After the acquisition of a small pipe plug company in the 1970’s, HFT® entered the Pipe Plug Manufacturing Industry.

The expertise gained, brought HFT® into many non welding markets, so the “Pipestoppers Division” was created.

With the acquisition came a huge order book for Nylon, Aluminium and Steel Mechanical Plugs and Inflatable Stoppers.

Manufacture of the Mechanical Plugs became easy to integrate and our enormous experience in the manufacture of Inflatable Pipe Purging Systems was added to the Inflatable Stopper section, to manufacture new and improved products.

The manufacturing of Aluminium Plugs grew and grew to such an extent that we have a full time production line now manufacturing all sizes for stock, to put on our shelves next to the Inflatable Stoppers and the nylon plugs.

The Mechanical Plugs ranges have now been added to with the introduction of Steel plugs and the Lightweight Inflatable Stopper range has been joined by our Inflatable Rubber Plugs.

Completing our total range are our two Freeze Plug products. The Qwik-Freezer™ that uses liquid CO₂ to freeze liquid in pipes and the Accu-Freeze™ that uses liquid nitrogen.

We can freeze any liquid in pipe sizes up to 12" so that pipe lines can be repaired without having to shut down a plant and drain the liquid, which probably costs significant sums.

The Accu-Freeze™ in addition can be operated remotely, making it an ideal product for Nuclear plant activities where repairs need to be carried out with the minimum of personnel exposure time.

The following catalogue provides full details of our ranges to date.
Nylon Plugs
Leak testing, sealing, isolation, stopping and weld purging of all pipes, pipe joints and pipework assemblies can be carried out with the HFT Pipestoppers® Nylon Plugs, in the size range 0.5 to 6.0” (13 mm to 152 mm).

Versatile, lightweight, mostly pocket size, the Pipestoppers® range of Nylon Plugs includes 20 sizes to suit a multitude of applications.

Our Nylon Plugs are available in several formats:
- 1.5 - 6” ø with ½ BSP threaded hollow shafts.
- 0.5 - 1.5” ø with 6 mm threaded hollow shafts.
- 0.5 - 1.5” ø with solid stems for greater pressure range.

Steel Plugs
Leak testing, sealing, isolation, stopping and weld purging of all pipes, pipe joints and pipework assemblies can be carried out with the Pipestoppers® Steel Plugs, in the size range 1.5 to 72” (38 mm to 1,829 mm).

Pipestoppers® Steel Plugs are typically suitable for more arduous duties such as long immersion in water, for use at higher temperatures or for contact with acidic or alkaline environments for which the nylon, aluminium and inflatable plugs may be unsuitable.

Standard Sealing rings made from natural rubber with accessory alternative rings available, manufactured from Silicone, Viton and Nitrile rubbers.

Aluminium Plugs
Leak testing, sealing, isolation, stopping and weld purging of all pipes, pipe joints and pipework assemblies can be carried out with the Pipestoppers® Aluminium Plugs, in the size range 1.5 to 36” (38 mm to 914 mm).

The HFT Pipestoppers® range of Aluminium Plugs are heavy duty and high temperature resistant.

Suitable for arduous duties such as immersion in chemicals and/or higher temperatures.

Friction free washer to ease tightening of the wing nut is a standard feature.

PlugFast™
PlugFast™ Peripheral Sealing Steel Plugs are manufactured in a number of different diameters, including sizes not covered by Aluminium Plugs, from 18 to 48” Ø (457 mm to 1,219 mm). These are manufactured both as a single port series and a double port option.

Peripheral sealing allows the plates to be closed evenly with ease and especially seal in pipes with slight out of roundness or ovality. Special diameters can be produced on request.

The centre stem is 2” (51 mm diameter) and is threaded to accept a 2” BSP screw cap.
Inflatable Stoppers

HFT® manufactures a range of standard as well as non-standard Inflatable Stoppers for pipes, ducts and other shaped orifices.

The range includes Spherical, Cylindrical, and Special models as well as Heat Protected stoppers for use up to 300˚C (572˚F). A range is also available for use in oil and petrochemical applications.

These versatile Inflatable Stoppers are used to service a wide variety of industrial applications.

The standard range of Inflatable Stoppers is available in a variety of shapes with sizes ranging from 1 to 96” (25 mm to 2,438 mm).

Inflatable stoppers are usable only with a minimum of back pressure and where a pressure build up is expected, the stoppers, like all other plugs, should be braced for safety.

Inflatable Rubber PetroChem® Stoppers

For line pipe applications and available in sizes 2 to 12” (50 to 300mm). Resistant to a large number of chemicals. Each stopper has a longer length than diameter, which prevents them from tipping over inside the pipe and losing their seal. They also have a ribbing to prevent slipping. (include this section below if longer text required)

Most commonly used to construction site drain testing operations, debris stopping during machining operations, leak testing of pipework systems in commercial, domestic and industrial applications, low pressure hydrostatic tests, on-site thermoforming of bends in ducting and conduit materials, fibre-optic construction projects, debris and animal barriers for overnight protection of pipelines, plumbing operations or reduction of weld purging volume when welding headers onto stainless steel tanks.

Rubber Plugs

These new Inflatable Rubber Plugs each have a wide diameter range and are suitable for use in petrochemical applications, as well as many others.

The Plugs can be inflated quickly to working pressure and are resistant to most hydrocarbon gases and fluids.

Inflatable Rubber Plugs are ideal for fast, reliable and safe stopping and blocking of pipes, joints, channels, inlets and a number of other uses.

Size available to suit 1.5 to 78” (38 mm to 1,981 mm).

Inflatable Rubber Pipe Plugs are used during new pipeline installation or for carrying out routine maintenance and repairs.

They can be used with a back pressure from 0.3 bar up to 0.5 bar and they can be manufactured with a 3 bar working pressure if required.
**Inflatable Low Profile Stoppers**

These low cost stoppers are manufactured for applications where there is insufficient length of pipe for the regular Cylindrical and Spherical Stoppers. The stoppers fit into pipe ends that may be directly on an elbow, inside a flanged neck, on a casting or other fabrication. A secure method of blocking pipe ends to keep gases inside or to keep debris and vermin out.

They are easy to install, simply position the stopper, inflate with compressed air through a standard Schrader Valve and your seal is secured. They can be used when pipes or tanks are vertical. The Stoppers can be placed, inflated and sealed in horizontal mode and are ideal to prevent machining swarf or tools from falling into pipes or orifices from where they are difficult to recover.

Available in sizes from 6 to 88” (152 mm - 2,235 mm). Manufactured from tough materials to withstand site conditions.

**Heat Resistant Covers**

Available as an accessory for Standard Cylindrical and Spherical Inflatable Stoppers.

- For exposure to temperatures up to 300ºC (572ºF).
- Protects the Inflatable Stopper, preventing them being damaged or bursting.
- Reusable time and time again, without losing their heat protecting properties.
- Manufactured to suit all sizes within the Standard Inflatable Stoppers range 1 to 96” (25 to 2,438 mm).
- Ties on each Heat Resistant Cover ensure they are held on to each Inflatable Stopper securely.