

CASE STUDY

FLOWGUARD GOLD® PLUMBING SYSTEM ALLEVIATES LUXURY BUILDER'S CONCERNS ABOUT NOISE

Don-Pre Development

Northeastern - Ohio

Established: 1996

CPVC PRODUCT PROVED SAFER AND EASIER TO INSTALL

Don Prebis, owner of Don-Pre Development in Northeastern Ohio, doesn't build many homes, with an average of three or four per year, but the homes he builds are distinctive. In his 40-lot subdivision, Hidden Canyon, homes start at \$700,000 and average about 6,000 square feet in size.

With this kind of high-end, selective customer to please, Prebis is careful to choose products not only of high quality but that are also proven to work.

"I'm not one to quickly change the products I use," said Prebis. "My feeling is that if a current product works, why change?"



So when his plumbing contractor, Eric Svoboda of Eric Svoboda Plumbing, approached him more than five years ago with the idea of using FlowGuard Gold® CPVC pipe and fittings instead of traditional copper, Prebis was initially skeptical. Svoboda already had experience with FlowGuard Gold® systems, having installed them in several other homes he had previously plumbed.

"Eric told me it was a superior product," said Prebis. "But what specifically caught my attention was the fact that the FlowGuard Gold® system was quieter."

Both Prebis and Svoboda agreed that their biggest reason for callbacks with regard to the plumbing was homeowner complaints about the noise made by copper systems.

Prebis, who was a plumbing contractor himself for many years prior to founding his development company nearly 20 years ago, explained, "Even when we'd use regulators, there would still be that banging caused by the expansion and contraction of the copper pipes. So we would have to peg the lines to avoid rattling. This, however, often resulted in a ticking noise which was equally annoying to homeowners. So as a result, we would wind up having to insulate around the pipe to minimize any noise. Now, with the FlowGuard Gold® system, we don't have to take any of those additional steps, because the CPVC piping is naturally quieter."

Prebis and Svoboda aren't the only ones who think the FlowGuard Gold® product is quieter. NSF International, which has been testing and certifying chemicals and products used to treat and distribute water since 1965, has even proven it in laboratory tests conducted in May of 2001. These comprehensive, highly documented tests concluded that, under normal household conditions, copper pipe is actually four times louder (as the human ear interprets sound level) than the FlowGuard Gold® CPVC pipe which naturally dampens and absorbs sound.

When FlowGuard Gold® pipes were first installed in Don-Pre's \$1.2 million model home, Prebis had the opportunity to gain some hands-on experience with the product. "I actually helped put the water lines in and got to see first-hand how much easier the product was to install versus copper. The one-step solvent cement saved a significant amount of installation time, since we didn't have to spend time soldering. And, I felt it was safer since you

"The one-step solvent

cement saved a significant

amount of installation time,

since we didn't have to spend

time soldering. And, I felt

it was safer since you don't

need an open flame inside

the house," said Prebis.

Type of Construction:

**Residential -
Single Family**

Installation Type:

New

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



FLOWGUARD GOLD®

don't need an open flame inside the house. I've already seen a plumber catch a house on fire, especially if you have a joint close to a floor joist, you're likely to starting burning a bit."

Other benefits of the FlowGuard Gold® system that were noted by Svoboda (who is also a certified plumbing inspector) included a significant reduction in condensation. "With copper, we often hear complaints about sweaty pipes, but now there's none of that," said Svoboda. "I can further tell homeowners that they'll maintain a better flow rate with the CPVC pipe because, unlike copper systems, there will be no calcium buildup inside the pipe over the years. And for me, I don't have to deal with the price fluctuations associated with copper pipe."

Fewer callbacks. Faster, easier installations. Less noise and condensation. Better flow rates. And safer to use. For all of these reasons, Prebis has become an extensive FlowGuard Gold® builder and Svoboda an exclusive FlowGuard Gold® plumber.

"For me, there are enough additional benefits of the FlowGuard Gold® product to keep using it," said Prebis. "Since I used to be a plumbing contractor, I'm confident I know what I'm talking about, and I know I'm giving my customers a better product."

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.

"For me, there are enough additional benefits of the FlowGuard Gold® product to keep using it," said Prebis.

"Since I used to be a plumbing contractor, I'm confident I know what I'm talking about, and I know I'm giving my customers a better product."

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

The information contained herein is believed to be reliable, but no representations, guarantees or warranties of any kind are made as to its accuracy, suitability for particular applications or the results to be obtained. The information often is based on laboratory work with small-scale equipment and does not necessarily indicate end product performance or reproducibility. Formulations presented may not have been tested for stability and should be used only as a suggested starting point. Because of the variations in methods, conditions and equipment used commercially in processing these materials, no warranties or guarantees are made as to the suitability of the products for the applications disclosed. Full-scale testing and end product performance are the responsibility of the user. Lubrizol Advanced Materials, Inc. shall not be liable for and the customer assumes all risk and liability for any use or handling of any material beyond Lubrizol Advanced Materials, Inc.'s direct control. The SELLER MAKES NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. Nothing contained herein is to be considered as permission, recommendation, nor as an inducement to practice any patented invention without permission of the patent owner.

Lubrizol Advanced Materials, Inc. / 9911 Brecksville Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44141-3201 / 1.216.447.5000 / www.flowguardgold.com

© Copyright 2006 The Lubrizol Corporation
FlowGuard Gold® is a registered trademark of The Lubrizol Corporation
FGG-CS21

**FlowGuard Gold® CPVC
Marketing Department**
9911 Brecksville Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44141-3201 USA
888.234.2436 ext.7393
216.447.5000
216.447.5750 FAX