

**No: 2005 OPSC Section 1317.10
2005 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code**

Code Section: Section 1317.10

Code Edition: 2005 Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code

Date: December 12, 2005

Subject: Level 3 Medical Vacuum Systems

Question: In Section 1317.10 of the OPSC only copper pipe is addressed for Level 3 vacuum systems and in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 99C - 2002 Gas and Vacuum Systems standard Sections 5.3.10.2.3, allows PVC Schedule 40 plastic pipe to be used. Can Schedule 40 PVC pipe and fittings be used for Level 3 vacuum systems?

Answer: Yes.

Analysis: OAR 918-690-0420(11), states that medical gas means any gas and vacuum system intended for medical and dental procedures within the scope of NFPA 99C-2002 standard and Sections 5.3.10.2.3, 5.3.10.3.4 and 5.3.10.6 of the standard specifically allows PVC plastic pipe and fittings, Schedule 40 minimum, to be used for field installed Level 3 vacuum systems.

Also, OAR 918-750-0110(1)(d), lists the NFPA 99C - 2002 standard as part of the OPSC. Therefor, both provisions in section 1317.10 of the OPSC and the sections in the NFPA 99C standard allowing PVC for Level 3 vacuum systems may be applied and either copper pipe or Schedule 40 PVC materials may be used.

Contact: DCBS, Chief Plumbing Inspector Terry Swisher
terry.l.swisher@state.or.us
(503) 373-7488

