

Design for recycling guidelines for thermoplastics pipes and fittings are available across Europe

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TEPPFA is pleased to announce the publication of CEN TS 18116:2025, the new CEN Technical Specification providing recycling guidelines for thermoplastics pipes and fittings. Released earlier this year, the specification is now available in most European countries through the respective national standardisation bodies.

This achievement is the result of dedicated efforts by standardisation experts from TEPPFA member companies, who actively participated in Working Group 25 of CEN/TC 155, the technical committee responsible for developing standards for plastic piping systems. Their commitment enabled the completion and publication of the document well ahead of the original August 2025 deadline. CEN TS 18116:2025 was developed in response to standardisation request M/584, issued by the European Commission to CEN/CENELEC on August 1st, 2022.

The specification applies to thermoplastics pipes and fittings used as construction products or used in supply systems for irrigation. Thermoplastic fittings are considered to also include manholes, inspection chambers, infiltration boxes, and valves. The document contains guideline for selection of raw materials and for marking of products to enable easy recycling of plastic pipes and fittings after end-of-life.

The release of CEN TS 18116:2025 highlights the ongoing commitment of TEPPFA members and the plastic pipes and fittings industry to advancing a circular economy, in line with the objectives outlined in "The Clean Industrial Deal: A Joint Roadmap for Competitiveness and Decarbonisation." The European Commission's Clean Industrial Deal, which references the forthcoming Circular Economy Act expected in 2026, further underscores the importance of these initiatives. The European plastic pipes and fittings sector will continue to demonstrate its dedication to circularity and innovation. The next step is the development of a design-for-recycling document for the PVC cable management products CLC/TS 50741 which was published recently.

Ludo Debever, General Manager of TEPPFA, commented:

"We are delighted that the CEN TS 18116:2025 standard for recycling guidelines of thermoplastics pipes and fittings is now available across Europe and was finalised well in advance of the target date set by the European Commission. TEPPFA has consistently worked to facilitate and promote circularity within the plastic pipe sector for building and infrastructure in Europe. Following the establishment of end-of-life collection schemes for plastic pipes and fittings in several EU Member States more than 30 years ago, this publication marks yet another significant milestone."

End of Press Release

About TEPPFA

TEPPFA is the European Plastic Pipes and Fittings Association founded in 1991 with headquarters in Brussels. TEPPFA's 14 multinational company members and 13 national associations across Europe represent 350 companies that manufacture plastic pipes and fittings. TEPPFA members' final products have an annual production volume of 4 million tonnes directly employing 40,000 people with €12 billion combined annual sales. TEPPFA positions itself as polymer neutral. TEPPFA members' final products are subdivided into two application groups: above ground systems for hot and cold water, surface heating and cooling, waste water discharge and rainwater drainage, and below ground systems for sewers, stormwater and drainage, drinking water and gas supply and, cable ducts.

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