

COMPANY CAUGHT IN PATENT RIGHTS VIOLATION A MOSCOW TRIBUNAL OF ARBITRATION HAS PROHIBITED ISOPEX-K PIPE MANUFACTURE BY CJSC TVEL-PEX

On August, the 6th, 2012, the Moscow Region Tribunal of Arbitration agreed in favor of AND Gaztrubplast Plant CJSC, ruling that CJSC TVEL-PEX is forbidden to violate AND Gaztrubplast Plant's CJSC's exclusive rights to a utility model patented in the Russian Federation as "multi-layer pipe for district hot water and heating energy supply systems".

The decision by the Moscow Region Tribunal of Arbitration has banned CJSC TVEL-PEX from manufacturing, storing, advertising, making sales calls and marketing ISOPEX-K pipe. Any commercial activity in Russian Federation territory must not be undertaken without permission from AND Gaztrubplast Plant CJSC.

It is known that at the present time CJSC TVEL-PEX (Saint-Petersburg) is manufacturing ISOPEX-K flexible pipes that are an exact copy of the structure of ISOPROFLEX-A

pipes already protected by a Russian Federation patent belonging to AND Gaztrubplast Plant CJSC.

The analogic patent №90523 for multi-layer pipe for district hot water and heating energy supply systems belonging to CJSC TVEL-PEX was annulled on 21st April 2012 by Rospatent and is now void.

"We're completely satisfied by the actions of the arbitration court and chamber for patent disputes," says Alexander Shmelev, CEO of POLYMERTEPLO Group. "Undoubtedly, this is a milestone event that creates an industry precedent. It shows that the Russian market of plastic pipes for district hot water and heating energy supply systems is developing within the rules. POLYMERTEPLO Group will continue to actively protect its intellectual property, and ensure all market players are protected by legal and ethical business regulations".

KAZAKHSTAN TOUGHENS PE PIPES REQUIREMENTS

At the end of September 2012, the Committee for Water Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Kazvodkhoz) changed the requirements and toughened controls for polyethylene pipes supplied via the State Water Supply Programme. The proposed changes tighten controls on the raw materials used and the processes adopted in the production of polyethylene pipes.

The changes are summarised as follows:

- only coloured and light-stabilized PE 100 grades made by European producers can be used;
- every producer must be licensed by the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, confirming the quality of their raw materials and their import duty exemption;

– a valid Certificate of Inland Producer (CT-KZ) and an ISO 9001 Certificate are required;

– a 50 year warranty and a guaranteed pipe replacement scheme must be in place to cover defects.

According to domestic market participants, the new requirements will have a significant impact on the polyethylene pipes market in Kazakhstan. Producers in Russia and Asia are the main suppliers of PE 100 at the moment, however this geographic sales pattern is now likely to change.

The Water Resources Committee orders approximately 70% of the plastic pipes used in Kazakhstan.

Source: rccnews.ru

POLYPLASTIC PIPES PASS MILLION TON MILESTONE

On September 17th, 2012, the pipe division of POLYPLASTIC Group sold its millionth ton of PE pipes.

This quantity equates to approximately 350,000 kilometers of 110 mm diameter pipe. It's enough to span the equator nine times and is equal to the length of half of Russia's entire water and sewage supply network.

POLYPLASTIC Group press service