

The History of Vinyl

1800s



European researchers used an earlier discovered gas called vinyl chloride. Although they created a rigid material with the gas, no commercial use was found.

1926



Dr. Waldo Semon, a researcher at BFGoodrich Company, serendipitously created PVC (polyvinyl chloride), while attempting to create a strong adhesive. He began experimenting by creating golf balls and shoe heels from PVC.

1930s



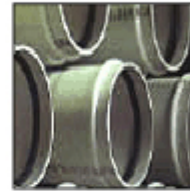
Vinyl used commercially to create shock absorber seals, synthetic tires, gaskets, and waterproof fabrics.

1940s



Vinyl used during World War II to coat wire during the severe shortages of natural rubber.

1950s



PVC pipe, which is less expensive, non-corrosive and a more easily installed alternative to metal pipe, was first used.

Today



More than 30 billion pounds of vinyl is produced worldwide today, of which, about 60 percent is used in the construction industry.

Source: <http://www.vinylnewsservice.net/HistoryofVinyl/VinylTimeline/tabid/78/Default.aspx>