ASK THE TAC

I'm hearing a lot about PFAS. Should I be concerned about PFAS in CIPP? Is CIPP affected by PFAS?

Short answers – no, and no.

PFAS, or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are manufactured chemicals (not naturally occurring) with useful properties such as grease-resistance in food packaging, nonstick cookware, and stain-resistant carpet and upholstery. These chemicals are notoriously slow to break down. Because they stick around longer than desired, they have a tendency to accumulate in soil, water, and animals - including livestock and humans. That's the big concern with PFAS – is this stuff accumulating at alarming rates, to dangerous levels, and does anyone understand the health and environmental risks? PFAS is such a hot topic in water treatment that the US EPA has a dedicated info page (www.epa.gov/pfas) and just released the first-ever national drinking water regulatory standard for PFAS (www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas).

One thing we know for certain is that none of the PFAS chemicals are involved in cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) production. CIPP is a pretty simple recipe. It's dry tube + resin, and neither of those two ingredients contain PFAS. NASSCO was way ahead of the curve on this one and authored a great article in 2021 to address PFAS in CIPP. If you're seeking more technical information, that 2021 article is worth a read (nassco.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/PFAS-in-CIPP-Resins.pdf).

Lastly, there is no reason to believe that PFAS will impact CIPP quality or longevity. For further information on NASSCO's stance, check out the PFAS Industry Factsheet by scanning the QR code at right.

Scan to see the PFAS Industry Factsheet

Have a technical question? Email NASSCO's Technical Advisory Council at **TAC@NASSCO.ORG**