When an engineer specifies cast iron pipe for a specific job, it's because they believe it's the right material needed to get the job done correctly and efficiently. Engineers know that using cast iron instead of plastic for specific jobs eliminates costly extra steps for things like fire-stopping, noise reduction, and thermal expansion. And they know that even after the extra steps are taken to make plastic comparable to cast iron, plastic is still outperformed because it's just the wrong material for the job. Simply put, there is a time for plastic and a time for cast iron. The time for cast iron being when the engineer specifies it. Because if you think about it, they don't call them specifications for nothing.