



CANADA PIPE DUCTILE IRON PIPE

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HAMILTON OFFICES AND PIPE STORAGE YARD



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IRON PIPE - THE HISTORY AND THE FACTS

- In 1664, King Louis XIV of France commissioned the construction of a cast iron watermain, which lasted more than 330 years in service.
- Cast iron watermain pipe was first used in North America, circa 1800, in the Philadelphia water systems.
- There are currently over 16 cities in America with cast iron pipe still in service after 150 years (before the invention of electricity and the automobile).
- There are over 565 towns/cities in North America with cast iron watermain in service after 100 years.
- Nine or more reasons for watermain failure are related to strength. Ductile iron pipe is the strongest watermain pipe available, by a very large margin.
- Ductile iron is machined for engine parts such as crankshafts and connecting rods, plus various brake and steering components, due to its strength and reliability.
- Ductile iron pipe has the largest available inside diameters vs. all other watermain pipe products currently available, and therefore has the greatest hydraulic capabilities in the industry.
- In 1922, cement mortar lining of cast iron watermain was first used to protect the interior wall of the pipe and improve water quality.
- Cast or ductile iron pipe corrodes only as a function of its underground environment, hence the extremely long life in so many installations.
- Soil evaluation technology today can determine whether or not ductile iron pipe requires special corrosion protection.
- Since 1958, polyethylene encasement has been used successfully to prevent the corrosion of iron watermains in some of the most corrosive locations in North America.
- The success of polyethylene encasement has created the adoption of standards by ANSI, AWWA & ASTM (U.S.), plus ISO 8180 (International) and individual standards for Great Britain, Japan, Germany and Australia.

There are hundreds of water departments in Canada and the United States who continue to select Ductile Iron Pipe as the watermain material of choice. The performance of iron watermain, over the last two centuries, has continued to exceed expectations. Today, many municipalities have recognized the additional benefits of Ductile Iron Pipe. By adopting polyethylene encasement, where necessary, as the standard protection method, water departments are ensuring life expectancy, even in the most undesirable soil conditions.

Internal pressures, surge and cyclic loads, thrust restraint, earth, prism and beam loads, service taps, construction handling, re-excavation etc., all demand a strong pipe. "TOUGH" is an understatement when Ductile Iron Pipe is selected as the watermain material of choice.

The Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association (DIPRA), founded in 1915, publishes additional technical information and investigative reports pertaining to Ductile Iron Pipe. This source material is currently available at:

www.dipra.org

