



**Polypropylene**

**RA7050-LG**

**Polypropylene Random Copolymer for Pressure Pipe Systems**

**Description**

PP-RCT (PolyPropylene-Random Crystallinity Temperature) is a material classification defined in ISO 1043-1:2001 to describe the second-generation class of PP-R materials. This pipe class, PP-RCT, has recently been included in EN ISO 15874, the global standard for plastics piping systems for Hot and Cold Water pipe installations and enable increased performance and competitiveness for pipe producers.

RA7050-LG is a PP-RCT polypropylene-random-copolymer with a special crystallinity brought about by a special beta-nucleation which exhibits an improved pressure resistance, especially at elevated temperatures. PP-RCT materials such as RA7050-LG are designed to fulfil the PP-RCT pipe class as described in the EN ISO 15874 standard, e.g. 50 years service life at 70°C at 5 MPa, compared to 3.2 MPa for standard PP-R materials when tested according to the ISO 9080 pipe pressure tests.

RA7050-LG is ready compounded for maximum quality control. The colour of RA7050-LG is light grey similar to RAL 7032.

**Applications**

In general RA7050-LG is intended to be used in applications for plumbing and heating, such as in-house hot and cold water pipes and fittings, floor and wall heating systems and radiator connections.

**Physical Properties\*\***

		Typical Value*	Unit	Test Method
Density		905	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	ISO 1183
Melt Flow Rate	(230°C/2.16 kg)	0.25	g/10 min	ISO 1133
Tensile Stress at Yield	(50 mm/min)	25	MPa	ISO 527-2
Tensile Strain at Yield	(50 mm/min)	10	%	ISO 527-2
Tensile Modulus		900	MPa	ISO 178
Charpy Impact Strength, notched	(+23°C)	40	kJ/m <sup>2</sup>	ISO 179/1eA
Charpy Impact Strength, notched	(0°C)	4	kJ/m <sup>2</sup>	ISO 179/1eA
Charpy Impact Strength, notched	(-20°C)	2	kJ/m <sup>2</sup>	ISO 179/1eA
Mean Linear Thermal Coefficient of Expansion from 0°C to 70°C		1.5	*10 <sup>-4</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>	DIN 53752
Thermal Conductivity		0.24	WK <sup>-1</sup> m <sup>-1</sup>	DIN 52612 Part 1

\* Data should not be used for specification work.

\*\* Measured on standard moulded specimens.

**Processing guidelines**

**Pipe Extrusion**

Pipes made of RA7050-LG are produced on single screw extruders of 30D or more in length. They are preferably equipped with a grooved and intensely cooled feed zone. Conventional die heads, like spider mandrel, spiral melt distributor or screen cage dies, can be used as forming tools. The use of a screen pack (sieve 60 to 100 mesh) is recommended to ensure quality during production.

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In general, vacuum tank calibration is used with a sizing sleeve or disc calibrator. A sizing sleeve with integrated water ring is recommended to prevent the melt from sticking in the sizing sleeve. Alternatively, a separate spray ring can be connected prior to the vacuum tank.

The cold temperature impact performance of RA7050-LG pipes depends on the processing. Diagram 1 illustrates the influence of different processing conditions on the impact behaviour at 0°C.

In order to avoid the manufacture of pipes that show a brittle behaviour at the freezing temperature the following recommendations shall be followed. It is essential that the melt temperature of the material leaving the die head lies between 220–230°C. This is achieved by setting the extruder cylinder temperatures in the range of 215–230°C and the tool temperatures in the range of 220–230°C. The specified melt temperature range provides a homogeneously and thoroughly molten polymer; a prerequisite to achieve an optimum crystal structure. Furthermore, the defined melt temperature level results in a favourable heat transfer rate for the development of the right form and degree of crystallinity.

In addition to the appropriate extruder settings the impact performance can further be enhanced by an arrangement of cooling tanks that allow for an in-line annealing or by a post-extrusion annealing process. These measures to optimise the impact performance are optional.

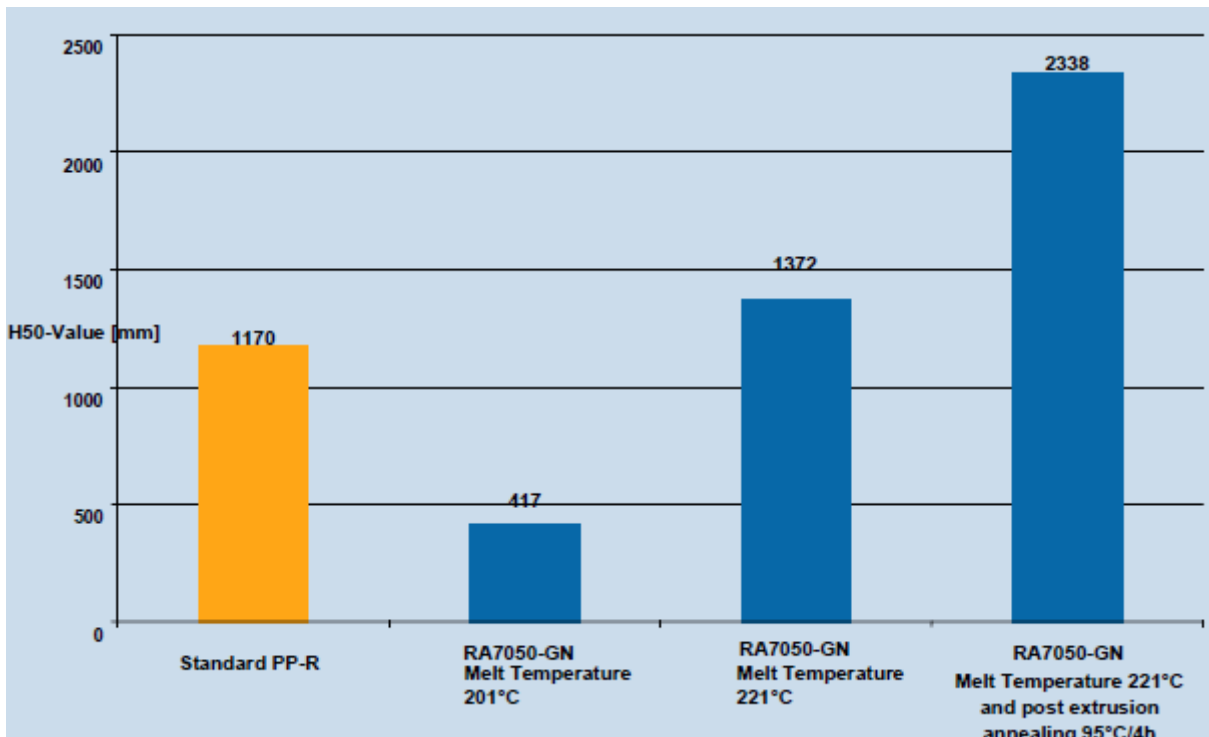


Diagram 1. Impact performance of pipes 25 x 3,5 mm measured at 0°C according to the EN 1411 (as performed on RA7050-GN)

### Injection Moulding of Fittings

RA7050-LG can be processed on every modern injection moulding equipment with screw plasticators. Machine parameters and processing conditions used for standard PP-R can be applied to RA7050-LG. The temperature

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settings shall be selected such that the polymer temperature increases uniformly; ideally from 200°C at the feed hopper to 220–250°C at the injection nozzle. At no time should the mass temperature exceed 250°C as degradation of the material will start to take place.

As the melt temperature during injection moulding of fittings is usually above 220°C the right form and degree of crystallinity is attained thereby a good low temperature impact behaviour level is achieved.

To obtain a stable and homogeneous melt it is best to choose a dosing volume between 1D and 3D. Outside these limits irregular filling of the mould, air inclusions or surface streaks may arise.

### Storage and handling

RA7050-LG should be stored in dry conditions at temperatures below 50°C and protected from UV-light. Improper storage can initiate degradation, which results in odour generation and colour changes and can have negative effects on the physical properties of the product.

### Safety

RA7050-LG is not classified as dangerous preparation.

Dust and fines from the product carry a risk of dust explosion. All equipment should be properly earthed. Inhalation of dust should be avoided as it may cause irritation of the respiratory system. Small amounts of fumes are generated during processing of the product. Proper ventilation is therefore required.

### Recycling

The product is suitable for recycling using modern methods of shredding and cleaning. In-house production waste should be kept clean to facilitate direct recycling.

A Product Safety Information Sheet is available on request. Please contact your Borealis representative for more details on various aspects of safety, recovery and disposal of the product.

### Limitation of use

This product is not sold for pipe applications in North America.

### Related documents

The following related documents are available on request, and represent various aspects on the usability, safety, recovery and disposal of the product.

Recovery and disposal of polyolefins  
Information on emissions from processing and fires  
Product Safety information Sheet (PSIS)  
Statement on chemicals, regulations and standards

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