SINTAKOTE®
STEEL PIPELINE SYSTEMS
FOR POTABLE WATER AND AGGRESSIVE FLUIDS APPLICATIONS
Steel Mains is Australia’s leading manufacturer and supplier of complete steel pipeline systems for the transportation of water and wastewater, offering a total solutions approach to its customers.

Throughout Australia and the rest of the world, steel pipelines have long been used in water supply, particularly where high pressures, difficult laying conditions or security of supply, have required the strength and toughness of steel.

Steel Mains and its forerunners have traditionally been at the forefront of developments in the water industry for more than 125 years of manufacturing pipelines in Australia. Over that period steel pipeline design, manufacturing processes and technology have evolved into the SINTAKOTE® steel pipeline system further explained in this brochure.

Today, Steel Mains products and services cover a range of industry needs both within Australia and globally, delivering quality, strength, durability and endurance.

Steel Mains... Solutions for Life

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We all depend on the continuous supply of clean fresh water to live, produce food and deliver goods and services.

Satisfying this demand for water requires pipeline systems which consistently and reliably deliver quality water, year after year.

This performance must be achieved under a range of operating conditions for pipelines, both buried and exposed, accommodating static and transient pressures, resisting external loads from earth, ground movement and vehicle loading and withstanding exposure to multiple environments without requiring any maintenance over the pipelines life.

To perform as required pipeline systems must be capable of being handled, transported and installed without damage and be resistant to long term loss of strength, damage or effecting water quality through corrosion, ageing and other external effects.

Our communities expect water supply to be delivered in the most economical way, at minimum cost, over the life of the pipeline and without interruption.

The superior strength and ductility of steel, combined with world class pipeline and joint corrosion protection systems, ensure that Steel Mains provide the answer for water supply and many other applications.
For almost 40 years Steel Mains has been supplying the SINTAKOTE® pipeline system and, for more than 30 years, its SINTAJOINT® push-in socket to the markets in Asia Pacific. This system has demonstrated outstanding performance both above and below ground in thousands of different applications and environments.

The SINTAKOTE technology has been developed into several core pipeline systems which can be tailored to suit specific applications along with the operating environment and consists of coating, lining and a joint system on both pipes and fittings.

Steel Mains manufactures steel pipeline systems in a comprehensive range from 100mm to 2500mm nominal diameter including all ISO and Australian Standard diameters. Pipes can be manufactured in a range of effective laying lengths from 6.0 to 13.4 metres with wall thicknesses ranging from 4.5mm to 20mm.

A full range of fittings from simple bends, tees, reducers, branches to complex fittings such as trifurcates can be supplied separately with SINTAJOINT for pushing together or any of our full range of welded joints for welding on site.

Rated pipe pressures are based on diameter, wall thickness and steel strength. Rated pressures for SINTAJOINT are typically up to 4.25MPa for pipe diameters up to DN 1000 with fully welded joints capable of even higher pressures.

SINTAKOTE

A factory applied external fusion bonded polyethylene coating proven to provide superior external corrosion protection in almost all operating environments. SINTAKOTE is recognised by the water industry as the premium corrosion protection system for steel water pipelines. Also widely specified in marine piling applications and can be installed above or below ground.
SINTAJOINT

A combination of a SINTAKOTE® pipe with an integrated push-in rubber ring joint and cement mortar lining providing complete end to end corrosion protection.

The SINTAJOINT® system is renowned for its total protection of steel pipelines and rapid construction in the field. Unmatched by any other rubber jointed pipeline system.

SINTALOCK

SINTALOCK® is a patented external welded rubber ring jointing system with the additional feature of being able to self resist end loads.

SINTALOCK does not require entry to the pipe during construction. No internal coating or lining reinstatement is required to maintain the factory applied end to end corrosion protection system.

SINTAPIPE®

The use of SINTAKOTE externally as a coating and internally as a lining, complete with the SINTAJOINT rubber ring joint system, provides a pipe and fittings system completely encapsulated end to end in fusion bonded polyethylene combined with factory finished pre-configured fittings ready for assembly on site.

The application of SINTAKOTE internally is designed for aggressive media, desalinated water, gravity sewers or drainage applications where cement mortar is not suitable.
ADVANTAGES
SINTAKOTE STEEL PIPELINES

PRESSURE CLASS DESIGN
SINTAKOTE® Steel Pipe is designed for internal pressures and resistance to external loads using Australian standards. Steel pipe’s strength and versatility enable customised pressure class or rated designs to meet the performance criteria specified, thereby optimising pipe wall thickness and overall costs.

CORROSION PROTECTION
SINTAKOTE has almost 40 years proven operating experience in providing superior corrosion protection both below ground in a wide variety of soil conditions, from desert sands to aggressive saline soils and above ground, exposed to direct sunlight, without significant deterioration or any requirement for ongoing coating maintenance.

JOINT COATING
Every SINTAJOINT® rubber ring joint pipe is completely coated on the outside, through the socket area including under the rubber ring, ending beneath the cement lining. No part of the steel pipe is exposed to the media and there is no interface where the coating ends and linings start. The SINTAKOTE system is a complete end to end envelope coating system isolating all ferrous material from the external and internal environments. This dramatically extends pipeline life and improves water quality compared to alternative materials.

LONG TERM PERFORMANCE
Cement mortar lined steel pipe protects SINTAKOTE steel pipe from corrosion and ensures its ability to maintain its high initial flow capacity over the design life of the pipeline.

ECONOMY IN INSTALLATION
SINTAKOTE offers benefits similar to ductile iron - fast laying without welding or joint repair. However with steel pipe lengths up to 13.4 metres long the number of joints that need to be made on site can be reduced by up to 50%. Steel pipelines include a wide range of fittings and custom fabricated components to meet all special requirements. Fittings such as offtakes and bends can be built into straight pipe lengths further increasing installation efficiency on site.
LOWER COSTS THROUGH STRENGTH

Steel offers the greatest strength, in proportion to wall thickness, of any commercial piping material. This enables steel pipe to be tailored to the system operating pressure over the length of the pipeline reducing pipe and installation costs. In above ground installations steel pipe spans can be significantly longer than alternative materials, minimising support and installation costs.

With steel tensile strengths of 300MPa and higher, allowable operating pressures ranging from 1.2MPa to more than 6.8MPa and bursting strength equal to three times design allowable operating pressure, steel pipe offers unequalled safety and light weight.

RELIABILITY AND DUCTILITY UNDER STRESS

SINTAKOTE® Steel Pipe delivers an elongation factor of at least 22% and can withstand stress and strains without breaking under shocks from water surge, waterhammer, vibrations, etc.

WELDED AND RUBBER RING JOINTS

Welded joints provide structural integrity and eliminate the need for thrust blocks especially above ground. Rubber ring joints allow simple, fast construction and minor changes in alignment and ground settlement and provide a factory coated joint eliminating on site coating reinstatement quality risks. With SINTALOCK®, pipe designers can combine both these benefits in a single joint, allowing flexibility in pipeline design and construction.
Steel Mains and its forerunners have been manufacturing steel pipelines in Australia for more than 125 years. Starting with Mephan Ferguson, who designed and manufactured the first ‘Lock Bar’ steel water pipe, in Melbourne Australia in 1896. Since then steel pipeline design, manufacturing processes and technology have evolved into the SINTAKOTE® steel pipeline system found in this brochure.

SERVING THE WATER INDUSTRY

Steel Mains offers a complete steel pipeline system covering all water industry applications including: potable water, industrial water, saline waters, sewage rising mains, slurry pipelines, pipelines with aggressive media and marine structural piling.

Steel Mains experience and expertise in steel pipelines ensures all the answers to pipeline design, installation, operation and service are covered by our highly experienced staff. Steel Mains maintains a dedicated engineering team to assist clients with pipeline designs for specific applications and installations and a comprehensive steel pipeline design manual to assist clients with design calculations.

The manufacture of steel pipe is carried out in several stages:
- pipe forming
- end preparation
- hydrostatic testing (not for structural or piling)
- coating
- lining

PIPE FORMING

Steel pipes are manufactured by spiral forming the pipe from steel coil.

The spiral forming process uses hot rolled steel coil as a raw material. The steel is uncoiled, levelled and passed through a forming station that spirals the steel to the required outside diameter.
The spiral seam is welded both internally and externally as part of the forming process. The pipe shell is then cut to the required length as it travels out of the forming and welding machine.

All welding is carried out using the automatic submerged arc welding process.

END PREPARATION

Pipes have their ends prepared depending on the jointing system being used.

HYDROSTATIC TESTING

Pipes for water supply pressure applications are hydrostatically tested to prove the steel and weld strength and that each pipe is water tight.

The strength test is carried out at 90% of the steel minimum yield strength, to a maximum of 8.5MPa, whilst the hydraulic leak test is carried out at the pipes rated pressure, which is equivalent to a stress of 72% of the steel minimum yield strength to a maximum of 6.8MPa.

Pipes for non water supply / structural purposes are not hydrostatically tested unless requested at order placement.
SINTAKOTE® (Fusion Bonded Polyethylene or FBPE) has been applied by Steel Mains, in Australia, since the early 1970’s. Polyethylene has replaced all other coatings for the vast majority of steel water supply pipelines laid in Australia.

**SINTAKOTE**

SINTAKOTE is a medium density polyethylene which is applied to the pipe by a fusion bonding process. Polyethylene, supplied as a powder, is fusion bonded onto a blasted preheated steel pipe. This process provides a continuous and holiday free coating, with a smooth surface, ideal for above and below ground applications even in aggressive soils and when exposed to direct UV sunlight.

SINTAKOTE was developed by Steel Mains, in conjunction with Australian Water authorities, to overcome pipeline failures due to inadequate coating systems. A worldwide research project was undertaken by Steel Mains to find the best coating system available. Further developments have maintained SINTAKOTE as a world leading coating and lining system for steel water pipelines.

Above. The bare steel surface of the pipe is cleaned by grit blasting to ensure an excellent bond between the steel and the coating. The pipe is heated and then dipped into a fluidised bed of polyethylene powder that fuses directly onto the heated surface.
The function of an internal lining is to provide a smooth bore to maximise flow capacity and minimise internal corrosion over the life of the pipe. In potable water applications, linings should not unduly affect the quality of the water being transported.

**SINTAPIPE**

SINTAPIPE® has a fusion bonded polyethylene lining applied to the inside of steel pipes. SINTAPIPE is ideal for aggressive water applications such as high CO₂ water, septic sewage, trade wastes and highly saline water. It can operate at temperatures up to 50°C. SINTAPIPE makes use of the SINTAJOINT® rubber ring jointing system to provide an unbroken, end to end, coating system.

**CEMENT MORTAR LININGS**

Cement mortar linings provide the required standards of corrosion protection performance, at low cost, over long periods of service in potable water applications. The lining actively prevents corrosion by passivating the steel and can be expected to achieve a service life well in excess of 100 years.

Cement mortar linings are also used for wastewaters and saline waters. In these cases Steel Mains can assist designers with specifications for special cement lining and treatment to suit water chemistry and required design life. High alumina cements are often required for aggressive sewerage.

Cement lining is applied by spinning the pipe in a centrifugal process that results in a dense lining with a smooth surface. The lining is cured for a minimum of four days before the pipe is transported for installation. The dense lining produced offers good chemical resistance to potable water, saline and wastewater applications.

Cement mortar linings using General Purpose (GP), General Blend (GB), Sulfate Resistant (SR) and Calcium Aluminate (CA) are available.

Reinstatement of internal field joints when the pipe is welded is a simple task, requiring minimal skill, to achieve an integrated lining.
SINTAKOTE® steel pipeline systems can be connected via a wide variety of jointing systems. To accommodate project specific needs a wide variety of joints are available from Steel Mains. Joints for water pipelines will depend upon the specific requirements of the construction and performance of the pipeline.

**RUBBER RING JOINTS**

SINTAJOINT® is a rubber ring joint specifically designed to eliminate the need for any on site field reinstatement after assembly on site. It provides a factory applied coating system, that is continuous within the joint, with its interface under the cement lining ensuring a complete envelope coating end to end.

SINTALOCK® provides all the benefits of SINTAJOINT and when combined with external welding, enables construction of a fully end restrained pipeline without the need for concrete thrust blocks. This is a significant improvement on welded joints as it eliminates the safety issues associated with entry. SINTALOCK is also much faster to install as only external welding is required.

SINTAJOINT is available in pipe sizes from DN 300 to DN 1800. Each joint provides angular deflection up to 3° dependent on diameter. In some special situations where ground strains are expected to be high, e.g., in a mine subsidence area, deep entry SINTAJOINT can be provided to accommodate the greater axial displacements expected.
**WELDED & MECHANICAL JOINTS**

For welded joints and SINTALOCK® joints post weld reinstatement is achieved using a heatshrink sleeve applied to the joint overlapping and sealing onto the SINTAKOTE®. Once applied this sleeve maintains a continuous external coating system minimising risks of poor quality on site joint reinstatement.

**CATHODIC PROTECTION**

SINTAJOINT® pipe provides a 100% insulated joint. Unlike other ferrous pipe joints, each SINTAJOINT pipe is electrically isolated, regardless of joint deflection or entry depth, making it resistant in areas where stray currents occur. Where owners elect to install cathodic protection each pipe end is supplied with factory fitted cathodic protection (CP) lugs to ensure easy and effective electrical continuity between pipes.
Steel Mains has the capability of supplying a full range of fittings, including fittings fabricated from pipe and/or cylinders rolled and welded from plate steel up to a thickness of 40mm.

Steel Mains Steel Pipeline System Fittings are often manufactured to suit the specific needs of customers and a wide range of steel fabricated fittings can be supplied in addition to the standard range. For example expansion joints, purpose designed dismantling joints for high pressure applications and complex fittings such as bifurcates and trifurcates.

Fittings are typically coated in SINTaKOTE® and cement mortar lined with welded, flanged or SINTaLOCK® joints.

Each fitting is designed for the application with appropriate reinforcement. Where required, Steel Mains staff work with pipeline designers to maximise the efficiency of the system in the design phase, and Steel Mains supply the complete pipe and fittings solution to allow for efficient time saving installation.

SINTALOCK FITTINGS

Steel Mains range of SINTALOCK external welded restraint, rubber ring joint steel pipeline fittings components brings new economies to fittings manufacture and field construction.

SINTALOCK fittings allow construction of a complete rubber ring jointed pipeline system. Bends are incorporated with a SINTALOCK socket which are then welded to the spigot end of a specially prepared pipe with a standard SINTAJOINT® socket end and SINTALOCK spigot end. Tees and valve and scour offtakes are available as standard system components.

This eliminates the requirement for cement mortar lining reinstatement at the bend while taking full advantage of the benefits of SINTAJOINT and SINTALOCK. Tapers, reducers and bends can be incorporated with SINTALOCK joints.
Hockey Stick SINTALOCK® and SINTAJOINT® pipes feature a rubber ring jointed socket at angles up to 15 degrees. Coupled with the available angular deflection in the joint, (up to 3 degrees), significant changes in direction can be accommodated using several ‘Hockey Sticks’ in series.

Pipeline bends can be supplied to any angle from 1° to 90°.

Tee branches can be supplied in any standard diameter not larger than the body of the tee. Branches may be flanged or provided with either spigot or socket for rubber ring jointing to suit the demands of your pipeline system.

Reinforcing of tee branches is available as required.
Steel Mains–Technologies is an independently accredited test facility specialising in the development of materials specifically for water industry applications. The facility provides a wide range of research in the areas of pipeline materials, welding technology, metallurgy, pipeline performance and protective coatings.

Steel Mains–Technologies is dedicated to the continual improvement of pipeline systems. Highly qualified staff with expertise in materials science and engineering keep abreast of, and in some cases, lead world technology in steel pipe design manufacture and performance.

The current SINTAKOTE® material and SINTALOCK® pipe joint are among the many products developed by this facility. The services of Steel Mains–Technologies are available to help solve your particular pipeline problems.

It is widely recognised that by following proper installation procedures, steel pipeline systems can readily achieve operational lifetimes of over 100 years.

For more than 20 years, Steel Mains has promoted quality pipeline installation through our formally accredited training program for steel pipes. Most Australian water authorities insist on accreditation to the program as mandatory competency requirements for contractors installing steel pipe.

The program provides hands on training for the installation and commissioning of SINTAKOTE pipe and fittings, in local languages, directed at supervisors and installers.

All Steel Mains design and manufacturing facilities operate under accredited Quality Assurance systems, producing premium pipeline systems to Australian or other specified Standards. Many of our manufacturing sites have been Quality Accredited for more than 20 years. These accreditations assure that our products are fit for purpose.

Our accredited training courses in pipeline installation go further to provide added insurance that the installed product will continue to perform for its design life and beyond.

Manufacturing systems are accredited to AS/NZS ISO 9001 – Quality management, ISO14001 - Environmental management and AS/NZS 4801 - Occupational health and safety management.

SINTAKOTE Steel Pipe and Fittings are accredited with product StandardsMark Licence to AS1579 - Arc welded steel pipe and fittings for water and wastewater.
STEEL MAINS

Steel Mains has an extensive history in Australia’s major water pipeline infrastructure projects. This involvement has not been limited to manufacture and supply. In some instances the design, project management and construction have been Steel Mains responsibility. Think of any recent major water pipeline project and Steel Mains was involved. Either in design, supply, construction or commissioning, and with some projects, all of these functions. For all your water industry pipeline needs Steel Mains has the solutions.

VICTORIAN DESALINATION TRANSFER PIPELINE

Persistent severe drought conditions in Victoria, Australia lead to the construction of a state of the art desalination plant and DN 1900, 84km long, welded ball and socket joint, SINTAKOTE® pipeline transporting water from Wonthaggi Desalination Plant to Cardinia Reservoir.

WIMMERA-MALLEE

Supply of a new pressurised pipeline water supply system to replace the existing channel delivery system. 64km of DN 1000 SINTAJOINT® RRJ and welded steel pipe and 30km of DN 700 SINTAJOINT RRJ and welded steel pipe.

WOLEECEE CREEK TO GLEBE WEIR

Steel Mains manufactured and supplied 120 kilometres of large 914–1404mm diameter steel pipe and fittings for SunWater’s Woleebee Creek to Glebe Weir Pipeline project. The pipeline will deliver up to 36,500ML of treated CSG water annually to irrigation and industrial customers. A total of 10,000 pipes and 3,500 fittings were delivered on time and on budget.
NEWATER

As Singapore developed New Water to become a world leader in reuse water management, the Public Utilities Board required a pipeline that could handle aggressive desalinated water. In 2003 and 2004 Steel Mains provided over 30km of DN 800 and DN 900 SINTAPIPE®, complete with SINTAJOINT® pipe and fittings, for 7 different projects. Pipe was supplied in pre configured lengths with pipe and fittings coloured lilac (SINTAKOTE®) representing non potable water.

BURDEKIN TO MORANBAH

Water supply pipeline from Burdekin to Moranbah. 172km of DN 800 SINTAJOINT RRJ and spherical slip-In welded joint steel pipe

SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND WATER GRID

The South East Queensland Water Grid consists of the Northern Interconnector Pipeline, the Southern Regional Water Pipeline, the Eastern Interconnector Pipeline and the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme. Steel Mains supplied 334km of SINTAKOTE steel pipe and fittings in sizes ranging from DN 800 to DN 1400.

BALLARAT LINK OF THE GOLDFIELDS SUPERPIPE

Supply of a pressure pipeline from Sandhurst Reservoir to the White Swan Reservoir. 47km of DN 800 SINTAJOINT RRJ steel pipe
SUGARLOAF INTERCONNECTOR

Supply of a pressure pipeline from Eildon Reservoir to Sugarloaf Reservoir. 50km of DN 1750 and 20km of DN 1400 SINTAKOTE® ball and socket joint welded pipe

NEW ZEALAND & PACIFIC ISLANDS

Over 25km of various sizes SINTAKOTE and SINTAJOINT® pipes on five different projects in the region

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

In the last 10 years Steel Mains has supplied over 168km of SINTAJOINT pipe in sizes from DN 800 to DN 1600 to the UAE for various water pipelines