



Ductile Iron Pipe  
Research Association

**Strength** and **Durability** for **Life**<sup>®</sup>

GENERAL

# The Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association

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From its inception more than 100 years ago, the Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association (DIPRA) has provided accurate, reliable engineering information about cast iron, and now Ductile Iron Pipe, to utility and consulting engineers.

Founded in 1915 as the Cast Iron pipe Publicity Bureau, the organization's initial role was to promote the superior qualities of cast iron pipe through advertising programs. During the 1920's, the nature of the bureau's activities became increasingly technical and research-oriented, prompting a name change to the Cast Iron Pipe Research Association (CIPRA).

After Ductile Iron Pipe had completely replaced cast iron pipe as the modern standard for pressure pipe, CIPRA became DIPRA in 1979. Today, the Association provides numerous services, including the Regional Engineer Program, a variety of brochures and publications, representation on standards-making committees, and technical research on a variety of topics, including corrosion, corrosion protection, and the design of Ductile Iron Pipe.

#### **Regional Engineer Program**

A major addition to the Association occurred in the late 1950's when the first field representative—the forerunner of today's Regional Engineer—was hired. Today, DIPRA has several Regional Engineers serving the United States and Canada, who are experts in virtually every aspect of pipe design and pipeline engineering.

DIPRA's Regional Engineers are registered Professional Engineers, many having joined DIPRA after years of experience with utilities or engineering consulting firms. All play a vital role in assisting pipe specifiers and users in the proper design and application of Ductile Iron Pipe.

The Regional Engineers' purpose is to provide timely information and assistance to consulting engineers and utilities on specific design and installation questions, corrosion control, and the investigation of problems with pipe in service. They make technical presentations at utility, engineering, and student conference meetings, play an active role in local water works associations, and provide technical expertise regarding water and wastewater pipeline design.

## Research

DIPRA's research and technical staff provides support for the Regional Engineer Program, participates in the development of Ductile Iron Pipe standards, and assists in the development and editing of DIPRA brochures and technical papers. DIPRA's staff answer thousands of technical queries from utility and consulting engineers each year and have amassed a comprehensive library of research and technical information on Ductile Iron Pipe.

DIPRA has contributed much of the available research data on corrosion, corrosion protection, thrust restraint, and the structural design of Ductile Iron Pipe. The Research department coordinates field research at test sites throughout the United States and has conducted numerous laboratory tests.

## Standards Development

From the earliest days of standardization in the United States, DIPRA has played an active role in the development of voluntary performance-based consensus standards. Association representatives sit on the standards-making committees of AWWA, ASCE, ASTM, NACE, and ISO, ensuring that design and manufacturing standards for Ductile Iron Pipe remain the most conservative and comprehensive in the industry.

## Publications



The Association provides information through a variety of brochures and technical papers, including the popular Installation Guide for Ductile Iron Pipe, a handy pocket reference used by installation and maintenance crews and inspectors. DIPRA is well published in technical journals, offers numerous technical brochures and reports, and computer software programs at no charge to Ductile Iron Pipe designers and users.

## DIPRA Website



DIPRA's website contains a wealth of information on Ductile Iron pipe that can be used to assist users and specifiers of Ductile Iron Pipe. It contains general information on Ductile Iron Pipe, contact information for DIPRA Regional Engineers, contact information for DIPRA Member Companies, and access to most DIPRA literature, which is available for download in Adobe® Acrobat® PDF format. It also has a "Resources tab" where utility and consulting engineers can find resources to help them find answers to design and application questions, as well as access to DIPRA calculators for pipe wall thickness design, thrust restraint, hydraulic analysis and pipe-on-supports design.

## Call Us. We Want To Work With You.

We welcome consulting and utility engineers to take advantage of our many services. Contact your Regional Engineer if you have a problem or you want to discuss what we have to offer. You can send us your technical questions and literature requests and you can sign up to receive periodic updates of interesting and useful information from our website. In addition you are welcome to contact us at 205.402.8700 at any time.

For more information contact DIPRA or any of its member companies.

### Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association

An association of quality producers dedicated to the highest pipe standards through a program of continuing research and service to water and wastewater professionals.

P.O. Box 190306  
Birmingham, AL 35219  
205.402.8700 Tel  
[www.dipra.org](http://www.dipra.org)

### Social Media

Get in the flow with Ductile Iron Pipe by connecting with us on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Visit our website, [www.dipra.org/videos](http://www.dipra.org/videos), and click on the YouTube icon for informational videos on Ductile Iron Pipe's ease of use, economic benefits, strength and durability, advantages over PVC, and more.



### Member Companies

AMERICAN Ductile Iron Pipe  
P.O. Box 2727  
Birmingham, Alabama 35202-2727

Canada Pipe Company, Ltd.  
55 Frid St. Unit #1  
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 4M3 Canada

McWane Ductile  
P.O. Box 6001  
Coshocton, Ohio 43812-6001

United States Pipe and Foundry Company  
Two Chase Corporate Drive  
Suite 200  
Birmingham, Alabama 35244

Ductile Iron Pipe is  SMART certified