

Tuff-N-Nuff® Rockshield for Pipe / Coating Protection

Description Tuff-N-Nuff® is a rockshield comprised of small diameter (approximately 0.050”) strands of flexible PVC which form a porous, non-woven mat. These strands are bonded to each other in a controlled random pattern during production. Tuff-N-Nuff® protects pipeline coatings from direct impact during backfill operations. It also provides long-term protection by keeping hard objects in the backfill from coming into contact with the pipeline coating. Tuff-N-Nuff® also protects the pipeline coating from these abrasive objects as lateral and longitudinal movements occur once the pipeline is placed into service. In addition, Tuff-N-Nuff® does not shield cathodic protection being supplied to pipelines.

Where to Use Steel and plastic pipelines

- Advantages**
- Laboratory and field tested to protect FBE coated steel from rocky or harsh backfill material.
 - Outstanding impact resistance results in the modified ASTM G-13 rock drop testing.
 - Porous and random strand matrix design does not shield cathodic protection.
 - PVC product construction reduces the impact load transfer onto the pipe during backfilling.
 - Durable product which exhibits excellent physical and performance properties.
 - Flexible, lightweight material allows for a quick and inexpensive installation process, even in extreme arctic temperatures.
 - Custom sizes are available for every pipeline diameter size (zero waste).
 - Product was designed and has been sold specifically as a rockshield for nearly 30 years.
 - Manufacturing capacity to support large scale pipeline projects.
 - Specified for use as a rockshield by some of largest pipeline owners in the world.
 - Safety yellow color helps to identify the pipeline during dig ups.

Typical Data

Physical Property Data – 9.52 mm (3/8”) Tuff-N-Nuff Rockshield

Property	Test Method	Typical Results*
Impact Resistance	ASTM G13 (Modified)	No failure @ 6” rock ¹
Puncture Strength	ASTM D6241 (Modified)	150 lbs
Tear Strength	ASTM D4533	150 lbs/in
Compressive Strength	ASTM D1621	2.20 lbs/in ² @ 10% deflection
Diaphragm Burst	ASTM D3787	150 lbs
Abrasion Resistance	ASTM D4886	75 psi
Grab Strength	ASTM D4632	99 lbs & 100% elongation at break
Low Temp Brittleness	ASTM D746	>-65°F (exceeded chamber capability)
Bacteria Resistance	ASTM G22	No Growth
Density	ASTM D792	0.860 (Minimum)
Cathodic Protection	Custom	No inhibiting effect
Melt Temperature	Custom	320°F

¹Test modified to include rocks which progress in size from 1 ½”, 3”, 4” and 6”, 10 drops each. Each drop consisted of released 50+ lbs of stone from a height of 6’ onto a fusion bonded epoxy coated steel plate protected by Tuff-N-Nuff. The FBE coated steel plate is visually inspected for holidays after each drop.

*Results may differ based upon statistical variations depending upon equipment, temperature, application methods, test methods, and actual site conditions.



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Waterproofing

Coverage

Tuff-N-Nuff® is available in two standard product thicknesses - 1/4" and 3/8" (6.35 mm and 9.52 mm). Rolls are provided for pipeline diameters up to and including 20", with a width matching the pipeline circumference plus a nominal 4-inch overlap. Standard rolls are 30 feet long, but can be produced in any practical length that can be easily lifted on the jobsite, typically not exceeding 60 feet in length. Pads are provided for pipelines greater than 20" in diameter, with a width matching the pipeline circumference plus a nominal 4-inch overlap. Standard pad lengths are 72" (36" width available upon request).

How to Use

Application

Tuff-N-Nuff® is installed in one of three ways, depending on pipeline diameter, available equipment, and contractor's preference.

For pipelines measuring 20" in diameter or less, the "cigarette wrap" method is recommended. Unroll Tuff-N-Nuff® rolls along the top of the pipe allowing the free edges to hang down. The width of the Tuff-N-Nuff® roll is matched to the circumference of the pipe and includes a nominal overlap of 4". Secure the free edges in place with monofilament tape or nonmetallic strapping overlapping the ends at the 6 o'clock position of the pipe for maximum protection.

For pipelines measuring 22" in diameter or more, 72" long Tuff-N-Nuff® pads are available from the factory cut to a width matching the circumference of the pipe. Pads are wrapped around the circumference of the pipe, with ends overlapped approximately 2" to 4" at the 6 o'clock position. Pads are secured in place with monofilament tape or nonmetallic strapping. Pads are placed in this manner along the length of the pipe with an edge overlap of 1" to 2".

The third method of installing Tuff-N-Nuff® is spiral wrapping. Tuff-N-Nuff® can be purchased in roll form and spiral wrapped around the pipe by hand or with a spiral wrap tape machine.

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