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WEPSPLUS Welding Plug for Foaming Holes

Sealing systems for foam injection holes in thermally insulated PE jacket pipes & casings and in PEX casings.

Product Description

WEPSPLUS insulated pipe foaming hole seal.

Construction: Multi-layer component composed of

- HDPE body
- Corrosion resistant metal mesh fusion element
- HDPE welding layer
- HDPE centering disc

WEPSPLUS is a watertight, mechanically robust plug used to seal foaming holes in standard or oversized as well as heat-shrinkable PE and PEX casings for thermally insulated pipes. WEPSPLUS is a very innovative product and is applied using an integrated, electrically activated welding system (electro-fusion closure plug).

For application of the WEPSPLUS, the welding area to which it is applied must be scraped so as to expose uncontaminated PE(X). WEPSPLUS is then placed over the foaming hole with the centering disc fitted within the hole. WEPSPLUS is installed by means of a clamping tool that makes electrical contact with the metal heating element. This tool provides the heat-activating, electrical current to the WEPSPLUS and bends the plug to the correct curvature of the pipe. When electrically activated the metal mesh heats the welding layer above the melt temperature, a fusion bond between WEPSPLUS and the PE(X) casing forms. This bond seals off the foaming hole. Melt-flow indicators, integrated at the four corners of the WEPSPLUS, provide for a visual inspection of the installation. The melt-flow indicators reveal whether the WEPSPLUS was properly clamped and energized for a sufficient length of time. This assures that proper bonding and optimum sealing is achieved.

Product features/benefits

- Large fusion area (compared to alternative welding methods)
 Increased bonding/sealing reliability.
- Mesh type heating element Homogeneous & reliable bonding over its entire contact surface. Consistent and narrow resistance window guarantees consistent installations.
 Melt flow indicators

Visual inspectability after installation of all critical installation steps.

- Protective installation saddles & fully automatic ambient temperature compensating power supply operating at safe low voltage conforming to European safety regulations. Easy and safe installation!
- Severe qualification testing Reliable & proven performance.

Product selection guide

Assures reliable installation

	WEPSPLUS	
Max. operating temperature Joint design Min. preheat temperature Recommended pipe preparation Soil stress restrictions Performance	50°C (60°C under expansion cushion) Standard, Oversized, Heat-Shrinkable PE & PEX Casings Dry surface Scraping & Cleaning None	
Performance	> 300 cycles EN489 @ 3 m backfill depth	

Product thicknesses & dimensions

	WEPSPLUS*	
HDPE square body	50 x 50 x 3 mm	
Heater element	60 x 50 x 0.13 mm	
HDPE welding layer	50 x 50 x 0.50 mm	
HDPE centering disc	φ 25 x 3 mm	
*WEPSPLUS does not shrink		



Product properties: WEPSPLUS

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Property	Test method	Requirement	Typical value	
Square body & centering disc				
Yield strength Tensile strength Elongation Density	ISO 527-1 @ 23°C, 50 mm/min ISO 527-1 @ 23°C, 50 mm/min ISO 527-1 @ 23°C, 50 mm/min ISO 1183 @ 23°C	> 16 N/mm² > 26 N/mm² > 650 % ≥ 0.94 g/cm³	22 N/mm ² 32 N/mm ² 850 % 0.95 g/cm ³	
Metal mesh heater element				
Electrical resistivity	ASTM B193-02 @ 23°C	0.720 - 0.760 μΩ-m	0.740 μΩ-m	
Welding layer				
Yield strength Tensile strength Elongation Density Melt flow index	ISO 527-1 @ 23°C, 50 mm/min ISO 527-1 @ 23°C, 50 mm/min ISO 527-1 @ 23°C, 50 mm/min ISO 1183 @ 23°C ISO 1133 (190PC / 5.0 kg)	> 16 N/mm ² > 26 N/mm ² > 650% ≥ 0.94 g/cm ³ < 3 g/0 min	18 N/mm ² 35 N/mm ² 700 % 0.94 g/cm ³ 1 g/10 min	
System				
Soil stress resistance Followed by:	EN 489, 75 mm stroke, 10/50 mm/min speed, 120°C service pipe, 3 m backfill depth	300 cycles	Pass	
Water permeability test	EN 489, 30°C, 30 kPa	24 hours	Pass	

Ordering information

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Product	Standard ordering options
WEPSPLUS	
WEPSPLUS	Foaming hole closure patch (standard pack is 20 pc in a bag)
Accessories (to be ordered separately)	
WEPSPLUS-ICU	WEPSPLUS power supply & control unit, input voltage 200-280 V (AC), output voltage 7 V (AC), 320 x 250 x 150 mm, 9.2 kg *
WEPSPLUS-SADDLE-01	Re-usable clamping tool applying electrical power and welding pressure for pipe ϕ 90 - 800 mm
WEPSPLUS-SADDLE-02	Re-usable clamping tool applying electrical power and welding pressure for pipe $\phi > 800$ mm
WEPSPLUS-DRILL	φ 25 mm conical drill to make foaming holes, matching WEPSPLUS centering disc
WEPSPLUS-SCRAPER	Tool to remove contaminated PE from installation area

* 1 piece WEPSPLUS-SADDLE-01 and 1 piece WEPSPLUS-SADDLE-02 are standard delivered together with WEPSPLUS-ICU

For proper product application, see installation instructions IP-WEPSPLUS.



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