

INFO BRIEF NO. 4

COILED HDPE PIPE: RECOGNIZE THE HAZARDS

This Info Brief presents the more common hazards associated with the unwinding of coiled HDPE pipe. Other hazards may exist and should be considered prior to proceeding. In all cases, common sense should be utilized. PolyPipe® *Unloading Guidelines for Polyethylene Pipe* should be read and understood prior to the unloading and handling of the coiled pipe product.

- **WARNING:** Coiled polyethylene pipe must not be transported or uncoiled by rolling along the ground as the coil can easily tip over. Serious injury and even death can result from the mishandling of coiled polyethylene pipe in this manner.
- **WARNING:** PolyPipe® recommends an appropriate mechanical holding fixture to facilitate the safe uncoiling of polyethylene pipe. Coiled pipe can uncoil with considerable force, causing extreme bodily injury if not properly contained. Do not cut the straps around the coil until the coil is contained in a suitable reel trailer or coil cage.
- **WARNING:** Remove the outermost strap of the coil first, and then remove additional straps one at a time as required until sufficient pipe is available for the initial connection. The leading end of the pipe should be secured to prevent it from recoiling. Continue the uncoiling process by removing one strap at a time and secure the pipe, as it is uncoiled. Recoiling of the pipe must be prevented by securing both ends of the uncoiled length. Again, polyethylene pipe has memory and will resist straightening. PolyPipe® recommends the use of a re-straightening device such as the McElroy Line Tamer to facilitate the handling of coiled polyethylene pipe.
- **WARNING:** All non-participating personnel should maintain a safe distance from the pipe coil and pipe coil restraint mechanism during installation. Coiled pipe can uncoil unexpectedly posing a safety hazard for anyone in close proximity. Stay away from pipe coil and machinery to help avoid injury. If a kink appears in the pipe during the uncoiling process, the damaged section should be removed.

PolyPipe® provides the above information in good faith and PolyPipe® cannot be held responsible for property damage or personnel injury during the handling and installation of its product.

NOTICE:

The data contained herein is a guide to the use of PolyPipe® polyethylene pipe and fittings and is believed to be accurate and reliable. However, general data does not adequately cover specific applications, and its suitability in particular applications should be independently verified. In all cases, the user should assume that additional safety measures may be required in the safe installation or operation of the project. Due to the wide variation in service conditions, quality of installation, etc., no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, is given in conjunction with the use of this material.

PolyPipe, Inc.

2406 N. I-35 | P.O. Box 390 | Gainesville, TX 76241
Ph. 940.665.1721 | 800.433.5632 | Facsimile 940.668.8612
Sales Facsimile 940.668.2704 | www.polypipeinc.com