

INSTAFLEX

Sustainable large-scale project by armasuisse Immobilien

Expansion of Auenfeld Barracks,
Frauenfeld, Switzerland

Corrosion-free piping system made of
flexible plastic for durable, ecological
building services installations.

Great eco-balance and clean drinking water thanks to INSTAFLEX

The Auenfeld barracks on the Frauenfeld (Switzerland) weapons site will be refurbished and expanded in four stages by the end of 2030 at a cost of 326 million Swiss francs. Energy efficiency, building ecology and health enjoy a high priority at armasuisse Immobilien, the DDPS real estate expertise center. The target is a certification of the buildings according to Minergie-ECO. The corrosion-free plastic piping system INSTAFLEX from GF Piping Systems meets the required sustainability criteria and offers further benefits.

Project background

Switzerland's second largest military training center is being built at Auenfeld in Frauenfeld. The first construction phase with an investment volume of CHF 121 million comprises the replacement of the catering center with a capacity of 1,700 meals per day, the construction of a new medical center, an additional four-story accommodation building with 550 beds, three training halls and the addition of an additional floor to the command building. All roofs will be equipped with photovoltaic systems, heating will be provided by the data center, domestic water will be treated by heat pumps, and the rooms will be mechanically ventilated.

Selected technical solution

The building services planners at Amstein-Walthert chose INSTAFLEX for the cold and hot water installations as well as compressed air lines. The corrosion-free piping system made of the flexible plastic polybutene offers a wide range of dimensions from d16 mm to d315 mm. Polybutene has a much lower expansion force compared to steel and other plastics. This is picked up by means of rigid assembly. This means that there is no need for expansion loops and legs or costly expansion joints. Polybutene also has a great eco-balance, is durable, incrustation-free as well as sound-absorbing and does not release any flavoring or harmful substances.

Simple, time-saving installation

Most of the installers at the Steger plumbing company were not very familiar with INSTAFLEX's capabilities. They were trained on site by GF Piping Systems specialists in theory and practice. „After just one day, everyone mastered welding and assembling,“ says Michael Gottschling, Steger's supervising assembler. „Pre-fabrication of the basement route using the socket fusion jointing technology saved a lot of time.“ The transitions from INSTAFLEX to the chrome steel press system in existing structures were accomplished with specially designed plastic press transitions.

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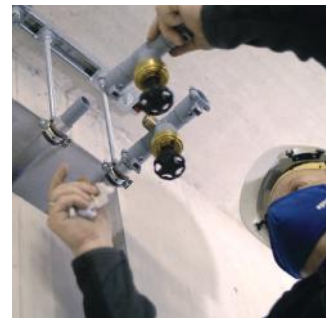
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Expansion of the second largest weapons site in Switzerland. Image: armasuisse Immobilien. Image title page: VIZE architectural rendering. Architecture: Baumschlager Eberle Architects



Steger plumbers are professionals at installing INSTAFLEX.



The installation of system valves is very easy.

Benefits of INSTAFLEX

- Wide dimension range d16-d315
- 4 possible jointing technologies with one type of pipe
- 1 fusion device for 10 dimensions
- Totally corrosion and incrustation free
- Hygienically flawless
- Great ecological balance

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