JM Eagle™

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# Customer Connection

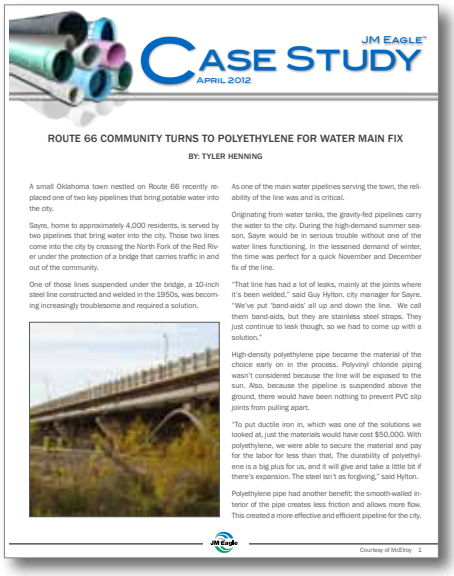
April 2012

# JM EAGLE HDPE WATER PRODUCT IN ROUTE 66 PROJECT

JM Eagle HDPE for water and sewers was recently used in a project along Route 66 in Sayre, Okla., as reported in a case study by fusion-equipment manufacturer McElroy.

The story, which can now be found on the JM Eagle website, describes how 1,400 feet of 10-inch IPS SDR 17 JM Eagle HDPE pipeline were installed to bring potable water to the city. The HDPE pipe replaced troublesome 10-inch steel line constructed and welded in the 1950s.

The case study shows how repeated "band-aids" could no longer ebb the flow of leaks, and how the city reached out for a solution with HDPE water pipe. HDPE pipe, according to a study by the Plastic Pipes Institute and Jana Laboratories, is proven to last at least 100 years.



JM EAGLE™

CASE STUDY

APRIL 2012

**ROUTE 66 COMMUNITY TURNS TO POLYETHYLENE FOR WATER MAIN FIX**

**BY: TYLER HENNING**

A small Oklahoma town nestled on Route 66 recently replaced one of two key pipelines that bring potable water into the city.

Sayre, home to approximately 4,000 residents, is served by two pipelines that bring water into the city. Those two lines come into the city by crossing the North Fork of the Red River under the protection of a bridge that carries traffic in and out of the community.

One of those lines suspended under the bridge, a 10-inch steel line constructed and welded in the 1950s, was becoming increasingly troublesome and required a solution.

As one of the main water pipelines serving the town, the reliability of the line was and is critical.

Originating from water tanks, the gravity-fed pipelines carry the water to the city. During the high-demand summer season, Sayre would be in serious trouble without one of the water lines functioning. In the lessened demand of winter, the time was perfect for a quick November and December fix of the line.

"That line has had a lot of leaks, mainly at the joints where it's been welded," said Guy Hylton, city manager for Sayre. "We've put 'band-aids' all up and down the line. We call them band-aids, but they are stainless steel straps. They just continue to leak though, so we had to come up with a solution."

High-density polyethylene pipe became the material of the choice early on in the process. Polyvinyl chloride piping wasn't considered because the line will be exposed to the sun. Also, because the pipeline is suspended above the ground, there would have been nothing to prevent PVC slip joints from pulling apart.

"To put ductile iron in, which was one of the solutions we looked at, just the materials would have cost $50,000. With polyethylene, we were able to secure the material and pay for the labor for less than that. The durability of polyethylene is a big plus for us, and it will give and take a little bit if there's expansion. The steel isn't as forgiving," said Hylton.

Polyethylene pipe had another benefit: the smooth-walled interior of the pipe creates less friction and allows more flow. This created a more effective and efficient pipeline for the city.

Courtesy of McElroy 1

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