

# Reducing the corrosion risk from hydrotesting new pipelines

Hydrostatic testing is a critical period when newly constructed pipelines are pressure tested with water to make sure there are no leaks before oil or gas starts flowing through the vessels. Savcor Products Australia provides practical corrosion inhibiting hydrotesting technologies to ensure pipelines can continue to operate safely and efficiently.

Over the years, experience has shown that water alone will result in flash corrosion on the internal surfaces of a pipeline. The longer the hydrotesting or construction process, the greater the risk that the pipeline will start to rust inside prior to commissioning.

By the time crews finish hydrotesting the entire pipeline, they may even return to the first segment of pipeline only to discover it has rusted in the meantime, with the subsequent cleaning process requiring additional time and resources to meet specifications.

Dewatering is one way to reduce the risk of corrosion after hydrotesting by running pigs through to remove as much water as possible. Using a corrosion inhibitor additive is another excellent solution as it minimises the need for dewatering and cleaning and can also provide extended protection after hydrotesting.

Cortec® Corporation is a leader in practical corrosion inhibiting technologies that are user friendly and minimise environmental impact, with one of its most popular hydrotesting technologies being VpCI®-649 for use in freshwater hydrotesting applications.

VpCI-649 is a unique concentrated liquid formulation that protects ferrous and non-ferrous metals. It combines contact and vapor-phase corrosion inhibitors to help reach all metal surfaces inside the pipeline, below and above the surface of the water.

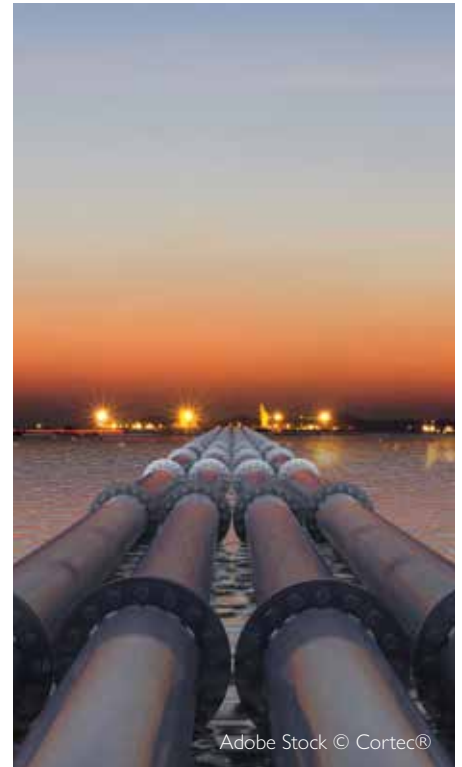
VpCI-649 also leaves behind a corrosion inhibiting film that provides up to two years of corrosion protection after hydrotesting while the pipeline is waiting to come online. It does not contain nitrites, phosphates, or chromates, therefore presenting an overall friendlier profile for disposal.

Oftentimes, pipelines are constructed in coastal or offshore environments, where an abundance of seawater offers a convenient source of hydrotesting water – however, as saltwater is highly corrosive and may end up doing more harm than good, Cortec offers a couple of solutions to mitigate this problem.

VpCI-645 Marine Use Corrosion Inhibitor is a concentrated formula that provides effective corrosion protection against high chloride solutions, such as saltwater and brine. For those on a tighter budget, EcoLine® VpCI-642 is a more economical alternative specially designed for hydrotesting with seawater.

Both products contain 93 per cent USDA certified biobased content and have qualities that create a friendlier disposal profile. Pipeline hydrotesting is necessary but corrosion is not, and by using the right VpCI corrosion inhibitor additives, the need for post-hydrotesting cleaning and rust removal can be eliminated or greatly reduced.

These products are available through Savcor Products Australia in Australia and New Zealand. **P**



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For more information  
please contact your local  
Savcor Products representative  
on **1800 SAVCOR** or visit  
[www.savcorproducts.com.au](http://www.savcorproducts.com.au)



## Products for the Pipeline Industry

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### Cathodic Protection Materials:

- Cortec VpCI Preservation Materials
- Sacrificial anodes (Zn, Mg, Al)
- Corrosometer resistance probes
- Gypsum bentonite backfill
- Dehn & Sohne IEC Certified Spark Gap Arresters
- Surge Protectors
- Borin Permanent & Portable electrodes
- Loresco Coke Backfill
- APS Flange Insulation Kits
- Radolid Nuts Protectors

### Pipeline Fittings & Equipment:

- Pipeline pigs and equipment including:
- Foam, Poly Coated & Wire Brush Pigs
  - Monolithic Insulating Joints
  - Hot Tapping Equipment
  - Wachs Pipe Cutting and Beveling
  - Pipe Seals, Pipe Clamps, Leak Repair
  - APS Casing Spacers
  - Impressed Current & Sacrificial Anodes

Trusted Supplier of Cathodic Protection & Prevention materials in Australia.

**Melbourne**  
T: 03 9764 2651  
E: [melbourne@savcor.com.au](mailto:melbourne@savcor.com.au)

**Sydney**  
T: 02 9807 4542  
E: [sydney@savcor.com.au](mailto:sydney@savcor.com.au)

**Brisbane**  
T: 07 5549 2248  
E: [brisbane@savcor.com.au](mailto:brisbane@savcor.com.au)

**Perth**  
T: 08 6240 3900  
E: [perth@savcor.com.au](mailto:perth@savcor.com.au)