

CASE STUDY

NEW ENGLAND CONTRACTOR TEAMS UP WITH HOMEBUILDER TO PROVIDE LONG LASTING, QUALITY PLUMBING SYSTEMS

Anthony's Piping, Inc. with Danziger Homes

Monroe, CT

Established: 1979

During the winter months in New England, below zero temperatures cause water in wells to freeze over. And, during the summer, blistering heat scorches the soil, making the ground rigid. This causes headaches for New England homeowners whose plumbing systems have broken down from copper pipe corrosion due to these conditions.

Over the years, many plumbing contractors and builders have been reviewing alternatives to copper. Anthony's Piping, Inc., Monroe, Conn., is one of these contractors. Established in 1979, by Tony Passaro, with a support staff of five others, Anthony's Piping installed plumbing systems in five to 10 homes a year. More than 25 years later, Passaro's work has increased, and he now installs piping in 35 to 40 homes per year.



Award-Winning Partnership

Anthony's Piping works primarily with Danziger Homes, Inc., Newtown, CT, a luxury homebuilder that constructs Colonial-style houses ranging from \$400,000 to \$1,000,000. Danziger became a full-time developer in 1985. The high-end homebuilder has been recognized for numerous awards, including "Best Subdivision" and "Best Luxury House."

"When we install plumbing, it has to be a look-good, last-long, trouble-free, quality system," explained Passaro. "That's why we started investigating alternative systems

in 1993. When using copper piping, we would experience plumbing failures after only five years. We'd replace it, and then it would fail again."

Reviewing Alternative Choices

Anthony's Piping decided to review PEX (cross-linked polyethylene) plumbing systems as a viable alternative to copper. According to Passaro, they discovered that the PEX system did not look professional. He believes the combination of the pipe and couplings looks awkward. In fact, PEX has a "spaghetti-like" appearance. In addition, the crimping tools were expensive, which would result in a major cost each time the tools were lost. Overall, PEX systems proved to be nearly as expensive as copper.

"We install 500 to 1,000 feet of piping per home," said Passaro. "So, the plumbing system we use has to look professional. PEX didn't meet our standards."

In 1995, Anthony's Piping found a better alternative to copper when the Noveon sales representative introduced Passaro to FlowGuard Gold® CPVC plumbing systems.

Predictable Installations

Passaro soon discovered that using FlowGuard Gold® CPVC plumbing systems created a faster and easier installation. CPVC plumbing systems require simple hand tools for installation, and no torches or crimping tools are needed. A one-step joining system can be pressure tested in as little as 10 minutes. According to Passaro, "Since CPVC is easier to install, it can be used in tight places where copper can't be used."

Using FlowGuard Gold® CPVC was also appealing to Danziger Homes. "We found FlowGuard Gold® CPVC provides a safer installation because no torches or heavy equipment are needed on the job site," said Kim Danziger, president of Danziger Homes, Inc.

Given the ease of installation and the ability to make job changes on site, CPVC plumbing system installations are more predictable. Passaro's plumbers found that they could meet deadlines faster than ever before no matter what the weather conditions.



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Type of Construction:

**Residential –
Single Family**

Installation Type:

New

FLOWGUARD GOLD®
PIPE & FITTINGS
NOT A DROP OF DOUBT.

FLOWGUARD GOLD®

Taking on Corrosion Challenges

According to ANSI/NSF Standard 61, in environments with aggressive water, where pH levels are less than 6.5, copper plumbing will not meet the water quality standard. Plus, copper cannot resist certain soil chemistries or compositions and will begin to degrade in underslab applications. In these severe conditions, copper pipes can develop pinholes and leaks, resulting in considerable maintenance costs as well as leaching of copper into the water, causing it not to meet applicable potable water quality standards.

Most importantly, for New England homeowners, CPVC plumbing systems will not rust, corrode, pit or scale under any water conditions including the most aggressive well water and city water. "Whether it's city water or well water, we prefer to use FlowGuard Gold® CPVC plumbing systems," said Passaro. "They are cleaner, neater, and easier to install than any other piping system."

CPVC plumbing systems also meet all model code approvals, including the International Plumbing Code, International Residential Code, BOCA National Plumbing Code, Standard Plumbing Code, Uniform Plumbing Code, CABO 1- and 2- Family Dwelling Code and Canadian Plumbing Code.

Passing Benefits on to the Homeowner

FlowGuard Gold® CPVC plumbing systems also offer better insulation and energy savings than copper. Unlike copper piping materials, the thermoplastic properties of CPVC plumbing systems provide insulation to reduce condensation and "sweaty pipes." The material keeps hot water hot and cold water cold.

The thermoplastic properties of CPVC systems also provide a quieter system with less resonance than metal plumbing systems, reducing the potential of the pounding noise of water hammer.

"The quietness of the plumbing system has been a big reason why customers like having FlowGuard Gold® CPVC systems installed in their homes," said Passaro. "When water is turned on, you don't even know it's running because the system is so quiet."

Not only are FlowGuard Gold® plumbing systems quieter, but they can handle hot water temperatures of over 180°F with 100 psi (water pressure). According to Passaro, "We have experienced temperatures above 180°F with water pressure greater than 100 psi and have not had any problems."

In addition, FlowGuard Gold® CPVC has made it possible for Anthony's Piping to install plumbing in bathrooms located above garages. "We were not able to do that with copper piping," said Passaro. "Copper piping can be difficult to cut and shape, but the FlowGuard Gold® system is easier to install in tight spaces."

Beginning in 1995, Anthony's Piping began using FlowGuard Gold® CPVC from Noveon exclusively. "We haven't experienced any problems with installing FlowGuard Gold® plumbing systems," said Passaro. "And builders, are happy with the change. Now, they demand FlowGuard Gold® CPVC for all their jobs."

Since Lubrizol's development of CPVC plumbing systems over 45 years ago, more than three (3) billion feet of CPVC pipe has been installed in homes, condominiums, buildings, apartments and hotels, including twelve (12) million homes. For more information on the FlowGuard Gold® plumbing system, including pipes, valves, joining cement, caulks, sealants and tools, call 1-888-234-2436, X7393, or visit www.flowguardgold.com.

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