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FLOWTITE® PRESSURE PIPE STANDS UP TO 1375 PSI IN PRESSURE TEST BEFORE A LIVE CROWD
24" FRP Pipe Holds More than 9x the Operating Pressure Before Burst

RIALTO, CA—The KTI Pipe Group proved a point in dramatic fashion to a large group of industry professionals: that Flowtite® Fiber Reinforced Plastic (FRP) offers extraordinary pressure capacity, many times above operating requirements for the material. In a [live burst test](#) held at their Alvarado, Texas manufacturing plant last week, KTI conducted a controlled pressure test that clearly demonstrated the superior performance to be expected of Flowtite® FRP pipe in pressure applications. More than 150 civil engineers, contractors and project owners, observed as the 24" Flowtite® FRP withstood water pressure up to 1375 psi. The pipe was rated for applications requiring 150 psi, but actually withstood more than nine times the operating pressure.

“Our purpose with the test was to educate our industry colleagues in the U.S. about the incredible strength of Flowtite® FRP pipe,” said Ken Thompson, CEO of KTI Pipe Group. “Acceptance of this material in the USA has been slow compared to other parts of the world, mainly because of misconceptions about its strength and also a lack of awareness of the Flowtite® technology used in the state-of-the-art manufacturing process.”

Flowtite® FRP is an engineered composite with properties that cost less than alternates such as steel, pre-stressed concrete cylinder, ductile iron pipe and various others; with lower cost and easier repair.

In addition to the pressure test, a variety of other field demonstrations were held for event attendees, including a pressure test on a 90" diameter joint, observation of a field lamination process, demonstration of a pipe sleeve repair and a hot tap demonstration on 24" FRP pipe.

Other featured information included a keynote presentation from Matt Lieser, Global Specifications Leader at Owens Corning, who provided a global perspective on Flowtite® technology and the acceptance of the material around the world. More than 95 million feet of the pipe are installed globally.

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“As the premium on water conservation becomes a worldwide imperative, we are seeing a global shift to FRP materials,” said Lieser. “The superior strength, lighter weight and the ability of FRP to resist corrosion is saving more than 6 billion gallons of water every day; since pipe corrosion is the leading cause of water loss in water transport systems,” he said. “Specifying FRP materials is best practice and a forward-looking approach—especially as water conservation becomes an increasing imperative, he said.”

The event also provided an opportunity for guests to learn about other company developments, such as the upcoming addition of a “mega plant” to be built in Alvarado, Texas that will feature the most advanced four meter machine in the world.

In addition, attendees were able to greet the newly appointed Executive Vice President of the KTI Pipe Group of Companies, Mike Leathers. Leathers brings more than 20 years of experience in the heavy building materials industry, most recently as president of Hanson Engineered products, a division of Hanson Building products of America.

Additional information and case studies are available. For more information or to schedule a brown bag presentation to discuss further, please contact your Flowtite® representative or contact us at www.flowtitepipe.com.

About KTI Pipe Group

Ken Thompson, Inc. (KTI) is comprised of a dynamic group of companies that specialize in products, services and support for the utility construction industry. These range from the production of concrete, fiberglass and polymer pipe to engineering services and rail operations. The company is built upon 40 years of solid experience in utility construction and manufacturing. This expertise, gained in the trenches, continues to inform the company’s philosophy as well as its product and service offering. The company also provides engineering support with a team of PE’s who provide best practice assistance with project management and on-site field support. The KTI Pipe Group currently has manufacturing operations in Rialto, California; Palmdale, California; Alvarado, Texas; Conroe, Texas; Seguin, Texas; and Zachary, Louisiana. The KTI Pipe Group also includes two trucking companies, Pipeline Carriers, Inc. (PCI) and Pipeline Trucking, Inc. (PTI) that serve the U.S. market with a wide variety of truck types for specialized pipe transport. For more information, visit www.ktipipe.com.

About Flowtite®

Flowtite® Fiberglass Pipe is produced using a filament wound, continuous advancing mandrel process, which represents the state-of-the-art in Fiberglass Reinforced Pipe (FRP) production today. Using technology developed by Owens Corning material specialists, a very compressed laminate is created that maximizes the contribution from three basic raw materials; glass-fiber, resin and sand. The filament winding process enables other materials, such as a glass or polyester veil to be used to enhance the abrasion and chemical resistance of the pipe. Flowtite® Fiberglass Piping Systems are proven to be a reliable, cost-effective solution to water, sewer and industrial piping applications, and are lightweight and extremely corrosion resistant. FRP is an engineered composite material with properties that are less expensive than the common steel pipe or ductile, but also cost less than its exotic metal counterparts such as stainless steel, high nickel content alloys or titanium; providing easy repair that does not necessitate welding or grouting. For more information, visit www.flowtitepipe.com.

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