



**American Water Works
Association**

The Authoritative Resource for Safe Water®

ANSI/AWWA C229-08
(First Edition)

AWWA Standard

Fusion-Bonded Polyethylene Coating for the Exterior of Steel Water Pipelines



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6666 West Quincy Avenue
Denver, CO 80235-3098
T 800.926.7337
www.awwa.org

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Committee Personnel

The Steel Water Pipe Manufacturer's Technical Advisory Committee (SWPMTAC) for AWWA C229, which developed this standard, had the following personnel at the time:

Ashley Fletcher, *Chair*

H.H. Bardakjian, Ameron, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.	(AWWA)
M. Bauer, Tnemec Company Inc., Kansas City, Mo.	(AWWA)
R.M. Buchanan, Canusa-CPS, Toronto, Ont.	(AWWA)
J. Buratto, Lifelast Inc., Vancouver, Wash.	(AWWA)
B. Ellis, Northwest Pipe Company, Greensboro, N.C.	(AWWA)
T. Enoch, Carboline Company, Ottsville, Pa.	(AWWA)
A. Fletcher, Tyco Water, Southbank, VIC, Australia	(AWWA)
R.W. Geary, Tek-Rap Inc., Houston, Texas	(AWWA)
D. Kathrein, Tapecoat Company, Evanston, Ill.	(AWWA)
A. Liberatore, Madison Chemical Industries Inc., Milton, Ont.	(AWWA)
A.L. Mamish, Covalence Adhesives, Lexington, Mass.	(AWWA)
K. MacDonald, Marplex Australia, Sandown Village, VIC, Australia	(AWWA)
L. McKinney, Womble Company Inc., Houston, Texas	(AWWA)
B. Murphy, Sherwin-Williams Company, Villanueva, N.M.	(AWWA)
S. Nance, Cura Flo, Broken Arrow, Okla.	(AWWA)
G. O'Donnell, Plascoat Place, Farnham, England	(AWWA)
M. Sangalli, Smith-Blair Inc., Texarkana, Texas	(AWWA)
S. Scarpone, Reilly Industries Inc., Indianapolis, Ind.	(AWWA)
J. Wise, Canus International Sales Inc., Surrey, B.C.	(AWWA)
G. Zigrang, ITW Devcon Futura, St. Louis, Mo.	(AWWA)

The AWWA Standards Committee on Steel Pipe, which reviewed and approved this standard, had the following personnel at the time of approval:

John H. Bambei Jr., *Chair*
George J. Tupac, *Vice-Chair*
Dennis Dechant, *Secretary*

General Interest Members

J.B. Allen,* Standards Engineer Liaison, AWWA, Denver, Colo.	(AWWA)
W.R. Brunzell, Brunzell Associates Ltd., Skokie, Ill.	(AWWA)
R.L. Coffey, HDR Engineering Inc., Omaha, Neb.	(AWWA)
H.E. Dunham, MWH Inc., Bothell, Wash.	(AWWA)
S.N. Foellmi, Black & Veatch, Irvine, Calif.	(AWWA)
J.W. Green, McDonough Associates Inc., Chicago, Ill.	(AWWA)
M.B. Horsley,† Black & Veatch, Kansas City, Mo.	(AWWA)
J.K. Jeyapalan, Engineering Consultant/Analyst, New Milford, Conn.	(AWWA)
J.L. Mattson, Corrosion Control Technologies, Sandy, Utah	(AWWA)
W.J. Moncrief,† HDR Engineering Inc., San Diego, Calif.	(AWWA)
R. Ortega, Lockwood Andrews & Newnam Inc., Houston, Texas	(AWWA)
A.E. Romer, Boyle Engineering Corporation, Newport Beach, Calif.	(AWWA)
H.R. Stoner, Consultant, North Plainfield, N.J.	(AWWA)
C.C. Sundberg, CH2M Hill Inc., Issaquah, Wash.	(AWWA)
G.J. Tupac, G.J. Tupac & Associates Inc., Pittsburgh, Pa.	(AWWA)
W.R. Whidden, Post Buckley Schuh & Jernigan, Orlando, Fla.	(AWWA)
K.W. Wilson,* Standards Council Liaison, Post Buckley Schuh & Jernigan, Tampa, Fla.	(AWWA)

Producer Members

S.A. Arnaout, Hanson Pipe & Precast Inc., Dallas, Texas	(AWWA)
H.H. Bardakjian, Ameron International, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.	(AWWA)

* Liaison, nonvoting

† Alternate

M. Bauer, Tnemec Company Inc., Kansas City, Mo.	(AWWA)
R.J. Card, Victaulic, Atlanta, Ga.	(AWWA)
R.R. Carpenter, American SpiralWeld Pipe Company, Birmingham, Ala.	(MSS)
D. Dechant, Dechant Infrastructure Services, Aurora, Colo.	(AWWA)
J.L. Luka, * American SpiralWeld Pipe Company, Columbia, S.C.	(AWWA)
B.F. Vanderploeg, * Northwest Pipe Company, Portland, Ore.	(AWWA)
J.A. Wise, Canus International Sales Inc., Surrey, B.C.	(AWWA)

User Members

G.A. Anderson, New York City Bureau of Water Supply, Little Neck, N.Y.	(AWWA)
J.H. Bambei Jr., Denver Water, Denver, Colo.	(AWWA)
D.W. Coppes, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Southborough, Mass.	(AWWA)
R.V. Frisz, US Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, Colo.	(USBR)
G. George, Tacoma Water, Water Supply Section, Tacoma, Wash.	(AWWA)
T.J. Jordan, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, LaVerne, Calif.	(AWWA)
M. McReynolds, * Metropolitan Water, Oak Park, Calif.	(AWWA)
G. Oljaca, Greater Vancouver Regional District, Burnaby, B.C.	(AWWA)
V.B. Soto, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, Los Angeles, Calif.	(AWWA)
G.P. Stine, San Diego County Water Authority, Escondido, Calif.	(AWWA)
J.V. Young, City of Richmond, Richmond, B.C.	(AWWA)

* Alternate

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Foreword

This foreword is for information only and is not part of ANSI/AWWA C229.

I. Introduction.

I.A. *Background.* This standard describes the minimum material and application requirements for fusion-bonded polyethylene (FBPE) coating to be factory applied to the exterior and the joint region (of rubber-gasketed field joints) of steel water and wastewater pipes.

I.B. *History.* Fusion-bonded polyethylene pipe coatings were first applied to steel pipes in the 1960s in Europe. In 1972, FBPE was introduced to Australia, and in 1990 to South Africa. FBPE has been used as an external coating for water, wastewater, oil, and gas pipelines. The coating system became available for use in the United States in 2006.

In March 2006, the AWWA Standards Council authorized the Steel Pipe Committee to develop a new standard for fusion-bonded polyethylene coating. This is the first edition of this standard.

I.C. *Acceptance.* In May 1985, the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) entered into a cooperative agreement with a consortium led by NSF International (NSF) to develop voluntary third-party consensus standards and a certification program for direct and indirect drinking water additives. Other members of the original consortium included the American Water Works Association Research Foundation (AwwaRF) and the Conference of State Health and Environmental Managers (COSHEM). The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and the Association of State Drinking Water Administrators (ASDWA) joined later.

In the United States, authority to regulate products for use in, or in contact with, drinking water rests with individual states.* Local agencies may choose to impose requirements more stringent than those required by the state. To evaluate the health effects of products and drinking water additives from such products, state and local agencies may use various references, including

1. An advisory program formerly administered by USEPA, Office of Drinking Water, discontinued on Apr. 7, 1990.
2. Specific policies of the state or local agency.

* Persons outside the United States should contact the appropriate authority having jurisdiction.