



Case Study

BlazeMaster® Fire Sprinkler System provides cost, time savings for new construction project.

Type of Construction:
Elementary School

Installation Type:
New

Location:
Broward County, Florida

Scope of Project:
Heads: ≈1,000
Sq. Feet: 110,000
Stories: 1

Fire Sprinkler Contractor:
Francis Engineering Inc.



The BlazeMaster® Fire Sprinkler System has been enjoying tremendous success in the Broward County, Florida school system since early 1995 when BlazeMaster® CPVC was written into the school system's specification for use in light hazard areas, including air plenums. Currently, there are a number of schools under construction using BlazeMaster® Fire Sprinkler Systems.

Prototype Elementary School R-91, a one-story building of 110,000 square feet of concrete block, concrete roof and steel bar joists, is one of the first schools specified for a BlazeMaster® Fire Sprinkler System. The sprinkler contractor for the

project, Francis Engineering Inc., had been using BlazeMaster® pipe and fittings for several years in both new construction and retrofit installations.



"I felt that BlazeMaster® pipe and fittings were the best choice for this application," said Art Francis, owner, Francis Engineering. "Thanks to the BlazeMaster® sprinkler industry consultant, Leon Benlolo, we were successful in getting the BlazeMaster® pipe and fittings written into the Broward County School Board Specifications."



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Due to the tremendous demands associated with a school project, including time constraints, speed of installation and the need to meet various deadlines, Francis believed that BlazeMaster® pipe and fittings would overcome the demand placed upon his installers.

According to Francis, "Once the initial design problems were resolved, I was able to take advantage of the many benefits of using BlazeMaster® pipe and fittings. It's easy to work with, the installation went smoothly, changes were easily made at the job site compared to steel, and I was able to stay ahead of the schedule, allowing the other trades to catch up."

Gary Lederman, project superintendent for Francis Engineering, was very pleased at how smoothly and quickly the installation progressed.

"My fitters love this stuff," Lederman said. "The pipe went up quite quickly and easily, and the new one-step cement allows for faster cure times and lowers cost compared to the old two-step solvent cement method."

Elvira Pita, P.E., from Fraga Engineers mechanical engineering firm, stated, "This is the first school project using BlazeMaster® pipe and fittings that I have been involved with, and I am quite impressed with this product and its benefits. I'm looking forward to designing other schools with it."

The installation of the BlazeMaster® Fire Sprinkler System in this new construction project proved to be a financial and time-saving success. The cost savings realized on this project compared to steel pipe were considerable, and most of the savings were in labor and design.

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