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## HDPE PIPES FOR PLUMBING AND IRRIGATION

HDPE pipes and fittings have been gaining approval and growth in the commercial and social service sectors in the world. The main benefits along with lower life cycle cost and high performance are:

- Pipes are produced in rolls up to 100 meters long, which can be cut to desired lengths; eliminating a large number of joints where water losses could be incurred
- Various jointing methods, mechanical in the form of "screw on type" fittings or "vandal and leak proof" fusion joints
- HDPE pipe can be bent to radius 25 times the nominal diameter, reducing the number of fittings required for directional changes
- Polyethylene is about one-eighth the density of steel, it does not require the use of heavy lifting equipment for installation
- Estimated service life for HDPE pipeline to be 50-100 years; this relates to savings in replacement costs for generations to come
- The advantages of corrosion and chemical resistance over traditional metal pipes are shared by many plastic pipes, but HDPE pipe uniquely combines these attributes with the advantages of heat fused joints, flexibility and fatigue resistance

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