



**American Water Works  
Association**

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**ANSI/AWWA C229-15**  
(Revision of ANSI/AWWA C229-08)

**AWWA Standard**

# Fusion-Bonded Polyethylene Coatings for Steel Water Pipe and Fittings

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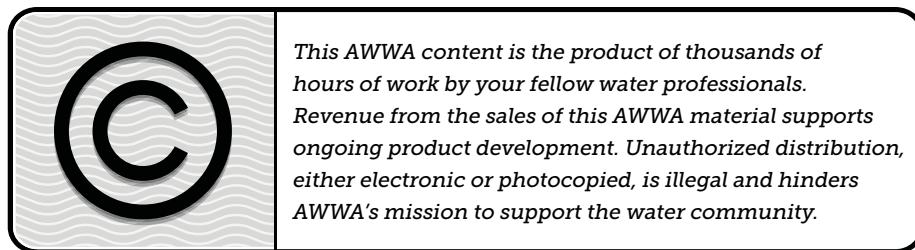
## AWWA Standard

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\* Alternate

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## Foreword

*This foreword is for information only and is not a 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 steel water pipes and fittings.

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, 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. The first edition of this standard was approved by the AWWA Board of Directors on June 8, 2008. This edition was approved on Jan. 24, 2015.

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 Water Research Foundation (formerly 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.<sup>†</sup> 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.

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\* American National Standards Institute, 25 West 43rd Street, Fourth Floor, New York, NY 10036.

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

3. Two standards developed under the direction of NSF\*: NSF/ANSI 60, Drinking Water Treatment Chemicals—Health Effects, and NSF/ANSI 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects.

4. Other references, including AWWA standards, *Food Chemicals Codex*, *Water Chemicals Codex*,<sup>†</sup> and other standards considered appropriate by the state or local agency.

Various certification organizations may be involved in certifying products in accordance with NSF/ANSI 61. Individual states or local agencies have authority to accept or accredit certification organizations within their jurisdiction. Accreditation of certification organizations may vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Annex A, “Toxicology Review and Evaluation Procedures,” to NSF/ANSI 61 does not stipulate a maximum allowable level (MAL) of a contaminant for substances not regulated by a USEPA final maximum contaminant level (MCL). The MALs of an unspecified list of “unregulated contaminants” are based on toxicity testing guidelines (noncarcinogens) and risk characterization methodology (carcinogens). Use of Annex A procedures may not always be identical, depending on the certifier.

ANSI/AWWA C229 does not address additives requirements. Thus, users of this standard should consult the appropriate state or local agency having jurisdiction in order to

1. Determine additives requirements, including applicable standards.
2. Determine the status of certifications by parties offering to certify products for contact with, or treatment of, drinking water.
3. Determine current information on product certification.

## II. Special Issues.

II.A. *Advisory Information on Product Application.* This standard defines the minimum requirements of fusion-bonded polyethylene coating for long-term corrosion protection. It is intended for use as an exterior coating and for the joint region (of rubber-gasketed field joints) of steel water pipelines for underground, underwater, and aboveground installations conveying water and wastewater.

**III. Use of This Standard.** It is the responsibility of the user of an AWWA standard to determine that the products described in that standard are suitable for use in the particular application being considered.

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\* NSF International, 789 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

† Both publications available from National Academy of Sciences, 500 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001.

III.A. *Purchaser Options and Alternatives.* The following information should be provided by the purchaser:

1. Standard used—that is, ANSI/AWWA C229, Fusion-Bonded Polyethylene Coatings for Steel Water Pipe and Fittings, of latest revision.
2. Whether compliance with NSF/ANSI 61, Drinking Water System Components—Health Effects, is required.
3. Any exceptions to the standard.
4. Diameter, length, weld configuration, and location of pipeline.
5. Temperature of conveyed water (Sec. 1.1.1).
6. If an alternative coating color is required (Sec. 4.3.1).
7. Whether visual comparative standards are required (Sec. 4.4.2.2).
8. Requirements for FBPE cutback at pipe ends, if different (Sec. 4.4.3.5).
9. Requirements for coating thickness, if different (Sec. 4.4.3.9).
10. Requirements for coating repair, if different (Sec. 4.6).
11. Requirements for inspection and testing (Section 5).
12. Requirements for handling, transport, and storage (Sec. 6.2).
13. Affidavit of compliance (Sec. 6.3).

**IV. Major Revisions.** Major changes made to the standard in this revision include the following:

1. The title of the standard was changed to be consistent with other AWWA steel pipe coating standards.
2. The titles of Tables 2 and 3 were revised to “prequalification” and “quality control requirements” to be consistent with other AWWA steel pipe coating standards.
3. A change to a standardized unit for the water vapor transmission test was made (Table 2).
4. Sec. 4.4.2.5, Protection From Moisture, was revised.
5. An additional requirement was added to Sec. 4.4.3.5, Pipe Ends, regarding rubber-gasketed joints.
6. A change in the cathodic disbondment test method and a change to a standardized unit was made (Table 2 and Sec. 5.2.2.8).
7. All existing wording in Sec. 4.7, Field Procedures, was removed. The section now references ANSI/AWWA C604.
8. Section 5, Verification, was updated to match the new language being used in all coating standards.
9. An update was made to the peel test in Sec. 5.2.2.9, Adhesion.
10. A new section on visual inspection was added, Sec. 5.5.2.

11. A new rejection of adhesion tests was added (Sec. 5.5.4.2) to match new language being used in similar coating standards.

12. A new section on rejection of pipe was added (Sec. 5.6) to match new language being used in similar coating standards.

13. The section on packaging and shipping was revised (Sec. 6.2) to match new language being used in similar coating standards.

**V. Comments.** If you have any comments or questions about this standard, please call AWWA Engineering and Technical Services 303.794.7711, FAX at 303.795.7603; write to the department at 6666 West Quincy Avenue, Denver, CO 80235-3098; or email at [standards@awwa.org](mailto:standards@awwa.org).



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# Fusion-Bonded Polyethylene Coatings for Steel Water Pipe and Fittings

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## SECTION 1: GENERAL

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### **Sec. 1.1 Scope**

This standard describes the materials and application requirements for factory-applied, fusion-bonded polyethylene (FBPE) coating to the exterior of steel water pipes and fittings.

1.1.1 *Maximum temperatures.* AWWA steel pipe coating standards are written for and based on the service temperature of potable water. Consult the manufacturer for conditions and limitations.

1.1.2 *Conditions not described in this standard.* This standard does not discuss the additional materials and procedures that may be required for difficult installation conditions, such as those encountered in the construction of submerged lines, casing pipe, or river crossings. The manufacturer should be consulted for specific recommendations when these conditions exist.

### **Sec. 1.2 Purpose**

The purpose of this standard is to provide the minimum requirements for FBPE coating for steel water pipe and fittings, including material, application, inspection, testing, marking, handling, and packaging requirements.