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News Release

CURAFLO EPOXY PIPE LINING PROJECT UNDERWAY AT VILLA SAN LUIS REY CONDOMINIUMS IN OCEANSIDE

State-of the Art Epoxy Lining Creates a Pipe within a Pipe Without Jack-Hammering Slabs and Tearing into Walls

A major project of cleaning and restoring the hot and cold water pipes and the water circulating system with a state-of-the-art epoxy lining is underway at The Villas of San Luis Rey Condominiums HOA in Oceanside by Brinks Services and CuraFlo of San Diego.

With 48 tri-level units containing 948 connections each, the \$210,000 job is one of the largest epoxy-lining projects ever undertaken in North San Diego County. There are 12 one-bedroom, one-bath units; 36 two-bedroom, two-bath units. The complete hot and cold water system is copper, which is experiencing pinhole leaks due to the effects of water corrosion, deterioration from soil and electrolysis.

Brink explains that epoxy pipe lining is a process that cleans and lines corroded metal plumbing systems while adding an interior epoxy coating – a pipe within a pipe – that seals and protects pipe interiors from further corrosion and water contact. The epoxy flows into and through all pits, crevices, pinholes and fractures, bonding to the cleaned and prepared walls of the pipes.

Brinks Curaflo's work at Villa San Luis Rey carries an interior/exterior warranty of 15 years.

Prior to the development of epoxy lining technology with its hoses and mobile compressor, the usual solution involved jack-hammering the cement slab and tearing into the drywall to get at the leaks, removing old pipes and installing new ones. "Even re-piping with new copper pipes is no guarantee that the problem is solved for good," Brink observes.

Brink says the CuraFlo process stops the leaks without the fuss and muss of demolition. Hoses are connected to every angle stop and valve location, and the hoses run outside to a compressor and corundum cleaning equipment.

As the CuraFlo work crew tackles each suite or section of the Villas of San Luis Rey HOA piping system, they drain and then dry the isolated portion by sending heated, dry, oil and moisture free compressed air through the pipe. Then the pipes are cleaned to a "white metal finish" condition by shooting silica corundum down the line that blasts away corrosion and encrustation.

Finally, the inside of the pipes are coated with Curapoxy epoxy pipe coating material at an average thickness of 16 mils. The Curapoxy system equipment is capable of shooting the epoxy to a distance of 100 feet with what is described as "a vigorous vortex of hot air" while maintaining thickness uniformity, which can be adjusted from 7 mils to 1000 mils.

Following this process, the piping is reconnected using new copper fittings and new full-port ball valves, where applicable. New valves are installed at all water heaters and cold water main entry points for each building with a new pressure regulator as well.

After the barrier coating has cured in a short five hours with warm air, a pressure test is applied at 120 psi to assure a leak-free system. An instrument called a borescope is also fed through the pipes to verify a “white metal finish” and later to verify an even and thick coat.

Typically, the work crew needs only three or four days as it moves from unit to unit. Temporary warm water hoses are routed to the units to provide uninterrupted service.

According to Brink, CuraFlo has many advantages, not only for condominiums such as Villa San Luis Rey, but for all sorts of commercial projects including office buildings, medical centers and industrial complexes.

CuraFlo’s “stop leak” system is:

- Faster and less costly than traditional repiping methods
- Less disruptive -- tenants are able to inhabit the property while the service is taking place (clean environment)
- Causes no outage -- tenants are never without water service
- Improves water quality -- bacteria and viruses don't cling to epoxy
- Achieves better water flow -- corrosion won't build up on epoxy
- Eliminates traces of lead and copper from drinking water -- epoxy barrier prevents water from reacting with metal surfaces
- Brings pipes up to current EPA regulations

“In addition, this Curapoxy product we use is thicker and more reliable than our competitors’ products, and it has the required commercial rating of 180 degrees, which is a higher temperature than our competitors can handle,” Brink asserted.