

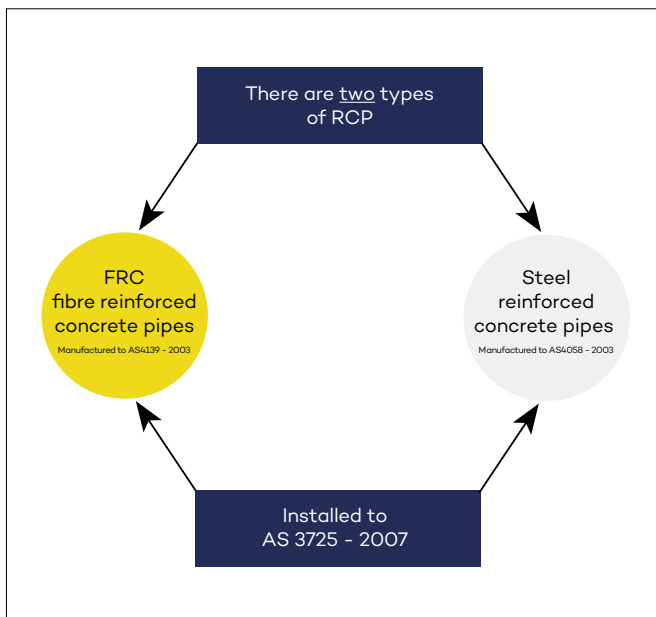
TECHNICAL BULLETIN

February 2016

Is **FRC**PIPE a RCP?

Yes, **FRC**PIPE is a class equivalent to steel reinforced concrete pipe (SRC)

This is a common question within the civil construction sector today and one that is easily answered by referring to the current Australian Standard for design and installation of buried concrete pipes.



AS/NZS3725:2007 states the following in the Preface:

“The objective of the Standard is to enable an appropriate class of concrete pipe, manufactured in accordance with AS 4058, Precast concrete pipes, pressure and non-pressure or AS 4139, Fibre reinforced concrete pipes, to be selected for use in below-ground applications.”

This Australian standard, which provides direction on the design and installation of buried concrete pipes, clearly states that both steel and fibre reinforced concrete pipes are suitable for use.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is reinforced concrete pipe (RCP)?

RCP is typically produced from a mix of cement, aggregates or silica and reinforced with either steel or a suitable fibre to produce a pipe that is able to withstand the required loads applied from burial in the ground and vehicle traffic above the pipe.

What is the difference between FRC and SRC?

FRC refers to Fibre Reinforced Concrete and SRC refers to Steel Reinforced Concrete. Both are a type of RCP but manufactured differently.

What are the relevant Australian Standards for RCP?

AS/NZS3725:2007 governs the installation requirements for all RCPs. **FRC**PIPE is manufactured in accordance with AS4139:2003; SRC pipe is manufactured in accordance with AS/NZS4058:2007.

Is **FRCPIPE as strong as SRC pipe?**

FRCPIPE is made to withstand the same load as SRC pipe so there is no strength compromise.

Do I need to use a different installation method for **FRCPIPE?**

Other than the method of handling, installation is the same for both **FRC**PIPE and SRC pipe. Refer to our **FRC**PIPE Installation Guide for more information.

When can I not use **FRCPIPE?**

On some rare occasions the specification calls for the RCP pipe made in accordance with AS/NZS4058 which is the manufacturing standard for SRC. The specification should call for RCP to AS/NZS3725 (the installation standard).

As **FRC**PIPE is a RCP which is class equivalent to SRC you should check with the Engineer to determine whether **FRC**PIPE can be used on the project.

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