

# INSUL-TUBE®

CLOSED CELL FLEXIBLE ELASTOMERIC  
FOAM INSULATION



## DESCRIPTION ▶

K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® is an NBR/PVC-based closed cell, flexible elastomeric foam insulation. It is environmentally-friendly as it is free of CFCs, HFCs, HCFCs, PBDEs, formaldehyde and fibers. An EPA-registered antimicrobial agent is incorporated into the product providing additional protection against mold, fungal and bacterial growth. It is UL GREENGUARD® Gold Certified for low VOC emissions. The product's key physical properties are approved by Factory Mutual. The product is made in K-FLEX USA's ISO 9001:2008-certified manufacturing facility in North Carolina.

## AVAILABILITY ▶

K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® is black in color and is available in non-slit, 6' length tube form in wall thicknesses of 3/8" up to 2" in diameter sizes ranging from 3/8" I.D. to 8" IPS. (ID range is subject to variation depending on wall thickness).

## APPLICATION ▶

K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® is recommended for applications with service temperatures ranging from -297°F (-182°C) to +220°F (+104°C). For applications below -40°F (-40°C), contact K-FLEX technical support. The product is used to retard heat gain and prevent condensation or frost formation on below-ambient applications, including refrigerant, cold water plumbing, chilled water, and industrial process lines, among others. It can be used with heat tracing tapes. It also retards heat loss from medium hot systems, including hot water plumbing, liquid heating, dual temperature, and solar thermal piping, among others.

## OUTDOOR APPLICATION ▶

K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® is made from a UV-resistant elastomeric blend. For lowto-moderate UV exposure (residential applications), no additional protection is needed. For severe UV exposure (rooftop applications) or for optimum performance, K-FLEX® 374 Protective Coating, approved jacketing or K-FLEX Clad® is recommended.

## UNDERGROUND APPLICATIONS ▶

K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® is acceptable for use in buried applications using the same installation principles as above ground applications. For lines above the water table, use a clean fill such as sand (3"-5" layer) to protect the insulation before backfilling. For optimum performance, the lines should be encased in a conduit to protect them from problems associated with ground water intrusion and compaction. If a conduit is not used, the insulation thickness should be increased by one thickness size to compensate for compaction.

## INSTALLATIONS ▶

K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® is flexible (even at low temperatures), durable (non-fracturing and skin is resistant to tearing from handling and environment), safe to handle (non-dusting and non-abrasive), and lightweight for an efficient installation. K-FLEX recommends that insulation is installed on non-operational systems with clean, dry surfaces in ambient conditions between 40°F and 100°F. Properly sized insulation tubing can be slid over piping (tubing should be pushed, not pulled) or, when applied to existing lines, can be slit lengthwise (using a sharp, non-serrated knife) and fitted into place. All seams, butt joints, termination points and open ends should be sealed with an approved contact adhesive, making sure both surfaces to be joined are coated. Longitudinal seams should face downward and vapor stops should be installed as needed. Fittings (elbows, tees, p-traps) and special parts (flanges, valves, etc.) can be field-fabricated from insulation tubes and sheets or K-Fit® factory-fabricated fittings can be used. ASTM C1710, Installation Guide for Flexible Closed Cell Foams, and the K-FLEX Installation Manual should be used as comprehensive installation guides.

## RESISTANCE TO MOISTURE VAPOR FLOW ▶

The expanded closed cell structure and unique formulation inherently resists

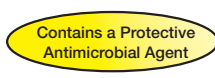
moisture vapor intrusion and is considered a Class 1 vapor retarder per ASHRAE. For most indoor applications, K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® needs no additional protection. Additional vapor barrier protection may be necessary when installed on cold surfaces that are exposed to continuous high humidity.

## FLAME AND SMOKE RATING ▶

K-FLEX® INSUL-TUBE® in wall thicknesses of 2" (50 mm) and below has a flame spread rating of 25 or less and a smoke development rating of 50 or less as tested to ASTM E84, "Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials". It is acceptable for duct/plenum applications, meeting the requirements of NFPA 90A/B. Numerical flammability ratings alone may not define the performance of products under actual fire conditions. They are provided only for use in the selection of products to meet limits specified when compared to a known standard.

### SPECIFICATION COMPLIANCE

- ASTM C534 Type 1, Grade 1
- ASTM D1056-00-2B1
- New York City MEA 186-86-M Vol. V
- USDA Compliant
- CFIA Compliant
- RoHS Compliant
- UL 94-5V Flammability Classification (#E300774)
- ASTM E84 25/50-rated (to 2") - tested to UL 723, NFPA 255 and CAN/ULC S102-03
- FMVSS 302
- FAR 25.853
- FMRC Approval Guide: Chapter 14 Pipe Insulation
- NFPA No. 101 Class A Rating
- NFPA 90A, 90B
- MIL-P-15280, Form T
- Meets requirements of California ECB Title 24
- UL GREENGUARD® Gold Certified
- Meets energy code requirements of ASHRAE 90.1 and 189.1



**TECHNICAL DATA ▶**

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES		INSUL-TUBE®	TEST METHODS
<b>Thermal Conductivity (K)</b>	<b>90°F (32°C) Mean Temp</b>	0.258 (0.0372)	
<b>BTU - in/hr - Ft² - °F (W/mK)</b>	<b>75°F (24°C) Mean Temp</b>	0.245 (0.0353)	ASTM C 177
	<b>32°F (0°C) Mean Temp</b>	0.235 (0.0339)	
<b>Density</b>		3-6 lb/ft³	ASTM D 1667
<b>Operating Temperature Range</b>		-297°F* (-183°C) to +220°F (+104°C)	ASTM C534
<b>Water Vapor Permeability (Dry Cup)</b>		<0.01 perm-in	ASTM E96
<b>Water Absorption (Volume Change)</b>		0%	ASTM C209
<b>Flame Spread / Smoke Development (up to 2" wall)</b>		<25/50	ASTM E84
<b>Dimensional Stability</b>		<7% Linear Shrinkage	ASTM C534
<b>Hot Surface Performance (250°F for 96 hours)</b>		No Cracking or Delamination	ASTM C411
<b>Ozone Resistance</b>		Pass	ASTM D1171
<b>Odor Emissions</b>		No Objectionable Odor	ASTM C1304
<b>Chemical/Solvent/Oil/Grease Resistance</b>		Good	Compatibility Data Available on Request
<b>Flexibility</b>		Excellent Pass: Cold Crack Test at -40°F (-40°C)	ASTM C534 ASTM D1056
<b>Mildew Growth Resistance/Air Erosion</b>		Pass	UL 181, ASTM G21
<b>Corrosion Risk</b>		pH neutral: 6.6±0.04	DIN 1988
<b>Leachable Chlorides</b>		<0.05% water-soluble chloride ions	DIN 1988
<b>UV / Weather Resistance¹</b>		Pass	QUV Chamber Test
<b>Sound Transmission Class (1")</b>		13	ASTM E90

\*For applications below -40°F (-40°C), contact K-FLEX technical support. 1  
 ¹ Outdoor applications should be protected with an approved K-FLEX® coating or cladding.

**THICKNESS RECOMMENDATIONS - TO PREVENT CONDENSATION**

SERVICE TEMPERATURE	50°F (10°C)			35°F (2°C)			0°F (-18°C)			-20°F (-29°C)		
	Mild	Normal	Severe	Mild	Normal	Severe	Mild	Normal	Severe	Mild	Normal	Severe
<b>Pipe Size</b>												
3/8" ID to 1-1/8" ID	3/8"	3/8"	3/4"	3/8"	1/2"	3/4"	1/2"	3/4"	1-1/2"	1/2"	1"	1-1/2"
1-3/8" ID to 3" IPS	3/8"	3/8"	3/4"	3/8"	3/4"	1"	1/2"	1"	1-1/2"	3/4"	1-1/2"	1-1/2"
4" IPS to 8" IPS	1/2"	1/2"	3/4"	1/2"	3/4"	1"	3/4"	1"	2"	3/4"	1-1/2"	2"

Thickness listed for the specified ranges will prevent condensation on indoor piping under the defined design conditions. Normal: 85°F and 70% R.H. Mild: Most air conditioned spaces and arid climates: 80°F and 50% R.H. Severe: Areas where excessive moisture is introduced or in poorly ventilated areas where the temperature may be depressed below the ambient: 90°F and 80% R.H. Contact K-FLEX technical support for additional information.

**PIPE "R" VALUES PER SQUARE FOOT (ALL SIZES ARE NOMINAL)**

NOMINAL INSULATION I.D.	3/8" WALL	1/2" WALL	3/4" WALL	1" WALL	1-1/2" WALL	2" WALL
3/8"	2.7	3.6	5.6	8.5	14.6	20.4
1/2"	2.5	3.4	5.4	7.9	13.5	18.9
5/8"	2.5	3.3	5.4	7.5	12.8	17.8
3/4"	2.3	3.1	5.4	7.5	12.4	16.8
7/8"	2.3	3.2	5.4	7.2	11.6	16.1
1-1/8"	2.2	3.1	5.5	7.1	10.8	15.8
1-3/8"	2.2	3.2	5.3	7.3	10.2	14.9
1-5/8"	2.4	3.1	5.1	7.1	9.8	14.6
1-1/2" IPS	2.0	2.6	4.4	6.2	9.9	13.8
2-1/8"	2.3	3.0	4.9	6.6	9.2	13.6
2" IPS	2.3	2.9	4.8	6.5	9.0	13.3
2-1/2" IPS	2.3	3.0	4.6	6.3	8.6	12.6
2-5/8"	2.3	3.1	4.7	6.4	8.8	12.9
3-1/8"	2.3	3.0	4.6	6.2	8.5	12.4
3" IPS	2.3	3.2	4.6	6.1	8.3	12.2
3-5/8"	2.3	3.2	4.6	6.1	8.3	12.1
4-1/8"	2.3	3.1	4.6	6.0	8.1	11.7
4" IPS	2.2	3.2	4.6	5.5	8.0	11.6
5" IPS	-	3.0	4.5	5.7	7.7	11.1
6" IPS	-	3.0	4.4	5.6	7.5	10.9
8" IPS	-	2.9	4.2	5.3	7.2	-



**K-FLEX USA LLC** 100 K-Flex Way, Youngsville, NC 27596  
 Phone: 800-765-6475  
 info@kflexusa.com  
 www.kflexusa.com