RCPA is the only national supplier of Steel Reinforced Concrete Pipe that is wholly Australian owned and we are enormously proud of that fact.

All RCPA products are designed and manufactured to comply with relevant Australian Standards.
Company Overview
**Reinforced Concrete Pipes Australia (RCPA)** is the only national supplier of steel reinforced concrete pipe and concrete products that is solely Australian owned.

RCPA is now firmly established as a force in the Australian precast concrete products market, with manufacturing plants located in Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and Melbourne. Part of the RCPA Group since 2015, VantagePipes provides a range of fibre reinforced concrete pipes and products to the Australian civil construction market.

In addition to concrete pipes, RCPA manufactures and supplies precast concrete products including reinforced concrete box culverts, stormwater pits, headwalls and a range of other precast concrete products. Additional civil products such as flood gates can also be supplied.

While RCPA products are manufactured to comply with Australian Standards, meeting customer expectations is the first priority. RCPA products are often over-designed to meet site requirements. RCPA operates a Quality Management System that is independently audited and certified to ISO 9001.

Concrete pipes have been an integral part of civil construction projects since the late 1800’s, and production of concrete pipes has progressed from early hand tamped methods, through spinning techniques to the modern vertically cast, bi-directional compaction machines used by RCPA. This technology is highly efficient when compared to traditional methods, and offers the customer a more cost effective product which can be virtually “made to order”.

As a member of the Concrete Pipe Association of Australasia, RCPA actively participates in the promotion and development of the concrete pipe industry in Australia and New Zealand. This includes assisting in the development and provision of technical information, which is available at the CPAA website: www.cpaa.asn.au

Ongoing investment in new technology by RCPA is having a significant impact on pipe production in Australia – by choosing equipment that not only incorporates many production efficiencies but also minimises environmental impact and power usage. Manufacturing technologies used by RCPA allow efficient use of resources which reduces waste while ensuring high quality production.

We invite you to continue learning more about RCPA as you read this profile.
RCPA, the Australian Pipe Company, is the leading manufacturer of concrete drainage solutions in Australia. With a range of new and traditional manufacturing technologies in use, RCPA continues to offer innovative solutions to the civil construction industry.

- Rapid production rates
- Australian Standards product compliance
- Precision manufacturing technology
- Low impact, sustainable processes
- ISO9001 Quality management accredited
The dry-mix vertical casting process was introduced to Australia by RCPA and has been in use for two decades. High strength concrete is used to manufacture highly durable concrete pipes. Vertical casting is the most efficient method of concrete pipe manufacturing available, and sets the standard for quality.

- Wide range of pipe diameter, classes and joint options available
- Continuous reinforcement cage
- Pipes comply with AS/NZS 4058:2007
- Rubber rings supplied
In addition to concrete pipe, RCPA provides a range of pre-cast concrete products and continues to introduce new and innovative products to the Australian market. Availability depends upon location, so contact your local RCPA office for more information.

- Reinforced concrete box culverts
- Full box culverts
- Stormwater pits
- Headwalls
- Other civil products available
RCPA is Australia’s only pipe manufacturer that offers a low carbon concrete pipe – eCP. eCP is manufactured using supplementary cementitious materials, such as fly ash and slag, to replace Portland cement. A proprietary mix design and curing process ensures performance equivalent or better than traditional concrete pipes.

- Developed by RCPA in conjunction with industry specialists
- Approved by VicRoads for use in roads projects
- Specified in the same way as traditional concrete pipe
- Also known as geopolymer concrete pipes
- Contact RCPA for availability
Part of the RCPA Group, VantagePipes produces a range of fibre reinforced concrete pipes and drainage solutions. With a central manufacturing plant, VantagePipes has been supplying FRC pipes for stormwater drainage for three decades. VantagePipes have proven strength and durability, are marine suitable as standard and are designed for a 100 year service life.

- Reinforced concrete pipes using smart reinforcement technology
- Over 12,000 kilometres of FRC pipe in service
- Unique drainage solutions
RCPA’s vertically cast concrete pipe manufacturing process begins with a cage placed in the steel mould. This is in turn placed on a turntable and rotated into position beneath the bi-directional compaction head. Concrete is batched on site and fed directly into the moulding machine. The pipe is compacted from the socket end, through the barrel to the spigot. Compaction is achieved using counter-rotating rollers and steel finishing trowels which produce an accurate and straight bore with a high quality finish. Compaction is continuously monitored, and graphically recorded for traceability.

Pneumatic cage positioners mounted on the moulds ensure correct alignment of the reinforcing cage. The spigot former remains on the pipe machine, and each spigot is made using the same machined former. This ensures that all spigots are identical. The spigot former is “one piece”, eliminating the traditional problems with rough grout “feathering” at joints.

Once completed the filled mould is taken for curing and immediately stripped. After curing, the pipes are inspected, branded, and delivered to the stock yard.
CONCRETE

RCPA produces concrete in fully automated batch plants that incorporates the latest moisture sensing and correction technology. This method ensures consistent concrete of the highest standard and a product which is extremely durable.

The concrete mix is specially designed for the process and uses a very low water to cement ratio, also known as zero slump concrete, which permits instant de-moulding.

Typical concrete test results indicate compressive strengths in excess of 50mPa.

In general GP cement is used, however specialty cements can be used for specific applications if required.

STEEL REINFORCED

RCPA steel reinforced concrete pipes exceed market standards. Australian thin walled concrete pipes leave little room for error in cover requirement, therefore RCPA wall thickness is deliberately designed to give more than adequate cover.

RCPA pipe wall thickness are deliberately designed to provide cover to steel in excess of the 10mm code requirement. This provides enhanced steel protection, therefore increasing pipe durability.

A continuously welded reinforcement cage (including socket and spigot) is fabricated to fine tolerances. The cover is precisely maintained by form-mounted pneumatic cage positioners that minimise the need for plastic/steel spacers. To confirm the cover, pipes are routinely tested physically and with a cover meter.

KEY FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Manufacture
• Roller compaction successfully used for over 50 years
• Pipe performance exceeds requirements of AS4058
• Continuous reinforcement cage through spigot and socket
• Rebar spacers minimized to reduce ingress paths
• Dry-cast concrete with low water-cement ratio
• Durable and highly compacted with low sorptivity and carbonation rates
• Bi-directional trowels and rollers provide hard, high quality internal surface
• Precision manufacture ensures accurate cover, dimensional accuracy and improved jointing
• Non-slip exterior surface for safe handling

Supply
• Process suited to rapid and mass production providing reduced lead times

Environmental
• Efficient use of materials and little wastage
• No slurry waste
• Produced using locally sourced materials with low energy inputs
RCPA supplies a range of pre-cast stormwater pipe and components to customers across Australia. Providing high-quality products that meet Australian Standard and, most importantly, our customer’s requirements is RCPA’s goal.

Contact your local sales office to enquire further about the range of RCPA products available.

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