Solvent Welding PVC and CPVC Plastic Pipes

Hot Weather Tips

Good joints can be made with Weld-On® solvent cements in the most extreme hot weather conditions.

There are many occasions when solvent welding plastic pipe in 95°F (35°C) temperature and above cannot be avoided. However, by using Weld-On solvent cements and by following our standard instructions with a little extra care as outlined below, successful leak-proof joints can be made in even the most extreme hot weather conditions.

Solvent cements for plastic pipe contain high strength chemical solvents which evaporate faster at elevated temperatures. This is especially true when there is a hot wind blowing. If the pipe is stored in direct sunlight, the pipe surface temperature may be 20°-30°F (10°-16°C) higher than the ambient temperature. The chemical solvents attack these hot surfaces faster and deeper, especially inside a joint. Therefore, it is very important to avoid puddling the solvent cement inside the fitting socket and to wipe off any excess solvent cement outside the joint.

Tips to follow when solvent welding in hot weather:

1. Store solvent cements and primers in a cool or shaded area prior to use.

2. If possible, store pipe and fittings, or at least the ends to be solvent welded, in a shady area before solvent welding.

3. Cool surfaces to be joined by wiping with a damp rag. Be sure that the surface is dry prior to applying the solvent cement.

4. Try solvent welding the joints during the cooler morning hours.

5. Make sure that both surfaces to be joined are still wet with the solvent cement when putting them together. With larger size pipe, more people on the crew may be necessary.

6. Using a primer and heavier, high viscosity solvent cement will provide a little more working time. Vigorously shake or stir the solvent cement before use.

7. There can be a greater expansion-contraction factor affecting the pipe in hot weather. We suggest you follow the advice of the pipe manufacturer regarding this condition. Anchored and final connections should be made during the cooler hours of the day.

All year long... you can depend on... Weld-On!