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Curved Alignment and Radius Pipe

A Straightforward Application for a Curved Product

Written by: Henry Lu, EIT



Underground sewer lines can bend and curve as much as the road structure above it so the need to achieve a curved alignment exists. Radius Reinforced Concrete Pipe offers an ideal solution for curved gravity sewer lines with the added benefits of:

- Allowing for sewer lines with tighter curves.
- Potentially reducing the need for additional manhole structures.
- Maintaining the hydrostatic resistance of the joints.

Many municipalities install sewer pipe around existing infrastructure which can greatly limit the designer's options for moving the location of the sewer line. It may not be practical or economical to use a series of manhole structures to generate a segmented curve. There are two methods to consider to achieve a curved sewer alignment:

Method 1 – Pulling Joints of Regular RCP

The idea of deflected pipe alignment is to let each pipe connection contribute to a portion of the total radius .The manufacturing standard for reinforced concrete pipe, ASTM C76, allows for a maximum joint gap of 13mm (1/2 ") between pipe segments. The joints are still water-tight in this alignment and a gradual curve may be achieved.

The biggest advantage to this method is the lower manufacturing cost as all standard RCP can be used in the configuration. It's ideal for gradual curves but could be insufficient if a tighter radius is required.



Method 2 – Using Radius RCP

Radius RCP enables a tighter-curved sewer alignment than simply pulling standard RCP; this is due to its manufacturing process where one edge of the joint form is dropped while casting the concrete. When the form is stripped, the finished product is a pipe segment with an angled joint. From each drop at the pipe connection, a portion of curvature can be achieved. Beyond being able to achieve a smaller radius for a sewer line, radius pipe can be installed with no joint gaps.



Method 1 & 2 Combined – Pulling Joints of Radius RCP

Pulling the joints of radius pipe to the maximum allowed 13mm gap enables the tightest possible radius for a curved sewer line. The following table from Inland Pipe's catalogue shows the comparison between these methods:

| PIPE LENGTH (mm) STANDARD 2500mm | | | RADIUS PIPE (mm) MAX DROP 0.75" | | | DEFLECTED STRAIGHT PIPE (mm) MAX PULL 13mm | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------|---------------------------------|---------|--|--|----------|-----------|
| SIZE | ACTUAL ID | WALL | WALL | PIPE OD | MINIMUM RADIUS ACHIEVABLE (TIGHTEST CURVE) | | | |
| (mm) | (mm) | ТҮРЕ | (mm) | (mm) | DROP (m) | | PULL (m) | COMBO (m) |
| 300 | 305 | C | 70 | 445 | 58.2 | | 85.5 | 34.7 |
| 375 | 381 | C | 76 | 534 | 69.7 | | 102.6 | 41.6 |
| 450 | 457 | C | 83 | 622 | 81.3 | | 119.6 | 48.5 |
| 525 | 533 | C | 89 | 711 | 92.9 | | 136.7 | 55.4 |
| 600 | 610 | C | 95 | 801 | 104.7 | | 154.0 | 62.4 |
| 675 | 686 | C | 102 | 889 | 116.3 | | 171.0 | 69.4 |
| 750 | 762 | C | 108 | 978 | 127.9 | | 188.1 | 76.3 |
| 900 | 914 | C | 121 | 1155 | 151.0 | | 222.2 | 90.1 |
| 1050 | 1067 | C | 133 | 1334 | 174.4 | | 256.5 | 104.0 |
| 1200 | 1219 | C | 146 | 1511 | 197.6 | | 290.6 | 117.9 |
| 1350 | 1372 | C | 159 | 1690 | 220.9 | | 324.9 | 131.8 |
| 1500 | 1524 | C | 172 | 1867 | 244.1 | | 359.0 | 145.6 |
| 1650 | 1676 | C | 184 | 2044 | 267.3 | | 393.1 | 159.5 |
| 1800 | 1829 | C | 197 | 2223 | 290.6 | | 427.5 | 173.4 |
| 1950 | 1981 | C | 210 | 2400 | 313.8 | | 461.6 | 187.2 |
| 2100 | 2134 | C | 222 | 2579 | 337.1 | | 495.9 | 201.1 |
| 2400 | 2438 | C | 248 | 2933 | 383.5 | | 564.1 | 228.8 |
| 2700 | 2748 | C | 274 | 3295 | 430.8 | | 633.7 | 257.0 |
| 3000 | 3048 | В | 279 | 3607 | 471.5 | | 693.6 | 281.3 |

Figure 5 – Curved Alignment Table



Contact us for all your precast needs:

Justin Arnott, P.Eng. Technical Marketing Manager, Canada Region Cell: (403) 370-5956 Phone: (403) 720-9324 Justin.Arnott@lehighhanson.com www.inlandpipe.com

Tyson Dyck, EIT

Technical Sales and Marketing Cell: (587) 990-8903 Phone: (780) 448-1351 Tyson.Dyck@lehighcement.com www.inlandpipe.com

Tannis Karklin, EIT Technical Sales and Marketing Cell: (204)-250-5270 Phone: (204)-336-5013 Tannis.Karklin@lehighhanson.com www.inlandpipe.com

INLAND Pipe HEIDELBERGCEMENTGroup

OCEAN PIPE

9265 Oak St. Vancouver, BC V6P 4B8 Office tel: 604 269 6700 Fax: 604 261 6751

British Columbia Southern Alberta

INLAND PIPE 7336 112th Ave. NW Calgary, AB T3R 1R8 Toll free tel: 1888 788 221 Toll free tel: 1 800 268 0785 Office tel: 403 279 5531 Fax: 403 279 7648

Northern Alberta

INI AND PIPE 12250 170 Street Edmonton, AB T5V 1L7 Tel: 780 448 1351 Fax: 780 448 1354

Saskatchewan

INI AND PIPE 300 10th Ave. Regina, SK, S4N 6G7 Toll Free tel: 1877 974 7473 Office tel: 204 334 4300 Fax: 204 334 7957

Manitoba

INLAND PIPE 2494 Ferrier St. Winnipeg, MB, R2V 4P6 Toll Free tel: 1 877 974 7473 Office tel: 204 334 4300 Fax: 204 334 7957