

KITEC SUPPLY PIPING MADE IN CANADA BY IPEX aka PLUMB BETTER, IPEX AQUA, WARMRITE, KITEC XPA, AMBIO COMFORT, XPA, KERR CONTROLS.

What is Kitec

Kitec plumbing is aluminum pipe between an inner & outer layer of plastic (also known as PEX). Kitec was marketed as a cheaper alternative to copper water supply piping and was sold between 1995 & 2007 for potable water supplies. Kitec sizing required fittings made from its own manufacturer - IPEX. These fittings were made with a high Zinc content that caused dezincification in certain water conditions that would cause the fittings to corrode & fail completely causing flooding & water damage to the homes.

Legal Matters

Kitec's Canadian manufacturer (IPEX) as well as the above plumbing brands using the Kitec products are currently involved in massive class action lawsuits that as of 3/14/2016 have reached into the hundreds of millions of dollars due to the failures of not only their fittings but the actual piping material itself.

Who is affected

Kitec has been extensively installed in New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, Los Angeles, & Sacramento. One of the biggest builders to have installed Kitec in its sub divisions has been Del Webb who has been building homes in Nevada, Arizona, & here in the Sacramento area.

Where is Kitec likely to be found

Kitec was sold between 1995 & 2007 which means it can be found in newer homes that were constructed in that time frame as well as homes that were renovated during that time frame.

How to identify Kitec

Most Kitec plumbing can be identified by its bright blue color (cold water) & its bright orange color (hot water). However it has also been sold red, dark blue, gray, & black. The Kitec pipe is typically marked as **KITEC Made in Canada by IPEX** but can also be stamped with one of the above brand names. A qualified home inspector & qualified licensed plumbing contractor should be able to identify if the Pex piping in your house is Kitec or a product of IPEX.

Bottom line

Consensus with experts in the industry is that Kitec **WILL** fail at some time.

