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REFERENCE IN RESPECT OF THE USE OF PETROPLAS PIPING FOR DIESEL FUEL DISTRIBUTION

1. The South African Navy placed a contract on Messrs Colvic Engineering (Pty)Ltd in 2003 for the upgrading and modernisation of a ship fuel storage and distribution network to be installed at a naval base in Simon's Town, South Africa. This contract was completed successfully over a relatively brief period and the new system has been in use since 2004.

2. The upgrading of the fuel distribution network involved, amongst others, the installation of 2.6 km of new 250mm diameter fuel pipes capable of withstanding the high pressures and corrosive properties of diesel fuel being pumped at 300 tonnes per hour, for a 30 year period. The South African Navy specified that a PETROPLAS SF₂P type of plastic pipe be used to meet these stringent requirements, as no known steel equivalent would have met these specifications.

3. The PETROPLAS pipes were laid and connected, including a number of expansion joints, in a much shorter time than would have been the case if steel piping had been used. All the pipes passed stringent pressure tests first time around without any rework required.

4. The PETROPLAS pipes have been in daily use since late 2004 without any degradation in quality or performance. The physical appearance of the piping is as if it is still brand new. No leaks or fractures have appeared to date. The result is that the South African Navy is now convinced that the PETROPLAS pipes are truly maintenance free and as reliable as promised.



5. Due to the more than satisfactory performance versus price of the PETROPLAS pipes experienced to date, the South African Navy has decided that all of its future fuel installations shall make use of PETROPLAS pipes as opposed to steel pipes.

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