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Supply Chain Services

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TECHNICAL BULLETIN
JOINING PLASTIC PIPE SYSTEMS IN COLD WEATHER
(1/2012)

While Oatey recommends that our solvent cements be applied between temperatures of 40º to *110º F, we realize* there are times when weather or other conditions prohibit the installers from adhering to this guideline. Solvent cement can be applied at colder temperatures provided some precautions are taken and the cure time is lengthened. The following helpful hints will help to eliminate problems associated with cold weather solvent welding.

DO

- Assemble as much of the system as possible in a heated work area
- Store primer and cement in a warmer area such as truck, shed, building
- Remove all ice, snow, dirt, etc from the pipe and fitting surfaces
- Be sure cement is free-flowing prior to applying to pipe and fittings
- Use primer to pre-soften the pipe
- Lengthen the cure time to allow for sufficient solvent evaporation
- Follow all manufacturer directions carefully

DO NOT

- Move or shift assembled joints until sufficient set and cure times have been allowed
- Store cement outside for long periods
- Apply cement over ice or snow covered pipe or fittings
- Use frozen or gelled cement
- Attempt to speed the cure time by applying heat. Forced drying will cause solvents to boil off, forming porosity, bubbles and blisters in the cement film
- Put test on system or put system in service immediately after completing the solvent welding job. The cooler the temperature, the longer the wait time.

Oatey All Weather PVC Solvent Cement has been specially formulated to remain free-flowing at temperatures down to 15 F. Other Oatey PVC solvent cements contain a sufficient amount of an “anti-freeze” agent to withstand the effects of an occasional freezing temperature. If the cement should freeze, bring it back to room temperature and ensure it is free-flowing prior to use.

Please contact Oatey Technical Service Department if you have any questions or need additional information.