

Mr. Eldon W. Morain
Director of Engineering
Continental Industries, Inc.
4102 South 74th East Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74145

Dear Mr. Morain:

This responds to your letter of June 13, 1974, in which you ask ". . . does the thermoplastic material from which mechanical type fittings are made have to be one of the thermoplastic materials listed in 'ASTM-D2513-68T Standard Specification for Thermoplastic Gas Pressure Pipe, Tubing, and Fittings,' or may they be manufactured from other thermoplastic materials as long as they are shown to be able to maintain the structure integrity of the pipeline under temperature and other environmental conditions that may be anticipated and chemically compatible with an gas that they transport, and with any other material in the pipeline with which they are in contact?"

Under the Federal gas pipeline safety standards (49 CFR Part 192), the term "fitting" is included within the meaning of the term "component." The standards do not require thermoplastic components used in gas pipelines to be made from materials listed in ASTM-D2513-68T. The only standard governing materials for thermoplastic components is §192.53 which provides:

§ 192.53 General.

Materials for pipe and components must be --

- " (a) Able to maintain the structural integrity of the pipeline under temperature and other environmental conditions that may be anticipated,
- " (b) Chemically compatible with any gas that they transport and with any other material in the pipeline with which they are in contact; and
- " (c) Qualified in accordance with the applicable requirements of this subpart."

As for §192.53 (c), the only requirements in Subpart B (in which §192.53(c) is located) applicable to the qualification of pipeline components are those in §§ 192.53(a) and (b).

We trust this satisfactorily answers your inquiry.

Sincerely,

/signed/

Joseph C. Caldwell

Director, Office of Pipeline Safety