

Mr. Joseph C. Caldwell, Director
Office of Pipeline Safety
T.E.S. -32
U.S. Department of Transportation
Washington, D. C. 20590

Dear Sir:

We would like to have an interpretation of the D.O.T. Part 192, Transportation Natural and Other Gas by Pipeline: Minimum Federal Safety Standards.

Our question concerns the thermoplastic material that may be used to manufacture mechanical fittings for use in the natural gas distribution industry. Namely, does the thermoplastic material from which mechanical type fittings are made have to be one of the thermoplastic materials listed in "ASTM D-2513-68T Standard Gas 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 structural integrity of the pipeline under temperature and other environmental conditions that may be anticipated and chemically compatible with any gas that they transport, and with any other material in the pipeline with which they are in contact?

We would appreciate clarification of this matter.

Respectfully,

El don W. Morain
Director of Engineering