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**PLASTICS PIPE INSTITUTE SHOWS HOW NEW
ASTM STANDARD HELPS DESIGN OF CONDUIT NETWORKS**

WASHINGTON, D.C., Nov. 4, 2002 — The new ASTM product quality standard for solid wall high-density polyethylene conduit was presented to the audience at the 2002 Outside-Plant (OSP) Expo in Charlotte, N.C.

Representatives from the Plastics Pipe Institute (PPI) presented the seminar entitled “HDPE Conduit Systems: Using an ASTM Standard to Design and Build Your Network.”

The seminar was based on Standard F 2160, which covers material, dimensional, workmanship and performance requirements for polyethylene conduit, duct and innerduct. Applications include non-pressure communications, CATV and power-wire cables.

“Two years ago at the OSP show there was concern about the lack of an accepted standard for conduit,” says Rich Gottwald, executive director of PPI. “We reacted quickly to that issue and the result is Standard F 2160. This standard officially documents the ongoing quality of the HDPE products and now are recognized by the ASTM.”

Conduit meeting the standard will be outside diameter-controlled solid wall with or without internal/external ribs. Internal or external surfaces may contain a coextruded layer if the finished conduit meets the specification’s product requirements.

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“This specification provides the end-user with a means to assure a degree of consistent quality when specifying a conduit size,” said White G. Lee in the Sept., 2002 issue of ASTM Standardization News. Lee is the principal chemist for the Product Development and Services department of BP Solvay Polyethylene North America and a member of PPI.

A copy of the standard is available at www.astm.org and more information on PPI can be found at www.plasticpipe.org.

The PPI is the major trade association representing all segments of the plastics piping industry. Member companies share a common interest in broadening market opportunities that make effective use of plastics piping for water and gas distribution, sewer and wastewater, oil and gas production, industrial and mining uses, power and communications duct and irrigation.

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