

TECHNICAL UPDATE

September 21, 2018

Technical Bulletin: Applying RG to a Cold Pipe in Operation

Polyguard does not recommend the installation of our RG 2400 products on piping that is in operation at below-ambient conditions. For best results, RG should be applied to a dry, non-rusted pipe. RG can tolerate ambient temperatures as low as -30°F for installation to a dry pipe.

We do recognize, however, that there may be situations where the pipe to be covered by RG cannot be removed from service and must remain operational. A cold pipe in operation will have moisture condense on the surface of the pipe. For chilled water lines, the moisture will condense into water droplets. For ammonia lines, the moisture will turn into water, frost and then ice given enough time. RG is inherently moisture resistant and can displace water on damp surfaces. So, the RG installer must act quickly when the line is in operation.

In these cases, we recommend the following protocol be followed:

- All surfaces should be wiped to be as dry as possible prior to application of **RG products**. Dry pipe or duct (as much as possible) in 3-6ft sections and apply RG as quickly as possible.
- Apply insulation immediately following the RG application in 3-6' sections.
- DO NOT apply to surface where heavy rain conditions are present.
- Damp rusted surfaces should be cleaned with water soluble solvent (alcohol or glycol) before application.
- *If 100% pipe coverage is not attainable, apply as much gel to the pipe as possible, and apply gel to interior of insulation and close insulation to adhere remainder of RG coverage.
- If moisture is present, the RG products passivate any water so that it doesn't connect the anodes and cathodes in the metal to initiate the corrosion process.