Plumbing Contractor: _____
 Representative (print): _____
 Title: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____

Other Contractor: _____
 Representative (print): _____
 Title: _____ Date: _____
 Signature: _____

Use additional sheets as necessary