





Automotive

One-Body Construction of Fuel Inlet Pipes Using Ferritic Stainless Steel



Location	USA, Canada, Europe
Environment	Outdoor
Grade/surface	NSSC436S-T(SUS436L)/Cathodic Electrodeposition Painting
Manufacturer	FUTABA INDUSTRIAL CO.,LTD, BESTEX Kyoei CO., Ltd., UNIPRES CORPORATION, FTS CO., LTD
Source of information	Nippon Steel & Sumikin Stainless Steel Corporation

The use of ferritic stainless steel welded pipes was limited in the past because of its low expansion rate. Recent developments have made it possible to increase the expansion rate to more than 200% following improvements in workability and mechanical properties, thus enabling fabrication of one-body fuel inlet pipes. Furthermore, other developments also led to the use of high efficiency electric resistance welding. With these new developments, it is now possible to fabricate highly durable stainless steel fuel inlet pipes which satisfy the emissions control regulations in California (LEV II: requiring a guaranteed life of 15 years or 150,000 miles), which came into effect in 2003. These regulations are currently used in nearly all the cars being sold by Japanese car manufacturers in North America (approximately 6 million units per year).