

Fighting epidemics with FLEXWELL® Safety Pipe

FLEXWELL® Safety Pipe as a filling pipe for the power supply at the Robert Koch Institut in Berlin



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“The operational capability of the Robert Koch Institut (RKI) must be kept up and running even under the most difficult circumstances. These were the high demands we made when planning the expansion of the RKI in Berlin. From the outset there was no question that FLEXWELL® Safety Pipe was the right choice for filling the supply tanks. Quite apart from anything else, the completely unproblematic laying vindicated the decision I made three years ago.”



The tanks were lifted over the 4-storey building into the inner courtyard by a 100 tonne load crane

The Robert Koch Institut is a federal institute working under the aegis of the Federal Ministry of Health. Its core remit is the detection, prevention and control of diseases such as e.g. new strains of flu, HIV, multi-resistant pathogens, EHEC etc. In the event of an epidemic or a power outage, the Robert Koch Institut has to be self-sufficient in power supply even if the emergency lasts for a long time, since this is precisely when its services are most needed.

Because of these demanding requirements the first priority was safety and functionality. The planned fuel supply for the heating system and the emergency power generators foresaw large-volume tanks adequate for this task, which were located in the inner courtyard of the RKI (Building 5). Besides conventional diesel fuel, alternative fuels such as rapeseed oil and urea were filled into the separated tanks.

Due to the particular location of the feeder hopper outside the institute complex, it was necessary to lay four separate fill lines from the feeder hopper to the tanks in the inner courtyard, with a length of 80 m for each feedline.

FLEXWELL® Safety Pipe was laid in one piece for each line directly off the drum into the trench, which was routed through the basement all the way to the tanks.



All-the-way seamless laying from the feeder hopper to the tank



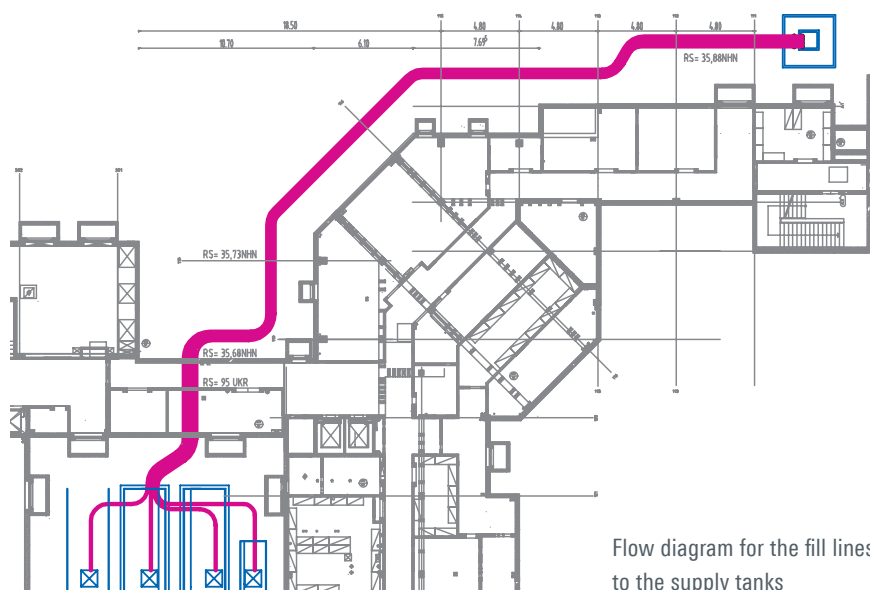
Solutions for the future

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Here we can see once again why FLEXWELL® Safety Pipe has been up to demanding requirements like these for more than 40 years. Frequent changes of direction were no problem for the installation crew.

Seals in the annular space of the pipe were used to insulate the building entries and exits against groundwater seeping in under pressure. It was only necessary to excavate a shallow trench of adequate width to lay the pipe directly, which not only meant time savings, but also helped to protect the trees which stand there.

Only one day was needed for the pipelaying work, without any interruption of operations. Follow-on projects which were scheduled during the modification and expansion of the Robert Koch Institut could be carried out without any complications.



Flow diagram for the fill lines to the supply tanks

To contact us and for further information, please fill in the following details and send them by fax to +49 (0)5031 170-170.

- Please send me detailed information material
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