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1. INFORMATION ON PLASTIC PIPES DESIGNATION

1.1 Pipes are hollow cylinders or tubes used to convey water, gas, oil, or other fluid-like substances. Pipes are made in many materials including ceramic, fiberglass, and many metals, concrete and plastic. Plastic pipes have a variety of characteristics such as flexibility, lightweight, endurance, corrosion-proof, etc. that allow plastic pipe systems to fulfil a wide variety of services requirements. They are therefore used in infrastructure applications, such as drinking water supply and distribution, gas transmission and distribution, land and underground drainage, sewerage disposal and underground cable protection, all of which may be divided as pressure and non-pressure pipelines. Plastic piping networks form an integral, expensive, long term and extremely important part of the infrastructure of this country.

1.2 Pipe types and diameters:

There are four (4) classes of pipes with varying diameters that are used in water and sanitation infrastructure. Depending on the raw material used, plastic pipes are classified under the following types:

- Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes;
- High density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes;
- Polypropylene (PP) pipes and
- Glass reinforced plastic (GRP) pipes.

These are further divided into different diameter sizes ranging from **10mm to 3700 mm**

- 1.3 The stipulated minimum threshold percentages for local production and content for the Plastic pipes is **100%**.
- 1.4 To ensure that local production and content is discharged on manufacturing activities, the following components must be included in bid invitations:

Product Types	Minimum threshold local content
Polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes	100%
High density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes	100%
Polypropylene (PP) pipes	100%
Glass reinforced plastic (GRP) pipes	100%

1.5 For further information, bidders and procuring state organs may contact the Plastics Unit within **the dtic** at telephone 012 394 1406 or email localcontent@thedtic.gov.za.

