# Fletcher’s Case on PB Pipe Failures is Compelling, but Not Yet Convincing

**Author :** PPN

## PPN- The Leading Source of Industry News on Polymer Pipes and Plastic Pipe Testing

### *Global News on Plastic Piping and Fittings in Real-Time*

---

**NEWSMAKERS: * Aliaxis * Australian Plastic Piping Failures * BGC * CPVC * ExcelPlas * Failure Analysis * FBU * Fletcher Building * Georg Fischer * John Guest * Iplex * PEX Plus Failures * Plastic Pipe Failures * Polybutylene Pipe Failures * PIPA * Pro-Fit™ * PVC Pipes * RWC * Uponor * Vinidex**

**BREAKING NEWS**

**Fletcher’s Case on PB Pipe Failures is Compelling, but Not Yet Convincing**

**Fletcher’s Pipedream Nothing but a Crane Hangover | BusinessDesk**

**Analysts Wade in on PB Pipe Failure Dispute**

**Aliaxis Plans to Drop Pursuit of Uponor After Georg Fischer Bid**

**Market Sensitive: Shareholding of Georg Fischer AG in Uponor has Gone Above the Threshold of 10 per cent**
GF Piping is expected to complete $2.28bill buy-out of its Finnish rival Uponor by start of November but is currently seeking regulatory content from the EU

**Fletcher Building Claims Leaky PB Pipes in Aussie Due to 'Shoddy' Installation, Not Manufacturing Fault**

**Court Rules on Case Where PVC Pipe Sold to US Government that Did Not Comply with Industry Standards**

**Legal Case on Failed Pex Plus Pipes in Australia to be Heard in VCAT**

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**US Navy Finds Failure of PVC Piping Led to Fuel Spill**
PVC piping the AFFF waste system, which was one of the causes of the 2021 fuel spill. Rear Admiral (retired) John Korka, who was commander of the Navy Facilities Engineering Command Pacific three years before the two spills from May 2017 and September 2018, was censured for not ensuring that his command complied with requirement during the contracting and installation of the Aqueous Film Forming Foam system.

**Uponor Collaborates with College in Ontario to collect data on Expansion and Contraction of PEX-a Vertical piping in Multi-Story Building Applications**

**Investigation into the Effects of Voids on the Response of Buried HDPE Pipes Subjected to Incrementally Increasing Cyclic Loading**

**Mechanical Behaviour and Damage Analysis of the CPVC Pipes**

**Improving the Bond Strength of a New PVC-Based Adhesive for PVC Pipes**

**RWC Spruiks the Benefits of Plastic Pipes**
PEX and polybutylene barrier pipe from JG Speedfit feature an innovative oxygen barrier which prevents air ingress

## CONDITION ASSESSMENT

**ExcelPlas Pipe Condition Assessment (PCA)**
Owners and operators of plants have been using thermoplastics for many years, transporting water, gas and chemicals along their process. However, for operational and maintenance purposes, the asset integrity of the piping system is required. This could be for a number of reason, such as piping system maintenance, ability to maintain current service conditions. EP offers its 30 plus years of plastic piping application experience to assess the fitness for service of used piping. Our specialists inspect the samples in our state-of-the-art accredited materials testing laboratory for piping components, to give our clients the necessary information to make an informed decision and next steps during a project's operational, maintenance or design phases resolve threats to client assets. ExcelPlas offers the following testing to determine the condition of plastic pipes:
Technical Data:

- Visual Inspection
- Dimensional check
- Oxidation Induction Time (OIT)
- Melt Flow Rate (MFR)
- Fourier-transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR)
- Hydrostatic Test
- Differential Scanning Calorimetry test (DSC)
- Vicat test
- Microscopic analysis
- Report with assessment of the integrity of the piping material

## PLASTIC PIPE CONSULTANTS

**Plastic Pipe Consulting Experts and Services**
If you need a team of pipe plastic experts, then ExcelPlas Consulting is the obvious choice - our size is our strength in a market dominated by single consultants.
We provide services on everything from material selection, product testing, processing to failure analysis
https://www.excelplas.com/contact-us/

## PIPE FAILURE ANALYSIS

**ExcelPlas Investigating Poly Pipe Failures**
Through failure analysis & forensic chemistry, we help clients improve product performance, increase profits, & resolve product liability claims with plastic pipes and fittings.
We are dedicated to unmatched excellence in failure analysis, investigative chemistry, material testing, and expert witnessing for plastics, polymers and composites.
With over 25 years of investigative experience, the staff at ExcelPlas are uniquely positioned to help clients resolve the most challenging performance and processing issues related to materials and finished pipes and fittings.
https://www.excelplas.com/contact-us/

## MORE POLY PIPE NEWS

**PPN the Digital News Platform for Communicating to the Global Plastic Pipe Industry**
Send Us Your News!!!  PPN Publishes weekly.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eUKxWbOZY10

---

**ExcelPlas Labs Pipe Failure Investigations**
ExcelPlas Labs have created a new benchmark in failure analysis of HDPE, PP-R, PB and PEX pipes in addition to PVC &  CPVC pipes as well as composite GRP and GRE pipes.  When a plastic pipeline fails to perform as intended, our team can determine the root cause of failure (e.g.  oxidative failure, chemical failure, creep failure, over-stress failure, fatigue failure, design failure, etc).  ExcelPlas are experienced with all plastic piping failure modes and mechanisms including Slow Crack Growth (SCG) Rapid Crack Propagation (RCP), Environmental Stress Crack Resistance (ESCR), Oxidative Stress Cracking (OSC), cyclic fatigue, manufacturing

defects, and polymer material problems.
http://www.excelplas.com/

**ExcelPlas Strain Hardening Test (SHT) for HDPE Pipes**
The SHT in accordance with ISO 18488 is a relatively new, but excellent way to obtain a rapid indication of the Stress Crack Growth (SCG) resistance of your piping material. This tensile test performed at 80°C has become in just a few years the new standard for Batch Release Testing (BRT). And not without reason.  The test requires only a very small amount of material, the results are very reliable with a very low inter-laboratory scatter and the results are available within a few days, regardless of the PE grade. The SHT is usually performed on resin material but it can also be performed on samples taken directly from pipes or sheets. As accredited lab, EXCELPLAS is happy to discuss the possibilities with you, whether it is for BRT, benchmarking, quality control of your (high performing) PE grade or for polymer compliance/ validation.
http://www.excelplas.com/

**Australia's Plastic Pipe Testing Laboratory**
ExcelPlas Laboratories provides a comprehensive plastic pipe joint testing service and is equipped with a state-of-the-art laboratory to test a range of polymer materials including polyethylene and polypropylene. ExcelPlas can carry out testing on plastic tube and pipe ranging in wall thickness from 3mm to 1200mm. ExcelPlas Laboratories provide a comprehensive service to Industrial & commercial companies, environmental consultants, Government bodies, and local Authority customers throughout Australia and Asia. All testing is carried and out in accordance with ASTM, ISO & WIS methods and is fully accredited to ISO 17025 by NATA.

- Butt Fusion Weld Testing
- Weld Testing
- Testing of Electro-fusion Welds
- Tear on saddle joints
- Crush De-cohesion of Electro-fusion welds
- Polymer & Plastics Identification
- Chemical & Thermal Testing
- Site Audits

http://www.excelplas.com/

**ExcelPlas - the Australian Pipes & Fittings Testing Laboratory**

- Accredited to ISO 17025 by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) Australia, and is Australia's largest laboratory dedicated for the testing of plastic pipes and fittings to various Standards which include Australian, European and International Standards.
- The staff employed at the laboratory have a combined experience of more than 85 years within the plastics industry specifically with manufacturing, quality control and the research and development of plastic piping systems including HDPE, PEX, PP-R, PVC, U-PVC, M-PVC, O-PVC, ABS, GRP, GRE and PB.
- Services provided include conformance testing, compliance testing, batch release testing, root cause analysis for field failures and non-destructive testing of samples.

http://www.excelplas.com/

**ExcelPlas Lab Specialising in HDPE Pipe Condition Monitoring, Failure Analysis and Testing**
In the event of a HDPE buttweld or electrofusion weld failing during initial testing, or in service, we can conduct investigations to assist in identifying the root cause of the failure.
This service also extends to the premature failure of the pipe or fitting itself.
http://www.excelplas.com/plastic-pipes

**ExcelPlas Pipe Testing is a Leader in the Field of Polyethylene (PE) and High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Testing**
ExcelPlas is accredited with the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) for butt weld tests, bend and tensile tests, peel decohesion tests on electro fusion sockets and failure mode determination
http://www.polypipetesting.com.au/butt-fusion-welds/

**New UHMWPE Pipe for Tailing Offers Greater Than 4X the Abrasion Resistance of PE100 (Australia wide)**
http://slurrypipes.com.au/

**ExcelPlas Poly Pipe Weld Inspection Lists Top 7 Causes of Weld Failure:**

- Lack of scraping
- Inaccurate scraping
- Contamination from dirt, water, oil or clays
- Lack of Paralell-ness of fusion faces
- Misalignment of surfaces
- Time, temperature and pressure deviations
- Not adhering to cool times

We have extensive experience in inspection of poly pipe welds for assuring welded joint quality.  Direct Poly Pipe Inspection ensures that operators are following the proven welding procedure; this reduces the occurrences of operational errors which lead to defects such as inclusions, lack of fusion (LoF), porosity and misalignment.
More information, contact john@excelplas.com

**Get Your HDPE Pipe Products or Services Noticed – Advertise in Poly Pipe News (PPN) Australia**
https://www.polypipenews.com.au/advertise/

**This Newsletter is brought to you by Excelplas Labs, Australia's Largest group of Poly Pipe Testing Labs.**

Pipe Poly News (PPN) is now Australia's most current and comprehensive source of news on Polyethylene pipes and Poly Pipe Welding;

Poly Pipe News is now sent to over 4500 Poly Pipe Industry Members every week.

Any news requests should be sent to john@excelplas.com
To subscribe, visit https://www.polypipenews.com.au/subscribe/

2023 Copyright ExcelPlas Labs

PPN is owned and operated by ExcelPlas Pty Ltd.  By subscribing to PPN you agree to receiving regular PPN newsletters as well as the PPN platform using your email contact details to enhance the performance and functionality of PPN and its analytics reports.  These email contact details allow PPN to track page views and create more targeted and relevant content.  PPN provides an unsubscribe link on the bottom of each PPN newsletter.