



Republic of the Philippines
Department of the Interior and Local Government
Bureau of Fire Protection
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Agham Road, Brgy. Bagong Pag-asa, Quezon City



MEMORANDUM

TO : Regional Directors, BFP Regions 1-12, ARMM, CAR CARAGA and NCR;
Director, FNTI; and Heads of Offices, BFP-National Headquarters

SUBJECT : Use of Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride (CPVC) Pipes and Fittings for Fire Sprinkler Systems

DATE : 21 March 2012

A number of queries have reached this Office regarding the applicability of Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride (CPVC) Pipes and Fittings, and its Sealant for fire sprinkler systems.

The BFP acknowledges that new pipe materials and the development of new methods for installing and joining pipes for fire sprinkler system have emerged in the country.

However, any product, technology, system and/or device intended to be used for fire safety measures in buildings, specifically for fire sprinkler systems, is permitted provided that it complies with appropriate provisions of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Listing Agencies such as but not limited to Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Factory Mutual (FM) Global and Loss Prevention Certification Board (LPCB), and other internationally-accepted standards, as well as supplementary and/or complimentary standards cited therein.

For CPVC Pipes and Fittings, and its Sealant, NFPA 13 series permits its use, provided that they are installed in accordance with their listing limitations, including installation instructions. On the other hand, the BFP may refer to NFPA 25 on the CPVC Water-based Fire Sprinkler System inspection, testing and maintenance.

As per NFPA 13 (Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems), light hazard occupancies include occupancies having uses and conditions similar to animal shelters, churches, clubs, educational, hospitals (including animal hospitals and veterinary facilities), institutional, kennels, libraries (except large stack rooms), museums, nursing or convalescent homes, offices (including data processing), residential, restaurant seating areas, theaters and auditoriums (excluding stages and prosceniums), and unused attics. All high-rise building/structure applications are allowable subject to NFPA 13 light hazard occupancy limitations.

As per NFPA 1 (Fire Prevention Code), light hazard occupancies may include some buildings or rooms occupied as offices, classrooms, churches, assembly halls, guest room areas of hotels/motels, etc. This classification anticipates that the majority of content items are either noncombustible or so arranged that a fire is not likely to spread rapidly.

In this regard and considering the above, advise your Officers and Personnel that basically, UL-listed Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride (CPVC) Pipes and Fittings, and its Sealant for Fire Sprinkler Systems are applicable for light hazard occupancies as defined in NFPA 13.

Additional applications, including, but not limited to air plenum, system risers, underground, attic and garage installations, shall be referred to the CPVC manufacturer and/or design engineer as prescribed/allowed by NFPA or other internationally-accepted standards and/or listings, together with its supplementary and/or complimentary standards.

For widest dissemination and compliance.

[Signature]
SAMUEL R PEREZ, CEO VI
CSUPT BFP

Officer-in-Charge/
Deputy Chief for Administration

cc : Secretary, DILG

Authenticated by *[Signature]*

[Signature] 5-21-12
J. Parizal
Adm. Officer
Chief, Records Sec. PRMD

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