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(54) Title: APPARATUS FOR FORMING FIELD JOINTS ON PLASTIC COATED PIPE

(57) Abstract

A system for sealing an uncoated section (16) of a length of plastic-coated pipe (10) is disclosed. The system comprises a thermoplastic piece (18) shaped to conform to the uncoated portion (16) and overlap the pipe coating (12) at an interface (14) surrounding the uncoated portion (16), the piece (18) including a heat-generating trace (30) adjacent to its edges and the heat-generating trace (30) including a plurality of trace leads (26) extending therefrom. The system further comprises a clamp for applying pressure to the interface (14), the clamp including at least two compression bands (52, 54) and a cross member (56), each of the compression bands and the cross member including a plurality of power leads (58), each of the power leads (58) corresponding to one of the trace leads (26). The power leads (58) preferably automatically are placed into electrical contact with said trace leads (26) when the clamp is applied over the thermoplastic piece (18).

