

New laboratory provides room for expansion

Studsvik Polymer, world leader in the lifetime engineering of plastic pipes, has recently opened its expanded laboratory facility in Studsvik. The company's laboratory space is now approximately 1,000 square meters. Previously, cramped conditions have inhibited growth, which despite this limitation has been substantial in recent years. The enlarged facility will offer opportunities for growth and provide the company with better conditions to develop tests with chlorinated water.

"The added space has been eagerly awaited. We have had an annual growth rate of 23 percent during the past four years and are in great need of more space in order to grow" says Mats Ifwarson, President of Studsvik Polymer. "We would like to expand the tests of chlorinated water that have been in demand and to perform more advanced tests on the entire pipe system".

The laboratory, which has approximately 4,000 test stations for pressure testing plastic pipes, makes Studsvik Polymer the largest laboratory in the world for testing the service life of polymer materials. The results of test carried out during the past 26 years have been collected in the company's knowledge and data banks.

Studsvik Polymer is now preparing for continued expansion. A number of key positions at the company will be filled in the near future. John Denning, well-known throughout the industry, is a recent addition to the Board of Directors. He was previously Director of Market and Development at Durapipe S & LP in England. In addition to his network of contacts, John Denning will also provide competence in the area of product development, which will strengthen Studsvik Polymer's growth.

"I'm impressed by the new laboratory" says John Denning. "It is not often one finds such high quality facilities as these. This additional space has prepared Studsvik Polymer well for the future".

The investment in the new laboratory facilities has amounted to SEK 4 million. The laboratory is expected to be fully operational at year end 1999.

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Additional information is also available on our web site: www.studsvik.se including a photograph of John Denning.

All polymer materials are unique and have varying lifetimes. To test their durability, they are subjected to pressure, temperatures and to the effects of foreign substances. Studsvik's customers include industries dealing with raw materials, manufacturing companies and end-users. Tests have been performed on plastic pipes used for gas distribution in earthquake-prone areas such as Kobe in Japan. More than ninety percent of our customers are foreign companies, particularly in Japan and Europe as well as in the USA. The quality of the tests is ensured by accreditation by The Swedish Board for Accreditation and Conformity Assessment (SWEDAC).