



**NORTON McMURRAY MANUFACTURING COMPANY**

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To Whom It May Concern:

Re: NORMAC Category 1 under CFR Part 192

PHMSA has issued the new Plastic Pipe Rule effective January 22, 2019. That deadline was extended to April 22, 2019 for sizes under 4". The new rule says mechanical fittings or joints must meet Category 1 requirements of a "listed standard" (192.281e(3) and e(4)). The applicable listed standard for NORMAC fittings and joints made between the fitting and polyethylene pipe is ASTM F1948-12.

Joints made with the vast majority of NORMAC fittings have met Category 1 requirements since the early 1970's. Contact NORMAC to determine if the fittings you buy meet PHMSA's new requirements.

Where NORMAC fittings meet Category 1, most actually meet the more modern and hence safer version **F1948-15**. NORMAC recommends that you write your standards using the language "the latest version of ASTM F1948" for three reasons:

1. Doing so is considered best engineering practice
2. When PHMSA gets around to understanding the improved safety aspects of the 2015 and later versions you will be ready.
3. Most importantly, the 2015 version is safer than previous versions.

The 2015 version of ASTM F1948 makes for a safer pipeline because it requires mechanical transition fittings to provide restraint on the metallic end that is 150% as strong as the polyethylene pipe. Without this improvement, even though the joint for plastic will hold, the metallic pipe joined into the other end can pull out.

PHMSA has failed to list the standard for field assembled risers, ASTM F2509, but does not prohibit them. These types of risers are more commonly used than you might think and have numerous, significant advantages over factory assembled risers. One specific advantage of an F2509 riser is that there is no joint at the bottom/pigtail of the riser. Fewer joints make for a safer pipeline.

Speaking of fewer joints, did you know that NORMAC transition fittings result in fewer joints than those weld and fuse types?

Of course, proper installation of fittings and joints is critical. If your procedures deviate from NORMAC installation instructions, please contact us promptly so we may assist you to confirm that your procedure maintains the Category 1 requirements. Thank you for continued purchase and use of NORMAC compression fittings.

Sincerely,

Glenn McMurray  
President