

Incredible Results From Studies on Using Spray Foam on CPVC Pipes

By Evelyn Witterholt, RCS Reporter.

Two studies found that using both kinds of spray foam on CPVC pipes is not an issue.

If you've ever wondered if applying spray polyurethane foam (SPF) to CPVC pipes poses any issues chemically, a recent study shows that it does not! The [Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance \(SPFA\)](#) has a [helpful document](#) highlighting some studies conducted that tested SPF foam on CPVC pipes. Both studies showed that when properly applied, both open- and closed-cell SPF does not pose an issue either chemically or with exposure to exothermic heat when applied to CPVC pipes.

One of the studies was conducted by SPFA systems house members and Lubrizol, a supplier of CPVC resins. This study showed that there are no chemical compatibility problems present when SPF is sprayed on CPVC pipes. There was also no environmental stress cracking (ESC) present. This study was performed using both a high pressure and a low pressure, open- and closed-cell, two-component SPF. The low-pressure SPF was even made of formulation that contained flame retardants, which is a potential cause of ESC.

Another study concluded that the two types of SPF can be used on CPVC pipes and not be damaged from the SPF's exothermic heat. Over 50 different pipes were sampled for this study, some with water and some dry. This study concluded that any CPVC pipe size can have SPF applied to it and both plumbing and sprinkler pipes can withstand the application as well.

Along with its ability to be used on CPVC pipes, SPF also has other unique benefits. SPF, such as the products manufactured by [General Coatings](#), functions as a protection board for roofs and eliminates any need for fasteners. When applied on roof penetrations, it creates a tight seal and fully adheres to the roof deck. With proper maintenance, the SPF used on roofs and CPVC pipes can last up to 20 years.

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