Compatibility of firestop products with CPVC should always be verified, never assumed

INTERNATIONAL FIRESTOP COUNCIL
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Pipe made of Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride (CPVC), has been used in general plumbing for over 50 years and extensively in fire sprinkler systems for over 35 years.[1] CPVC has many benefits and advantages, however chemical resistance issues can appear when the CPVC is exposed to, or comes in contact with, materials the CPVC is not compatible with. This contact combined with numerous other factors such as, temperature, environment, etc., can cause issues in the CPVC. These issues may show up in the pipe years after installation, as softening, degradation, or environmental stress cracking (ESC).[2] For these reasons it is important for those working on or around CPVC to verify it is compatible with the products that may come into contact with CPVC – even if inadvertent.[3]

Since the compatibility issue is unique, and specifically related to the CPVC, CPVC pipe manufacturers have undertaken the responsibility to develop programs to determine compatibility with ancillary products expected to contact their pipe – glues, primers, firestop, sealants... – and publish a list of compatible products. Due to variations in CPVC formulation and testing procedures, these compatibility lists may differ between CPVC manufacturers. **IFC believes that it is advisable to only apply ancillary products which are specifically approved for use on the brand of CPVC being used**. If an ancillary product is not on the compatibility list, contact the CPVC manufacturer before use. If there is not an affirmative statement of compatibility by the CPVC manufacturer for an ancillary product, IFC recommends not using **it on CPVC!**

[1] https://plasticpipe.org/building-construction/bcd-cpvc.html

[2] https://www.corzan.com/en-us/chemical-resistance-and-chemical-applications

[3] E.g., cabling draped across the CPVC pipe, or overspray from other activities.

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