



CALFLO* Reduces Heat Transfer Fluid Change-Outs by 50% at Charlotte Pipe!



Charlotte Pipe

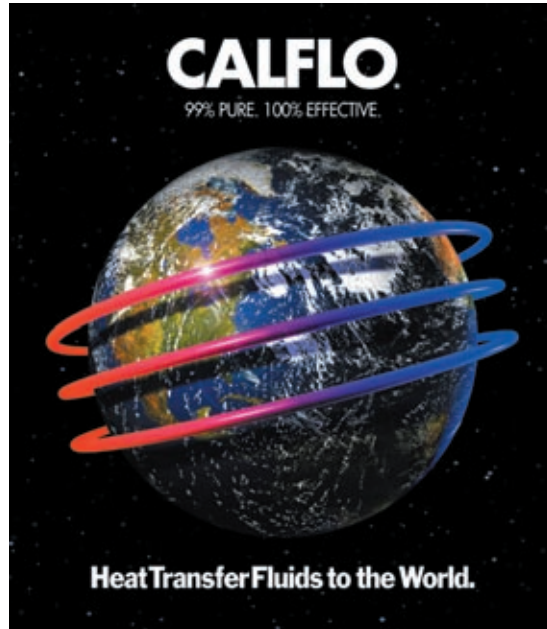
Reduces Number of Heat Transfer Fluid Change-Outs by 50%

Most plant managers operating heat transfer equipment in the plastics sector have become accustomed to replenishing their heat transfer fluid every four to six months. Each time they undertake the process they have to shut down the entire production system – resulting in lost manufacturing time. Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company of Muncy, Pennsylvania, was determined to save money and increase productivity by operating with fewer change-outs.

As one of the world's leading pipe and plastics manufacturers, Charlotte Pipe uses heat transfer fluids to convert thousands of pounds of raw materials into plastic PVC pipe. Since PVC manufacturing requires heat transfer systems to operate continuously at temperatures of up to 300°C (572°F), the company's heat transfer fluids are constantly being placed under a high level of stress. Under these difficult circumstances, the best change-out period Charlotte Pipe could achieve was six months.

Dave Feggstad, a plant manager for over 12 years at Charlotte Pipe in Muncy, understands the challenges that PVC manufacturing poses for heat transfer fluids.

"The PVC plastic we are using has lots of calcium carbonate, so it creates a lot of excess friction heat," Feggstad explains. "If this heat is not removed, it raises the temperature of the operating surface and ultimately deteriorates the quality of our product. We rely on our heat transfer fluid to remove excess heat and ensure that the integrity of our products is maintained.



When we're not getting the heat transfer fluid performance we need, we have to shut down the whole production line to re-fill the heat transfer system."

Under Feggstad's direction, Charlotte Pipe has managed to break the cycle of frequent fluid change-outs. For the past five years, Feggstad has been using Petro-Canada's CALFLO AF heat transfer fluid in the company's Cincinnati Milacron CM-80 plastic extruders. Feggstad decided to make the switch to Petro-Canada after

doing a head-to-head comparison between CALFLO AF and his previous leading brand of heat transfer fluid. The tests revealed that the old brand was creating a lot of excess sludge in the extruders and clogging up the system.

"After conducting the tests, we realized conclusively that our old heat transfer fluid was giving us a lot of unnecessary problems," says Feggstad. "It was oxidizing, breaking down prematurely and leaving a lot of sludge build up in our oil tanks and extruders. But when we tested CALFLO AF in the same system, we noticed that it didn't have any of these problems. CALFLO AF has a longer fluid life, stands up better to higher temperatures and doesn't create any sludge. With CALFLO AF, we only have to change out our heat transfer systems once a year."

CALFLO AF is a premium heat transfer fluid blended from Petro-Canada's 99.9 % pure severely hydrocracked HT base oil and patented additive package. This heat transfer fluid is non-toxic and virtually odorless, and does not pose any risk to worker health and safety. It is designed for use in non-pressurized, indirectly heated, liquid phase heat transfer systems that operate continuously at temperatures of up to 316°C (600°F).



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It contains specially formulated anti-oxidative chemistry which helps it to stave off oxidation and lower operating costs by providing longer fluid life and less change-outs versus the competition. CALFLO AF is currently being used in plastics, rubber, die-casting and aluminum manufacturing plants and many more applications around the world.

Feggstad is pleased that he has been able to find additional applications for CALFLO AF in other branches of the company. “After seeing the results we obtained here at the Foundry Plant, we are starting to use CALFLO AF at our other facilities in North Carolina, Texas and Florida,” says Feggstad. “CALFLO’s long fluid life helps us stay competitive by saving us time and money.”

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