

**Case Study**

## AICA NZ Limited

**Location:** AICA - New Plymouth Plant  
**Product Used:** Europress Stainless Steel Press Fit Pipe System  
**Application:** Caustic 46% Suction Line, Slurry 360 Vacuum Line  
**Pipe Sizes:** 2" (54mm) 316L Stainless Steel

AICA NZ, a leading chemical manufacturer in New Zealand, approached Waterworks Wholesale regarding the use of the Europress Pipe System in their plant for replacing an existing Caustic and Slurry line which was beginning to corrode. With Europress offering both Carbon Steel and Stainless Steel and both materials being suitable for these applications, the best solution came down to the environment in which the pipeline was being installed and the companies desire for a long lasting solution. Given AICA is located in Bell Block, a suburb relatively close to the rugged West Coast, the Stainless Steel option was decided upon as being the best solution because the pipe work was to be installed partly outside.

AICA contracted the installation to a local engineering firm and were most impressed by the speed and incomparable ease of use. *"Europress went very well. You get all the pipe supports up and the pipe work assembled, do a QA on it then go around and crimp it, it was good"* plant supervisor Kevin Tait said.

AICA used Europress for two lines, a Caustic 46% and a Slurry 360 line. Both lines were run in 316L Stainless Steel and a total length of 60 metres of tube was used. The Slurry line was running in a vacuum of 0.825 Bar while the Caustic line was a suction line. Both lines were running at ambient temperature. EPDM O'rings were used as the temperature and the liquid being transferred gave no reason to upgrade to a Viton O'ring.

An additional benefit that Waterworks Wholesale was able to provide for AICA was the ability to specially manufacture a fitting to allow them to adapt from existing imperial pipe work to the much faster, cost effective, and user-friendly Europress system. This highlighted the unique benefit of using Waterworks with their specialist fabrication, allowing versatility for the installer and making their job easier.



**Talk to our team now about your piping projects 0800 387 677**

e: [info@waterworks.co.nz](mailto:info@waterworks.co.nz) w: [www.waterworks.co.nz](http://www.waterworks.co.nz)