

PRODUCT PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The Capiphon belt (“**Capiphon**”) is manufactured from high-quality virgin PVC.

- There may be some variation in width of the belt which arises from the manufacturing process and/or from subsequent splitting. This will be no more than 5% variation and will not affect the performance of the belt other than a marginal increase or decrease in capacity.
- The flexibility of the Capiphon belt is temperature dependent. It becomes less flexible in cold weather and will, under those conditions, often revert to its original coiled configuration. This is normal. Prior to installation we recommend laying the belt in the sunlight or a warm area to enable easier handling.
- Extreme temperature (over 100° Centigrade) together with extreme pressure may distort the PVC and occlude some of the grooves.
- The Capiphon belt is slightly hydrophobic – that is, it appears to repel water. This is normal and contributes to its performance, in that water will move out of the grooves when the surrounding soil dries out. The apparent water resistance of the Capiphon is only temporary and disappears when in the soil, due to the decrease in surface tension when in contact with the soil particles.

Benefits of Capiphon

When installed in accordance with the most current Installation Guidelines published by Capiphon Drainage Australia Pty Limited, Capiphon is claimed:

- 1) To be more effective than other commonly used sub-surface drainage systems such as slotted pipe and “French Drains”. By “more effective”, we mean that, in the trials we have undertaken:
 - a. Capiphon starts to flow earlier than other sub-surface drains;
 - b. Capiphon flows for longer than other sub-surface drains; and
 - c. Capiphon lowers the water table further than other sub-surface drains.

- 2) To Never Block.

By “never block”, we mean:

- a. Soil particles larger than approximately 0.3mm will not enter into the grooves; and
- b. Soil particles less than approximately 0.3mm may pass into one or more grooves but will either be flushed out over time or will remain in the groove without adversely affecting the ability of Capiphon to drain.
- c. [There are instances where Capiphon Drainage is still functioning after more than 20 years.](#)

3) To Cost Less than conventional slotted pipe drainage.

By “cost less”, we mean we anticipate you will enjoy savings from one or more of the following:

- a. By using a narrower trench;
- b. By using a shallower trench;
- c. By not requiring a geotextile cloth to prevent soil particles from entering into the system; and
- d. By backfilling with washed coarse sand instead of gravel which, although the price per cubic metre is similar, is easier to transport and handle.

Capiphon Life Expectancy

PVC in general has an extremely long life, especially if kept out of the sunlight and away from extreme heat (over 100° Centigrade).

PVC pipes have been approved for use for drinking water as well as for sewerage in most countries, with lifetimes expected to be in the hundreds of years.

Capiphon is soft PVC that contains plasticizers to make it more flexible. Generally, soft PVC will not last as long as hard, un-plasticized PVC, however it is still anticipated to last at least 25 years underground, and probably much longer.

Capiphon was first installed in Taiwan in 1999. It is still functional more than 20 years later.

For 3 years Capiphon was left outside on the surface in direct sunlight in Windsor, NSW, and in that time would have experienced air temperatures in the high 30s, as well as frosts. When examined after that period, there was no apparent detriment, and the belt was subsequently used in trials with no identified drop in functionality or performance.

If you would like more information about Capiphon, please visit our website at www.capiphon.com.au or contact Capiphon Drainage Australia Pty Limited. Our contact details are at the top of page 1 of this Product Performance Information Sheet.