

Technical Report Documentation Page

1. Report No. FHWA/TX-11/0-4562-4		2. Government Accession No.		3. Recipient's Catalog No.	
4. Title and Subtitle Evaluation of Corrosion Resistance of Improved Post-tensioning Materials after Long-term Exposure Testing			5. Report Date October 2011		
			6. Performing Organization Code		
7. Author(s) R.D. Kalina, S. MacLean, M.E. Ahern, J.E. Breen and S.L. Wood			8. Performing Organization Report No. 0-4562-4		
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Center for Transportation Research The University of Texas at Austin 1616 Guadalupe St, Suite 4.202 Austin, TX 78701			10. Work Unit No. (TRAIS)		
			11. Contract or Grant No. 0-4562		
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address Texas Department of Transportation Research and Technology Implementation Office P.O. Box 5080 Austin, TX 78763-5080			13. Type of Report and Period Covered Technical Report 9/10-9/11		
			14. Sponsoring Agency Code		
15. Supplementary Notes Project performed in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.					
16. Abstract Ten full-scale post-tensioned beam specimens were subject to 4 years of aggressive cyclic ponded saltwater exposure. Three of those specimens were additionally exposed to saltwater spray once per month on one anchorage face. Non-destructive monitoring was conducted during the exposure period. This consisted of half-cell potential measurements, AC impedance measurements (for specimens with fully encapsulated tendons), and regular visual inspections. Chloride samples were extracted from the specimens at the end of exposure. After 4 years, the specimens were autopsied, and all reinforcing elements from the middle of each specimen were examined for corrosion and damage. Anchorage regions were also autopsied and examined for corrosion. Duct systems included galvanized metal ducts, plastic ducts, and encapsulated duct systems. Strand types included conventional strand, hot dipped galvanized strand, copper clad strand, and stainless steel strand. Complete observations are presented.					
17. Key Words Galvanized ducts, plastics ducts, encapsulated system, autopsies, corrosion, post-tensioned concrete tendons, epoxy coated strand, stainless steel strands, stainless clad strands, hot dip galvanized strand, copper clad strands, accelerated corrosion testing			18. Distribution Statement No restrictions. This document is available to the public through the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161; www.ntis.gov.		
19. Security Classif. (of report) Unclassified		20. Security Classif. (of this page) Unclassified		21. No. of pages 185	
22. Price					





## **Evaluation of Corrosion Resistance of Improved Post-tensioning Materials after Long-term Exposure Testing**

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CTR Technical Report:	0-4562-4
Report Date:	October 2011
Project:	0-4562
Project Title:	Corrosion Resistance of Grouted Post-Tensioning Systems
Sponsoring Agency:	Texas Department of Transportation
Performing Agency:	Center for Transportation Research at The University of Texas at Austin

Project performed in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration.

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## **Acknowledgments**

We greatly appreciate the long-term financial support from the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration that made this project possible. We are grateful for the active support of the project director Brian Merrill (BRG) and of Dr. Paul Virmani (FHWA). Highly valuable advice was given by Dr. Harovel Wheat of The University of Texas at Austin.

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# Chapter 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

Concrete is very weak in tension, which causes reinforced concrete members to crack in the regions that experience flexural tensile stresses when load is applied. Prestressing introduces a large compressive stress to those regions, thus preventing cracks until the compression is overcome.

Post-tensioning is a type of prestressing in which the large compressive stress is introduced to a member after casting. Concrete members are cast with ducts installed to create continuous cylindrical voids along their length. After the concrete has cured, high-strength steel strands are fed through the ducts, tensioned against anchorages located at the each end, and secured at the anchorages with wedges. In bonded internal post-tensioning, grout is pumped into the duct to create a protective barrier around the strands and to provide bond between the strands and surrounding concrete. Details of a typical bonded post-tensioning anchorage are shown in Figure 1.1.

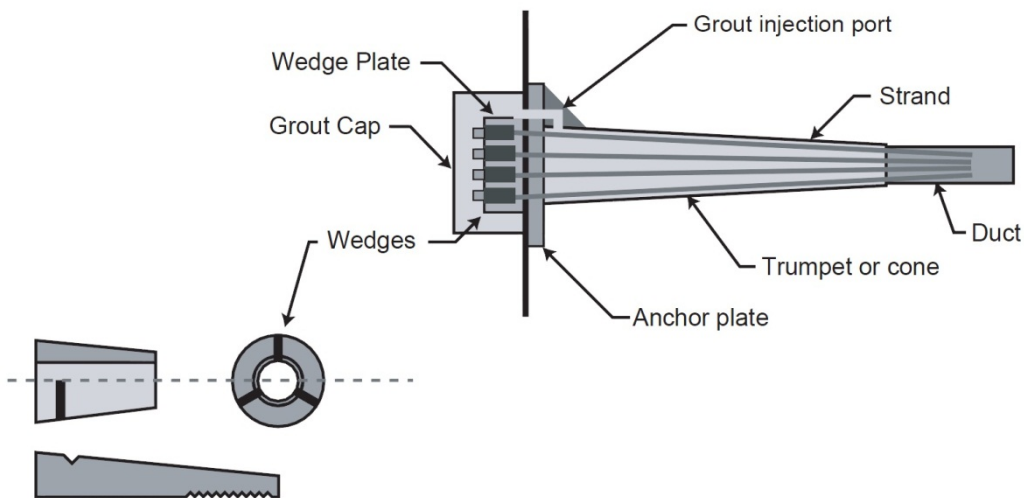


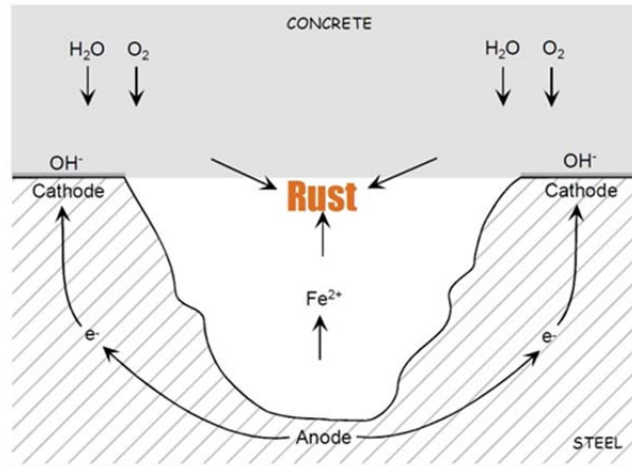
Figure 1.1: Typical Bonded Internal Post Tensioning Anchorage<sup>1</sup>

## 1.2 Corrosion in Concrete

Corrosion in reinforced concrete structures is a widespread problem with a high cost of repair. The types of structures that corrode most frequently are bridges and parking structures due to their aggressive exposure to chlorides in the form of tidal spray or deicing salts. While the high pH of concrete allows a passive layer to form around the reinforcing steel and protect it, cracks or highly porous concrete can allow chlorides to penetrate and disrupt this passive layer. Once a threshold chloride concentration has been reached at the steel level, corrosion initiates.

Corrosion is an electrochemical process in which electrons are transferred through an electrolyte from an anode to a cathode in what is known as a corrosion cell, as shown in Figure 1.2. In concrete, both the anode and cathode are on the surface of the reinforcement, and the moisture in the cement paste acts as the electrolyte. When steel corrodes, it forms several ferrous

oxides. These oxides occupy more volume than the steel they replace. In a concrete structure, this means that a corroded bar will place expansive stresses on the surrounding concrete, resulting in cracking and spalling in severe cases.



*Figure 1.2: Steel Corrosion Cell<sup>2</sup>*

Other metals are also vulnerable to corrosion. Almost all metals are thermodynamically unstable under normal conditions and will revert to their oxides over time. The corrosion tendency for each type of metal depends on its position in the galvanic series. Metals that are higher on the series are referred to as “noble,” and those lower on the series are “active.” Gold and platinum are the most noble metals, while zinc is among the most active. If two metals are present and connected in the same corrosion cell, the more active one will generally corrode while the more noble will be preserved. This is the principle behind sacrificial coatings such as galvanizing zinc<sup>3</sup>.

### **1.3 Durability in Post-Tensioning**

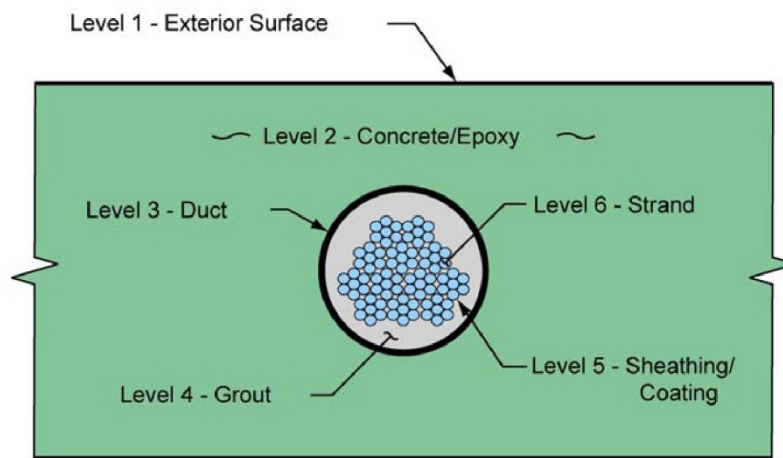
Corrosion occurs most often in bonded internal post-tensioning tendons when chloride intrusion causes the passive layer provided by effective grouting to break down on the strands. Although post-tensioned structures generally do not crack in flexure under service loads, chlorides can still enter through construction joints, inclined cracks due to diagonal tension, bursting cracks in anchorage regions, flexural cracks due to overloads, and over long time periods through the permeability of the concrete cover. Corrosion within post-tensioned structures is especially problematic. Seven-wire strands have much more surface area per volume than the equivalent size of reinforcing bar. This means that much more surface area is available to corrode and that area loss will occur much more quickly once corrosion initiates. Prestressed structures typically have much less steel area than an equivalent reinforced concrete structure. Also, prestressing strands are usually stressed to a very high level, often 60% to 75% of their ultimate strength. Therefore, losing just a small area of prestressing strand to corrosion could lead to a drastic loss in strength<sup>4</sup>. This could result in structural failure, depending on the location of the tendon and redundancy of the structure.

Originally, concrete cover and grouting were assumed to be the primary means of preventing chloride ingress for internal bonded post-tensioning tendons. Failures over the last 30

years, such as bridge collapses in the United Kingdom in the 1980s<sup>5</sup> as well as tendon failures in several Florida segmental bridges in the 1990s and 2000s<sup>6</sup>, have called these assumptions into question. Many tendon corrosion problems could be traced back to<sup>1</sup>:

- Shrinkage cracks at construction joints and anchorage pourbacks
- Imperfect sealing at segment joints
- Grout voids caused by improper grouting procedures and poor-quality grout mixes
- Improperly installed duct splices
- Longitudinal splitting of plastic ducts.

Recent findings suggest that a more holistic approach to corrosion protection is necessary. Consideration must be given to the overall structural layout, waterproofing membranes, concrete cover, duct, grout, and strand type to determine the durability of a post-tensioned structure<sup>1,3</sup> (see Figure 1.3).



*Figure 1.3: Layers of Protection in an Internal Bonded Post-Tensioned Structure<sup>1</sup>*

Despite the corrosion problems found in some structures, post-tensioned bridges have performed much better than other types of construction. Specifications have been improving continually to reflect the state of the art. In the United States, the use of galvanized ducts has been gradually discontinued in aggressive environments due to poor corrosion performance. Updated grouting specifications and training programs are expected to substantially reduce the incidence of voids and improve grout quality<sup>7</sup>.

TxDOT Project 0-1405 was a previous project at Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory (FSEL) to address post-tensioning corrosion. This project focused on overall corrosion problems in post-tensioned structures. In particular, attention was paid to segmental construction joints. Level of prestress, duct type, and grout type were also studied. The beam specimens for the current project were designed to provide results that could be compared to work done by Salas<sup>8</sup> and Turco<sup>9</sup> for Project 0-1405<sup>7</sup>.

## 1.4 Project Objective

The objective of TxDOT Project 0-4562 is to evaluate the corrosion performance of new and upcoming commercially available post-tensioning products with comparison to more traditional systems (uncoated steel strand, grouted in galvanized steel ducts). The project is being funded by the Texas Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. Accelerated and passive corrosion tests as well as mechanical property tests have been conducted on each type of strand to determine their individual performance<sup>29,30,31</sup>. Strand, duct, coupler, and protection system performance is being tested under aggressive chloride exposure conditions in full-scale beam specimens. Autopsies of these specimens, completed after four and six years of exposure, respectively, will determine the in-situ corrosion performance of the new materials.

## 1.5 Report Objective and Scope

The objectives of this report are:

- To explain the design rationale and testing procedure for the beam specimens.
- To evaluate the performance of the mild steel components, post-tensioning duct, strand, anchorages, and fully encapsulated system within 10 beam specimens after 4 years of aggressive exposure testing.
- To present the results of destructive and non-destructive monitoring of the beam specimens and evaluate the accuracy of those methods.
- To present estimates of the relative construction cost increases associated with each type of duct, strand, anchorage, and protection system for a typical segmental bridge.
- To use the results of the beam autopsies to develop corrosion design recommendations.

The scope of this report includes:

- Examination of non-destructive and destructive measurements taken during exposure testing of 10 beam specimens.
- Autopsy and analysis of 10 beam specimens.
- Recommendations for post-tensioned design based on research findings.

This report is based on the findings of the MS thesis of Gregory McCool<sup>28</sup>. Further information is included therein. It is available online at

<http://fsel.engr.utexas.edu/publications/detail.cfm?pubid=209103303>.

## Chapter 2. Test Specimens

Full description of the test specimens is given in the thesis of Ahern<sup>7</sup>, who developed and constructed the specimens, unless otherwise cited.

### 2.1 Specimen Concept

The test program for TxDOT Project 0-4562 was initiated in 2003 as a follow-up for Project 0-1405. The new test specimens were designed for compactness, controlled cracking, isolation of the corrosion of the post-tensioning elements, and the ability to produce results on an accelerated schedule. The new specimens were much smaller and their live load was self-equilibrating, eliminating the need for reaction beams. However, the new specimens contained similar quantities of post-tensioning elements in the exposure zone. Figure 2.1 shows the size of specimens from each project for comparison.



*Figure 2.1: Project 0-1405 Specimens (Background) and Project 0-4562 Specimens (Foreground)*

Cracks provide a means of entry for moisture, oxygen, and chlorides into a concrete structure. While the hope in the use of prestressed concrete members is to keep them uncracked, overloading, anchorage bursting stresses, and diagonal tension can produce cracking. Thus, it was decided that the test specimens should be intentionally overloaded to induce controlled cracking for exposure testing. In order to control crack location and limit the width to typical crack sizes, the new specimens were designed with a reduced cross-section at midspan. This forced cracks to occur in that region, as shown in Figure 2.2. The presence of longitudinal steel at the top of the section controlled crack width and quantity.



Figure 2.2: Flexural Cracks Occurring in the Reduced Midspan Region<sup>7</sup>

Some of the Project 0-1405 specimens had been undergoing exposure testing for eight years. While severe corrosion was prominent at the time of autopsy, a shorter project duration was desired. To that end, the new specimens were designed with a cast-in-place depression that simultaneously reduced the clear cover and served as a saltwater bath for exposure testing (see Figure 2.3). Longitudinal bars had a clear cover of 1 inch and the apex of the ducts had a clear cover of 1 3/8 inches in this region. This allowed corrosion to occur more quickly than the previous specimens.

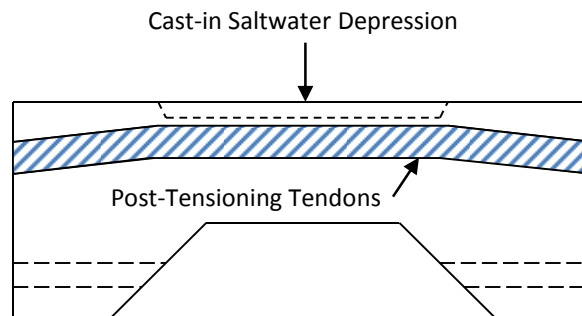


Figure 2.3: Reduced Cover at Midspan Region Due to Cast-In Depression<sup>7</sup>

During Project 0-1405, Salas<sup>8</sup> and later on Turco<sup>9</sup> observed extreme surface cracking caused by expansive stresses from the corrosion of reinforcing steel inside the specimens. This may have influenced half-cell potentials and accelerated corrosion to an uncontrolled level. To prevent this, the new specimens were constructed with epoxy-coated longitudinal bars and stirrups as well as plastic rebar chairs so that corrosion would primarily target the post-tensioning components.

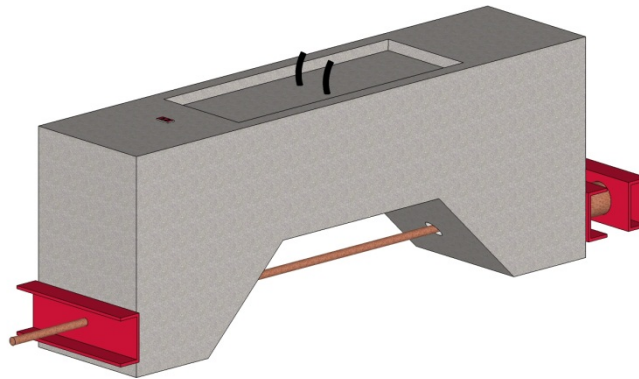
## 2.2 Specimen Design

The new specimens are 6 feet long by 17 inches wide. Depth varies from 15 inches at the reduced midsection to 27 inches at the end corbels. The specimens with fully encapsulated tendons are 7 feet in length due to their longer anchorage components. The corbels at each end of the specimens were fitted with PVC pipe conduits so that an eccentric axial live load could be



applied down the centerline of the corbels using Dywidag bars. Springs were used to keep this force relatively constant throughout the exposure period.

Most specimens have two post-tensioning tendons that run along its entire length. The encapsulated specimens have one tendon due to space constraints associated with the fully encapsulated system. Each tendon usually has three 0.5 inch 7-wire strands. The specimens with stainless steel and stainless clad strands were constructed with 0.6 inch 7-wire strands due to availability constraints. The specimens were not designed with a particular level of prestressing in mind. Instead, the strands were stressed to a level that, after live load application, would allow the formation of flexural cracks approximately 0.010 inch in width. Complete details of the new specimen design can be found in Reference 7, and a schematic of a typical loaded specimen is shown in Figure 2.4.



*Figure 2.4: Specimen Schematic*

### **2.3 Specimen Variables**

Previous work by West<sup>10</sup>, Schokker<sup>2</sup>, Salas<sup>8</sup>, and Turco<sup>9</sup> on Project 0-1405 determined that contemporary industry standards for internal bonded post-tensioned construction were inadequate. Project 0-4562 was conceived as a means of examining the corrosion performance of new and upcoming materials and systems that might result in better corrosion protection of post-tensioning tendons. A conference with members of industry and academia was held at FSEL in 2003 to identify which new post-tensioning materials to study. Although some of the materials were unable to be obtained in the United States, a specimen matrix was developed that included several types of new and upcoming post-tensioning components. The final specimen matrix is shown in Table 2.1, and the list of suppliers for each material is given in Appendix A.1.

**Table 2.1: Final Specimen Matrix**

Duct	Prestressed - Strand Type						Non-Prestressed
	Conventional	Hot Dip Galvanized	Copper Clad	Stainless Clad	Stainless	Flowfilled	Conventional Rebar
Galvanized	G - 1.4	NG - 2.2	NG - 1.2	NG - 1.3	NG - 4.1		
	NG - 1.1						
	G - T.2						
	NG - T.1						
One-Way Ribbed Plastic	NG - 2.3	NG - 3.4	NG - 2.4		NG - 4.2		
Two-Way Ribbed Plastic	G - 5.1*	NG - 3.2*	NG - 3.3*	NG - 5.2*	NG - 5.3*		
	NG - 3.1*						
Fully Encapsulated	NG - 7.1*	NG - 7.3*				NG - 7.4*	
	NG - 7.2*						
None							black - 4.4
							epoxy - 4.3

G = Galvanized Bearing Plate, NG = Non-galvanized Bearing Plate

= Autopsy performed in March 2010 and reported herein

\* = Dead end anchorage exposure

NOTE: For each specimen with plastic ducts, one duct is coupled and the other is continuous.

### 2.3.1 Strand Type

Six types of strand were used to construct the test specimens:

- Conventional
- Hot-dip galvanized
- Stainless steel
- Copper-clad
- Stainless-clad
- Flow-filled epoxy-coated

All strands were 0.5-inch seven-wire except for the stainless steel and stainless clad, which were 0.6-inch diameter. Special anchor heads were obtained to accommodate the larger strand size. Special wedges were used with the epoxy-coated strand to ensure good seating during stressing. The galvanized strand was galvanized after being wound, which means that much of its interstitial space is bare steel.

### 2.3.2 Duct Type

Several types of duct were used in the test specimens:

- Galvanized steel
- GTI one-way plastic
- GTI two-way plastic
- VSL one-way plastic

Each type of duct had a different diameter. For each type of plastic duct, the diameter was chosen based on the smallest available coupler style for that duct.

### **2.3.3 Coupler Type**

Because the specimens of Project 0-1405 had shown that traditional coupling methods for galvanized ducts are quite inferior, it was decided to use continuous galvanized ducts in all metallic duct specimens. For one tendon per specimen with plastic ducts, the ducts were cut in half. A coupler was placed at midspan to connect the halves. Three different types of coupler were used, each corresponding to one type of plastic duct:

- GTI slip-on (GTI two-way duct)
- GTI snap-on (GTI one-way)
- VSL snap-on (VSL one-way)

The VSL couplers did not come with a grout vent pre-installed. Instead, the project team fabricated and installed grout vents for these couplers at FSEL.

### **2.3.4 Anchorage Type**

VSL EC5-7 bearing plates were installed in all specimens except for those with encapsulated tendons. Both galvanized and non-galvanized versions of this bearing plate were used.

## **2.4 Construction Procedure**

All project specimens were fabricated at FSEL by Ahern. A more detailed description of the construction process can be found in his thesis<sup>7</sup>.

### **2.4.1 Specimen Fabrication**

Specimens were cast in groups of four with live and dead end bearing plates attached to the end walls of the forms. The epoxy-coated rebar was bent off-site and assembled at FSEL using epoxy-coated wire ties (see Figure 2.5). Plastic chairs were used to support the rebar cage in the formwork. Ducts were cut to length and fitted with midspan grout vents and couplers where applicable, then installed in the rebar cage. A completed rebar cage awaiting concrete is shown in Figure 2.5.

TxDOT Class C concrete for bridge substructures was used in all specimens. Concrete was consolidated, taking care not to damage the ducts or grout vents. Just before finishing, special forms were installed to create the depressed saltwater baths. Companion cylinders were cast and tested to ensure proper concrete strength before post-tensioning. After curing, strand was cut from its delivery roll and installed in the specimens.



*Figure 2.5: Epoxy-Coated Rebar Cage (Left) and Completed Reinforcement Cage with Ducts in Formwork (Right)<sup>7</sup>*

### **2.4.2 Post-Tensioning**

Stressing was completed at FSEL using a monostrand ram with power seating capability, as shown in Figure 2.6. First, the ducts were cleaned with compressed air to remove debris. The strands were stressed individually, alternating between the two tendons of each specimen to minimize elastic shortening losses. After all wedges were seated, the strand tails were trimmed.



*Figure 2.6: Prestressing Setup<sup>7</sup>*

### **2.4.3 Grouting**

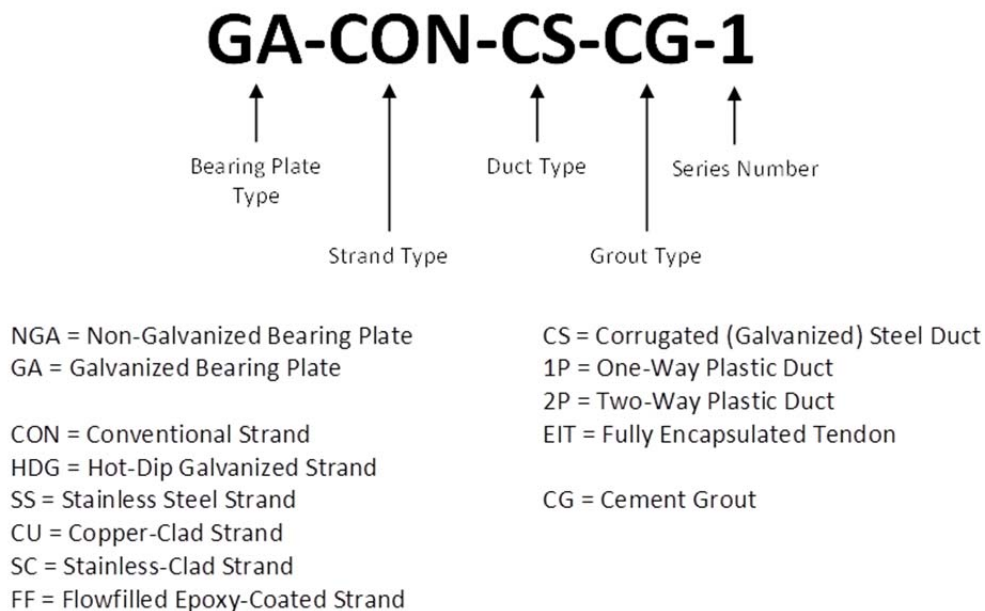
As required by TxDOT specifications, grouting was completed within 48 hours of stressing<sup>11</sup>. Temporary grouting caps were installed over the anchor heads. Prebagged Sika Grout 300 PT was batched with an electric mixer and placed in the ducts with a hand pump. Grout was pumped into the dead end of the specimen, using a staged grouting sequence based on VSL guidelines to minimize the formation of voids<sup>12</sup>.

## 2.4.4 Live Load Application

Live load was applied using threaded Dywidag bars, which were installed through the holes in both corbels of each specimen. A spring assembly was used to maintain a constant live load. The extent of flexural cracking was carefully observed during stressing. Once crack widths of approximately 0.010 inch were reached, the Dywidag nut was tightened, and the ram was removed.

## 2.5 Specimen Notation

A total of 28 specimens were constructed. Of those, 24 underwent exposure testing while the remaining four remained in dry storage at FSEL due to problems obtaining a certain type of strand. The specimens were named according to their casting group and given a specimen ID derived from the materials they contained. The identification system is explained in Figure 2.7, and the complete list of all Project 0-4562 specimens is shown in the Appendix.



*Figure 2.7: Specimen Identification Conventions*



## Chapter 3. Experimental Procedures

### 3.1 Long-Term Exposure Setup

All specimens whose autopsies are reported herein underwent four years of exposure testing. The specimens were exposed to cycles of ponded saltwater at midspan, and several specimens were additionally fitted with anchorage region saltwater drippers. Non-destructive monitoring was conducted on the specimens throughout the testing period. The remaining other fourteen specimens continue under exposure and will be autopsied in 2012. Project 0-4562 specimens under exposure testing are shown in Figure 3.1.

#### 3.1.1 Ponding

The ponding cycle consisted of filling the cast-in depression on the top of each specimen with 3.5% saltwater for two weeks. This concentration was suggested in ASTM G109 for aggressive corrosion testing of steel in concrete<sup>13</sup>. In 2007, the saltwater concentration specified in G109 changed to 3%, but 3.5% saltwater has been used in order to maintain continuity. In order to prevent leakage, the flexural cracks that extended down the sides of each specimen were sealed with epoxy. After two weeks of saltwater exposure the specimens were kept dry for the remainder of the month. This process was repeated every month.

#### 3.1.2 Anchorage Spray Cycle

Several specimens were chosen to receive anchorage exposure in addition to ponded saltwater exposure. All anchorage exposure specimens are referred to as “drinker specimens” in this report. Specimens 3.1, 3.2, and 7.1 were drinker specimens. For six hours every month, 3.5% saltwater was sprayed onto the dead end anchorage pockets of the drinker specimens using 45-degree stationary lawn sprinklers (see Figure 3.1). A closed-loop system was used in which saltwater was pumped from a holding tank through the pipes and out the sprinklers, then collected and channeled back into the holding tank. Anchorage exposure was timed to coincide with the beginning of the ponding wet cycle so that all saltwater could be mixed at one time every month.



Figure 3.1: Repaired Drippers in Operation (Left) and New Tank System (Right)

## **3.2 Monitoring During Exposure Testing**

Similar methods were used to monitor the Project 0-4562 specimens as were used to monitor Project 0-1405 specimens. Non-destructive monitoring consisted of visual inspection, half-cell potential measurements, and AC impedance measurements. As a destructive test, chloride penetration readings were only conducted at the end of the exposure period and just before autopsies.

### **3.2.1 Visual Examination**

Specimens were monitored throughout their life for changes in appearance. Special attention was paid to extent of cracking, spalling, and the presence of corrosion stains or efflorescence on the outer surfaces of the concrete.

### **3.2.2 Half-Cell Potential Readings**

Corrosion is an electrochemical process by which electrons are transferred from an anode to a cathode. Individually, the anodic and cathodic reactions are known as half-cells, and each has its own electrochemical potential. For the corrosion of steel in concrete, the half-cell of interest is the anodic half-cell in which iron is oxidized. This half-cell can be isolated and compared against the potential of a known reference electrode. The difference between the anodic and reference potential is known as the half-cell potential. This can be used to estimate the probability of corrosion and the time to corrosion initiation<sup>3</sup>. ASTM C876 provides the standard methodology for collecting and interpreting half-cell potentials of steel in concrete. The half-cell method is designed for use on uncoated rebar only<sup>14</sup>. However, the method had been implemented on Project 0-1405 with some success, and few other monitoring methods exist for bonded post-tensioning tendons. Therefore, the use of the half-cell method was continued for Project 0-4562 despite the presence of prestressing strand and epoxy-coated rebar<sup>7</sup>.

Measurements were conducted just after the end of the ponding wet cycle each month. This ensured that the pore space of the concrete contained enough moisture to electrically connect the anodic and reference half-cells. The depression on top of each specimen was soaked with a wetting solution consisting of soapy water to better conduct current through the specimen (see Figure 3.3). The tip of the reference electrode was covered with a sponge to serve as a porous medium between electrode and concrete. The saturated calomel electrode (SCE) was used as the reference electrode.

The test specimens had been constructed with a lead connected to the live ends of the tendons. Half-cell potentials were measured by connecting a voltmeter to one tendon wire and the reference electrode, then touching the electrode to the surface of the concrete. Measurements were taken at every point of a regular grid within each specimen's saltwater depression, as shown in Figure 3.3. Each tendon was accounted for separately by measuring three rows of grid points with the voltmeter connected to one tendon wire, then another three while connected to the other wire (see Figure 3.3). Half-cell potentials were recorded at every point of the grid for every specimen. Because Specimen 7.1 had only one tendon, measurements were taken at every point on the grid while connected to the same tendon wire.





Figure 3.2: Half-Cell Potential Measurements in Progress

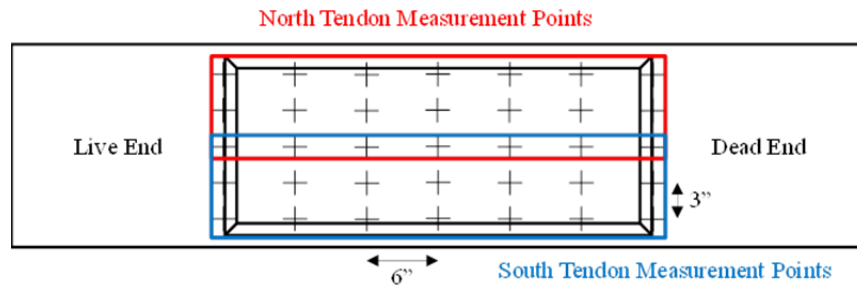


Figure 3.3: Half-Cell Potential Measurement Points (Adapted from Reference 7)

### 3.2.3 AC Impedance Readings

When used properly, the AC impedance method can indicate the presence of defects and chloride intrusion in fully encapsulated tendons. When alternating current is passed from the tendon to the reinforcing steel, the plastic duct acts as a capacitor in parallel with a high resistance<sup>15</sup>. Changes in the resistance and capacitance of this circuit throughout a structure's life can indicate defects in the tendon or chloride intrusion<sup>4</sup>. The tendon in each 7-series specimen was designed to be electrically isolated, making this a suitable method to monitor them.

Each 7-series specimen was constructed with one lead connected to its tendon and another to a pair of additional, uncoated steel longitudinal bars that were added to increase conductivity (see Figure 3.4). To conduct the AC impedance measurements, a BK Model 885/886 LCR meter was connected to the two leads, as shown in Figure 3.5. Resistance, capacitance, and a loss factor were read from the meter at a frequency of 1 kHz and recorded. This procedure was conducted at the end of each month's ponding wet cycle.

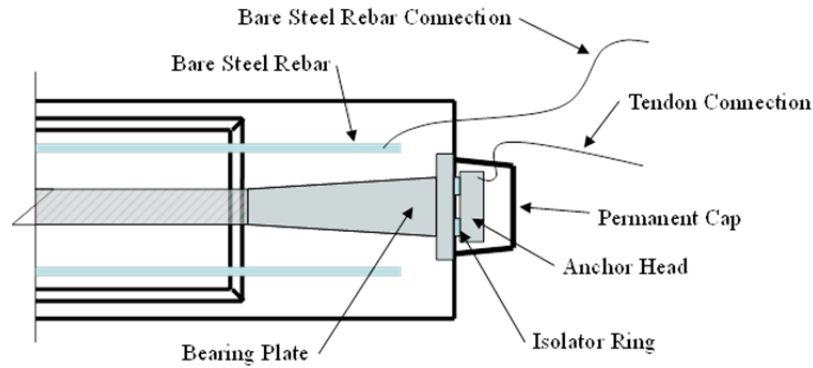


Figure 3.4: Electrically Isolated Tendon Detail<sup>7</sup>



Figure 3.5: LCR Meter Connected to Specimen to Measure AC Impedance

### 3.2.4 Chloride Content

Chloride penetration measurements were taken from the concrete and grout of all ten autopsy specimens after the end of the exposure period. Chloride content was determined for each sample using the CL-2000 Chloride Test System by James Instruments. This system performs a variation of the acid-soluble chloride test procedure outlined in ASTM C1152<sup>16</sup>. Accuracy of the test system was validated by testing a powder sample from 1-inch depth at the top surface of Specimen T.1. Powder from the same depth was sent to Tourney Consulting Group in Kalamazoo, Michigan for acid-soluble chloride testing according to ASTM C1152.

#### 3.2.4.1 Surface Chloride Penetration

Samples were extracted using a hammer drill. At all locations, powder samples were extracted at depths of 0.5 inch and 1 inch from the same hole, taking care to prevent cross-contamination. On each specimen's top surface, chloride samples were taken at a location shown in Figure 3.6. Samples were also extracted at the dead end anchorage face, 5 inches from the top of the specimen (see Figure 3.7). Additional samples were extracted from the live end anchorage faces of the three dripper specimens at a distance of 6 inches from the top surface. For Specimen

7.1, samples were extracted from both ends at a depth of 6 inches. These locations correspond to the center of the dead and live end anchorage pockets, respectively.

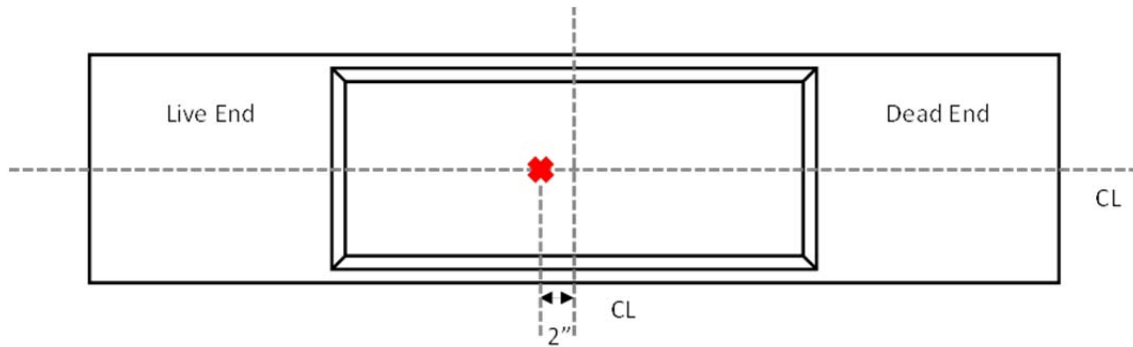


Figure 3.6: Top Surface Chloride Sample Location

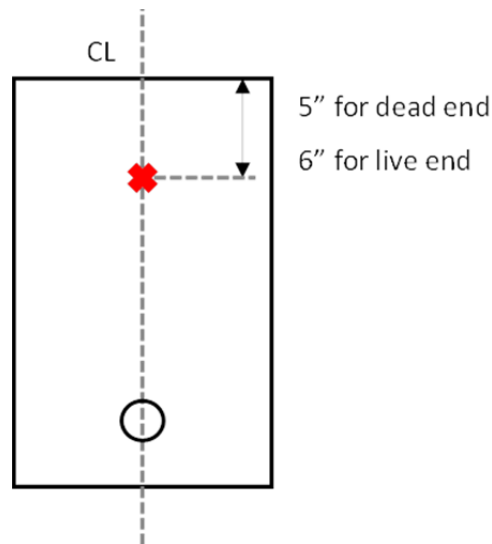


Figure 3.7: Anchorage Face Chloride Sample Location

#### 3.2.4.2 Grout Chloride Content

In addition to surface chloride penetration, samples were extracted from the grout in the tendons of the autopsy specimens. Grout powder samples were taken after all post-tensioning elements had been removed from the main autopsy region blocks and the ducts had been cut open. For galvanized ducts, samples were taken every 2 inches along the regions of the ducts that had visible external corrosion or area loss. For plastic ducts, one sample was extracted at midspan in each tendon. The samples were extracted using a clean hammer and chisel, as shown in Figure 3.8. Care was taken to obtain a sample that included grout from the entire depth of the tendon. After pieces of grout had been chipped away from the tendon, they were ground with a mortar and pestle, as seen in Figure 3.8.



*Figure 3.8: Grout Chloride Sample Extraction (Left) and Grinding (Right)*

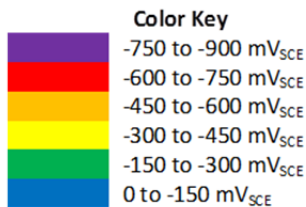
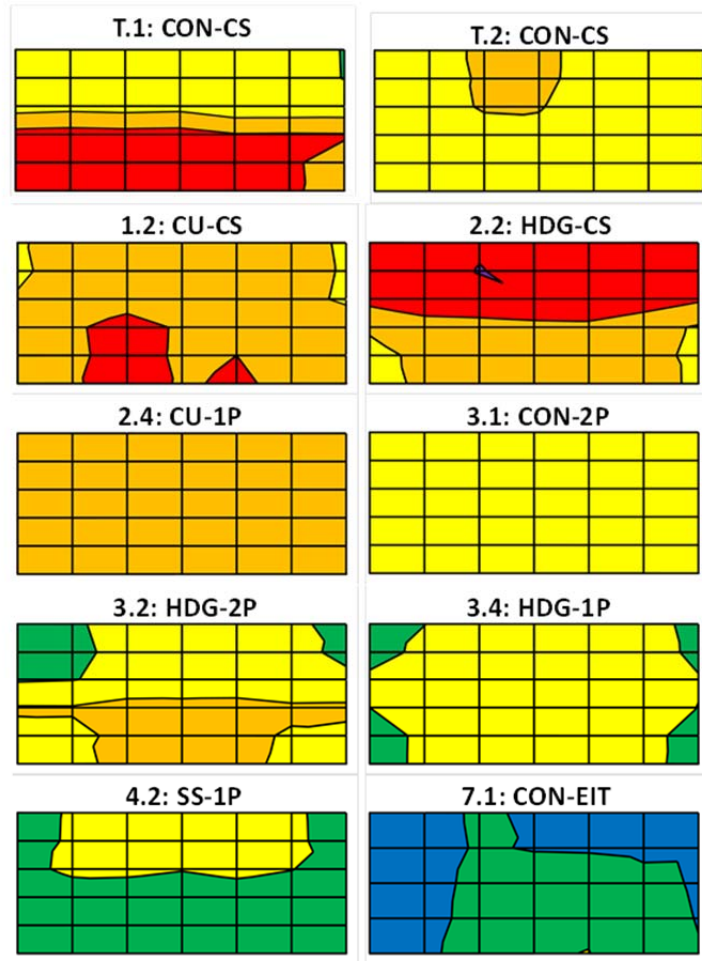
## **Chapter 4. Exposure Test Results and Analysis**

Exposure testing for all specimens began on March 1, 2006 and continued until March 1, 2010. Total exposure time was 1460 days. During this time, half-cell and AC impedance readings were generally taken monthly. Chloride samples were extracted after the end of the testing period as described in Chapter 3.

### **4.1 Half-Cell Potential Data Analysis**

The half-cell method to determine corrosion potentials was calibrated for uncoated reinforcing steel<sup>14</sup>. Although half-cell potentials were measured on specimens containing epoxy-coated reinforcing steel and several types of prestressing strand, the method is still useful in estimating the relative extent and severity of corrosion for the test specimens examined here.

Half-cell contour plots are presented in Figure 4.1. These plots represent the final readings taken at every point on each specimen just prior to autopsy. Note that the contour maps represent an overhead view of the autopsy region of the specimens with the live end to the left and the north tendon on the top.



CON = Conventional Strand  
 CU = Copper-Clad Strand  
 HDG = Hot-Dip Galvanized Strand  
 SS = Stainless Steel Strand

CS = Corrugated (Galvanized) Steel Duct  
 1P = 1-Way Plastic Duct  
 2P = 2-Way Plastic Duct  
 EIT = Electrically Isolated Tendon

*Figure 4.1: Final Half-Cell Reading Contour Maps*

Spatially, there are some discernible patterns visible in the contour maps. For specimens T.1, 2.2, 3.2, and 4.2, the potentials were noticeably different between the north and south tendon regions, implying that damage may have been more severe in one tendon. For other specimens, the difference was not as clear. Specimens 4.2 and 7.1 had the least negative readings overall, indicating that they had experienced less corrosion than the other specimens. In addition, it appears from nearly all the contour maps that potentials were least negative at the live and dead ends of the monitoring region. This may have occurred because the tendons are draped, making

them slightly deeper within the specimen at the end regions. This is important because as depth to steel increases, so does the inaccuracy of the half-cell potential measurement<sup>14</sup>. The average final half-cell reading for each specimen is plotted in Figure 4.2.

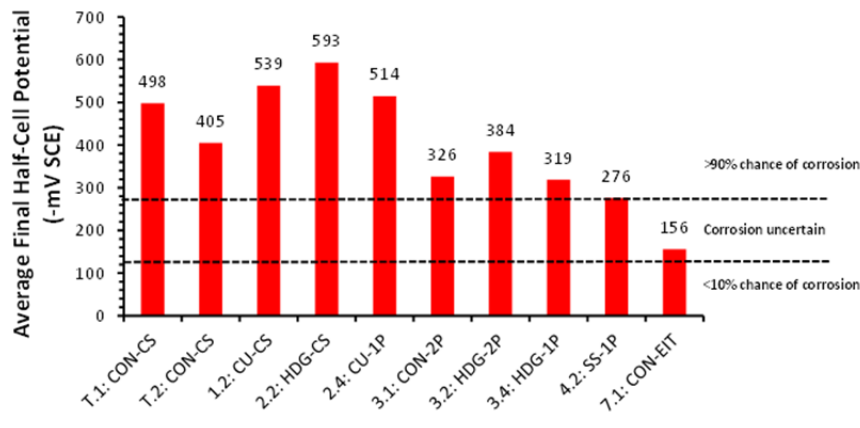


Figure 4.2: Average Final Half-Cell Readings

Specimen 2.2 had the most negative final average potential, while specimen 7.1 had the least negative potential. This probably indicates the effectiveness of the electrically isolated system used in specimen 7.1. Specimens with galvanized steel ducts had an average final half-cell potential of  $-509 \text{ mV}_{\text{SCE}}$ , while those with plastic ducts had an average final potential of  $-329 \text{ mV}_{\text{SCE}}$ . This suggests that specimens with plastic ducts had less corrosion at the time of autopsy. Average final potential for specimens with conventional strand was  $-346 \text{ mV}_{\text{SCE}}$ , while the average for specimens with any other type of strand was  $-437 \text{ mV}_{\text{SCE}}$ , indicating that the specimens with conventional strand were actually less corroded than the specimens with novel strand types at autopsy. This seems highly counterintuitive but can be explained. Averaging the final readings in this manner ignores the individual contributions of each element to corrosion. The higher potentials of the specimens with novel strand types may have occurred due to a higher degree of corrosion in the specimens' reinforcing steel or ducts. Also, different types of strand are likely to corrode in ways that produce different potentials. Analysis of the final half-cell potentials alongside the results of the forensic analysis will shed more light on the corrosion within each specimen.

ASTM C876 defines threshold half-cell readings with respect to the copper-copper sulfate electrode that correspond to different probabilities of corrosion. These readings were converted to the saturated standard calomel electrode and are shown in Table 4.1<sup>17</sup>. Once again, it should be noted that these threshold potentials are truly valid only for non-prestressed concrete structures containing uncoated reinforcing steel.

Table 4.1: Probability of Corrosion by ASTM C876

Potential	Probability of Corrosion
More positive than $-123 \text{ mV}_{\text{SCE}}$	Less than 10%
$-123$ to $-273 \text{ mV}_{\text{SCE}}$	Uncertain
More negative than $-273 \text{ mV}_{\text{SCE}}$	More than 90%

The maximum half-cell potentials from each monthly reading throughout the exposure period are plotted for every specimen in Figure 4.3. Superimposed on this plot are the probabilities of corrosion according to ASTM C876 as listed in Table 4.1.

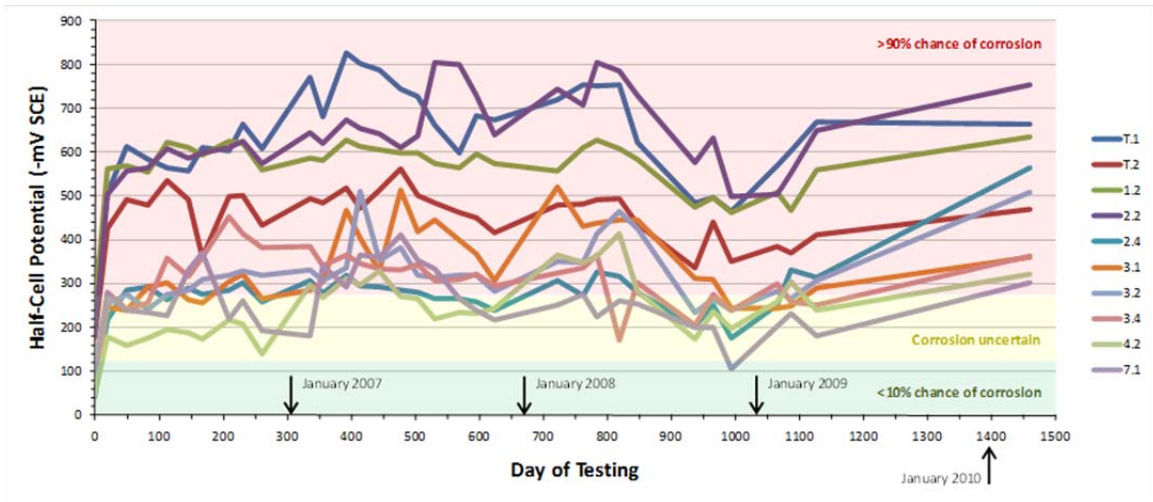
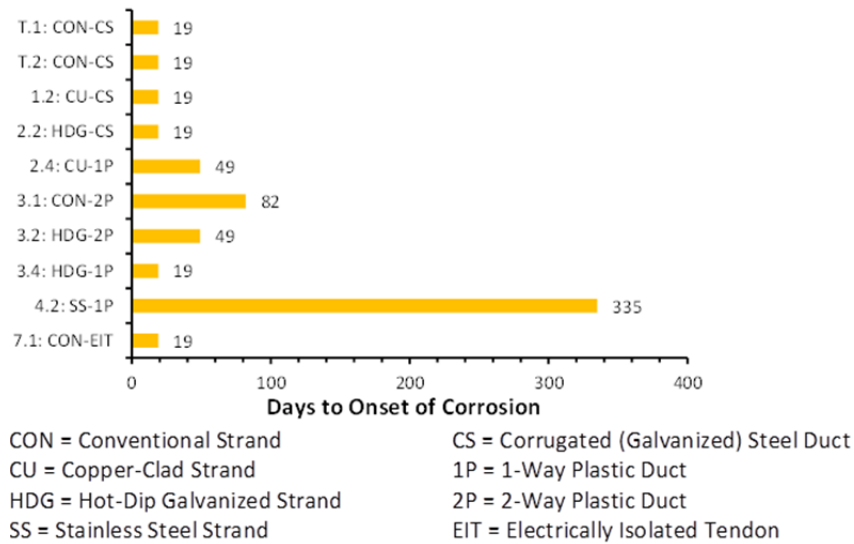


Figure 4.3: Maximum Monthly Half-Cell Potentials

From the plot of all maximum monthly readings, it appears that the most negative monthly potentials for most specimens were within the uncertain or greater than 90% probability of corrosion range for nearly the entire exposure period. Maximum readings increased quickly at the beginning of exposure, then appeared to fluctuate loosely around a mean value for each specimen. Potentials for many specimens became noticeably less negative between approximately 800 and 1000 days of exposure. Very negative but consistent potentials indicate that corrosion is electrochemically probable but limited by a lack of oxygen<sup>14</sup>. However, no specimen shows uniform readings over its entire life, suggesting that oxygen was never a limiting factor in corrosion for any specimen.

If the first maximum potential reading within the 90% probability of corrosion range is assumed to indicate the onset of corrosion, the approximate time of corrosion initiation can be estimated for each specimen. The estimated time to corrosion initiation for all specimens is shown in Figure 4.4.





*Figure 4.4: Estimated Time to Initiation of Corrosion*

By this estimate, corrosion began almost immediately for most specimens; 19 days corresponds to the first half-cell reading after exposure began. The four specimens with galvanized steel ducts had a combined average time to corrosion initiation of 19 days, while the six specimens with plastic ducts averaged 92 days. This indicates that specimens with galvanized ducts began to corrode before those with plastic ducts. Among the four specimens with conventional steel strand, the average time to corrosion was 35 days, compared to an average of 82 days for all other types of strand. The only marked difference was with Specimen 4.2, which contained stainless steel strand. Half-cell potential readings indicated that corrosion did not initiate in that specimen for nearly a year after exposure began. This indicates that stainless steel strand is much more corrosion-resistant than the other types studied in this phase of autopsies. Just as in the analysis of the average final half-cell readings, it should be noted that averaging the estimated time to corrosion in this manner ignores the individual contributions of each element to the total corrosion of the specimen. In Chapter 6, half-cell potentials are compared to the results of the forensic analysis. This will illustrate the accuracy of the half-cell method as it was implemented on this project.

## 4.2 AC Impedance Data and Analysis

Resistance, capacitance, and loss factor were measured each month on specimen 7.1. Outliers were omitted from the analysis at 462 and 494 days. Measured values at these times were several orders of magnitude larger or smaller than the rest of the data. Resistance and specific resistance are shown in Figure 4.5. Specific resistance is taken as the resistance multiplied by the length of the encapsulated tendon.

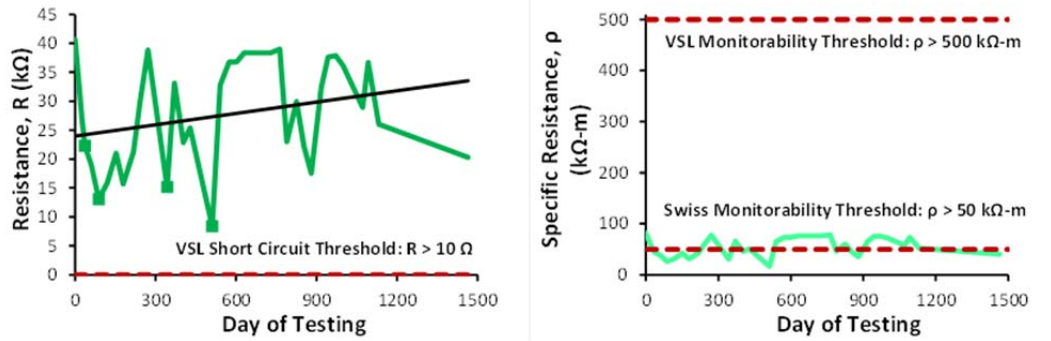


Figure 4.5: Resistance and Specific Resistance for Specimen 7.1

In general, the resistance increased throughout the test period, as shown by the trendline in Figure 4.5. This is normal behavior, as resistance tends to increase with age<sup>4</sup>. VSL defines the minimum resistance required to assure the absence of a short circuit to be 10  $\Omega$ . All resistance measurements easily exceed this value. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that no short circuit occurred between the tendon and reinforcing steel. VSL also defines a threshold specific resistance of 500  $k\Omega\cdot m$ , below which a post-tensioning tendon is not considered monitorable in the long term<sup>4</sup>. All of the specific resistance values were well below this value, suggesting that the tendon is not suitable for accurate long-term monitoring. However, ASTRA (Swiss Federal Road Office) gives a much lower threshold for monitorability of 50  $k\Omega\cdot m$ <sup>18</sup>. Approximately 60% of the specific resistance values for Specimen 7.1 were above this threshold. The Swiss standard is several years newer than that which was published in FIB Bulletin 33. The specific resistance threshold was reduced after field experience showed that 500  $k\Omega\cdot m$  was nearly unattainable in the field<sup>19</sup>. Regardless of which standard is used, the monitorability of Specimen 7.1 is in question.

Low resistance values can indicate an electrolytic connection between tendon and concrete. A decrease in resistance of 30% or more indicates that moisture has entered the duct<sup>4</sup>. A decrease of this magnitude occurred four times throughout the life of Specimen 7.1. These points are marked with squares on the plot of resistance versus time (see Figure 4.5). While there was no direct electrical contact between tendon and reinforcement, a leak may have allowed chloride ingress at one or more points along the duct, causing the resistance to drop. However, since resistance readings were not uniform over the life of the specimen, these four decreases could be merely scatter.

Capacitance and specific capacitance are shown in Figure 4.6. Specific capacitance is computed by dividing capacitance by the length of the encapsulated tendon.

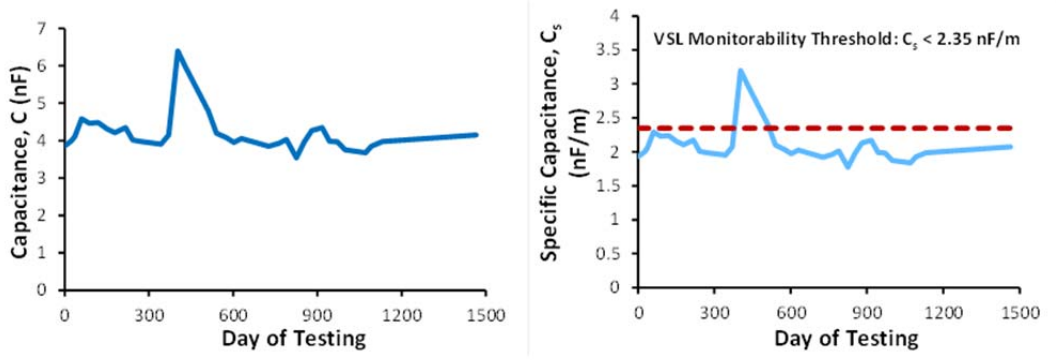


Figure 4.6: Capacitance and Specific Capacitance for Specimen 7.1

The VSL maximum specific capacitance for monitorability is  $2.35 \text{ nF/m}^4$ . All but two measured values were below this threshold, indicating that the specimen is mostly monitorable. The Swiss document gives no guidelines for specific capacitance values. The loss factor is plotted in Figure 4.7.

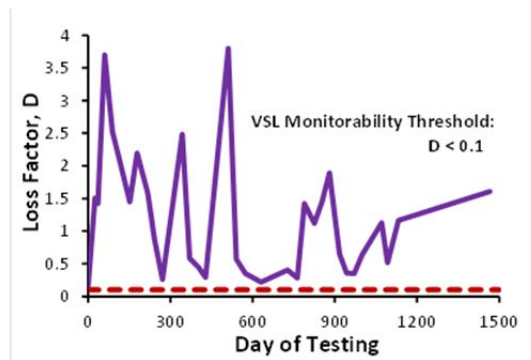


Figure 4.7: Loss Factor for Specimen 7.1

The VSL minimum threshold for the loss factor is  $0.1^4$ . All measured values were greater than this, indicating that the tendon is not monitorable. The Swiss document does not mention loss factor values.

Analysis of AC impedance data for specimen 7.1 does not clearly establish its monitorability. It is certain that no short circuit occurred, and it is possible that chlorides entered the duct at some point during the life of the specimen. The extreme variation of the data is also problematic. In a truly encapsulated specimen, readings should vary little from month to month, even in a subtropical climate such as Austin. According to Dr. Hans-Rudolf Ganz, Chief Technical Officer at VSL International, the measuring device used does not fully comply with accepted standards for AC impedance measurement<sup>20</sup>. This issue will be addressed for the remaining electrically isolated specimens before the final round of autopsies begins in 2012.

### 4.3 Chloride Penetration Data Analysis

Chloride samples were extracted from each specimen as described in Chapter 3. Grout chloride data and analyses are found in Chapter 5. The 0.033% by weight of concrete threshold

for corrosion is taken from Salas' work on Project 0-1405<sup>8</sup>. Although the true threshold value may vary by cement content<sup>3</sup>, 0.033% will be used for concrete and grout chloride analysis in this thesis to provide continuity from previous corrosion research at the University of Texas. The chloride contents for the top surface 2-inch offset are shown in Figure 4.8.

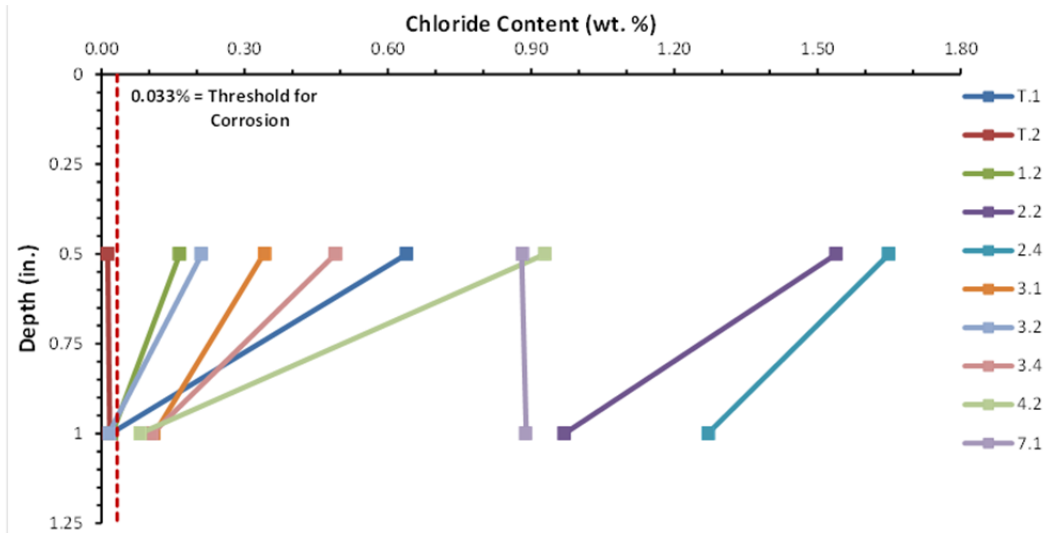


Figure 4.8: Specimen Chloride Content at Top Surface, 2-Inch Offset

Chloride content decreased with depth for all specimens except for Specimen 7.1. It is possible that the presence of additional indentations within that specimen's saltwater tray caused a chloride distribution in which concentrations were actually higher at 1 inch depth than at 0.5 inches. At a depth of 0.5 inches, chloride content was well above the corrosion threshold for every specimen except for T.2. At 1 inch depth, chloride content was above the threshold for six of the ten specimens.

The high level of chlorides within the top surface of the specimens may indicate one of two things. Either the concrete was relatively porous and allowed chlorides to permeate to a depth of at least one inch, or several samples were inadvertently extracted from a small crack. The former is certainly plausible. The surface of the specimens' saltwater trays generally appeared to be in poor condition upon autopsy, and the subsurface concrete condition could have been affected as well. The latter case is also possible, although care was taken to examine the drilling site prior to extraction to ensure that no visible cracks were present there. Had control blocks been cast alongside the post-tensioned specimens at the start of the project, there would be a better understanding of the transport of chlorides through the concrete.

The presence of large, deep cracks on the top of all specimens increases the probability of corrosion substantially. Because chlorides can travel so deep into the specimens through the cracks, their movement through the pore space of the concrete is expected to have a nearly negligible effect on corrosion.

Chloride contents for the anchorage regions of the dripper and non-dripper specimens are shown in separate plots in Figure 4.9. Note that on the dead end of the specimens, samples were extracted 5 inches from the top surface. On the live end, samples were extracted 6 inches from

the top surface. For specimen 7.1, samples were extracted 6 inches from the top surface at both ends.

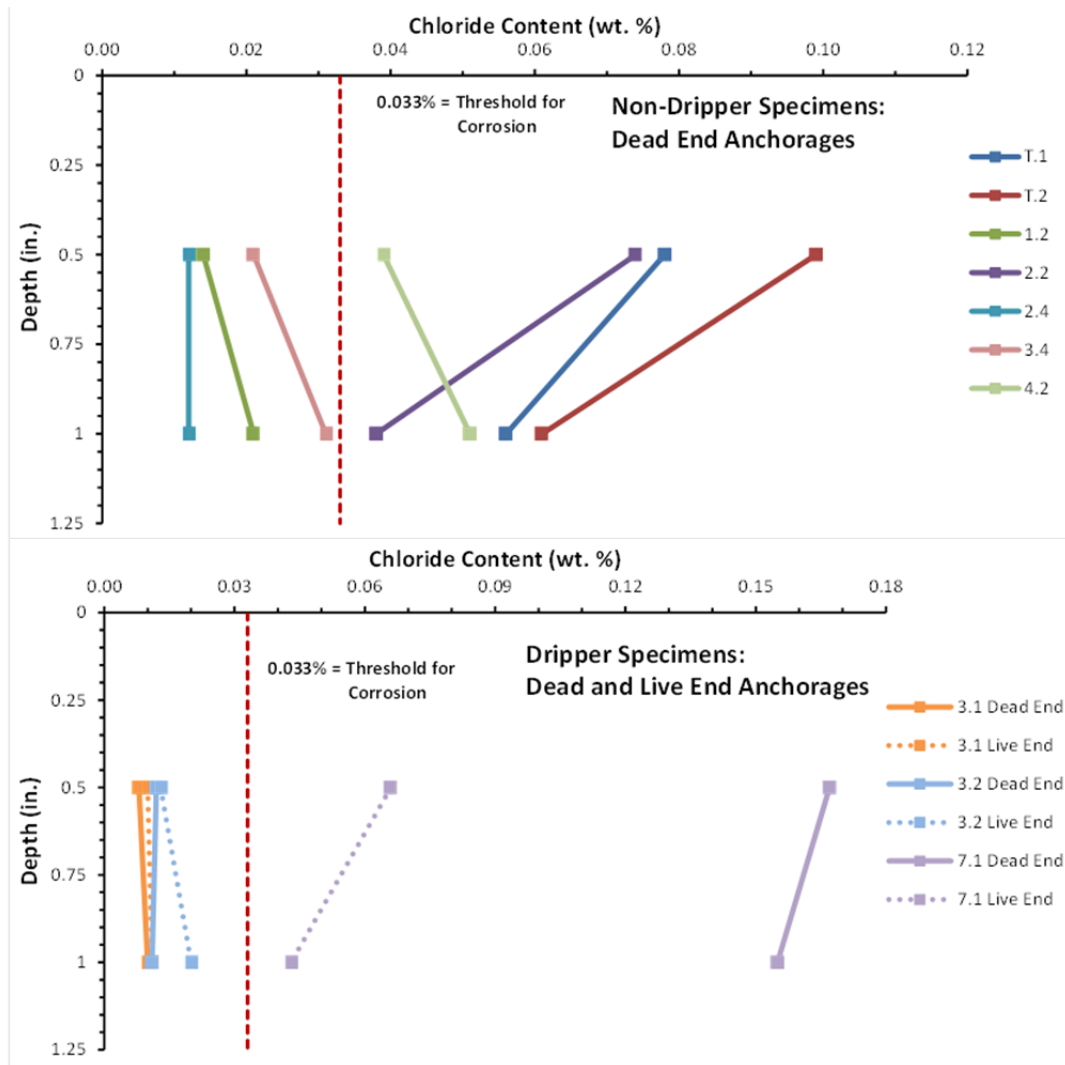


Figure 4.9: Specimen Chloride Content at Anchorages

Overall, concentrations were much lower at the dead end anchorages than at the top surfaces of the seven non-dripper specimens. Maximum chloride content for any non-dripper specimen was 1.65% (Specimen 2.4) at the top surface and 0.099% (Specimen T.2) at the dead end anchorage. Three of the seven non-dripper specimens showed chloride concentrations below the corrosion threshold at both depths. The other four specimens were above the threshold at both depths. In addition, chloride content only decreased with depth for three specimens.

Chloride content was below the corrosion threshold at the live and dead ends of dripper specimens 3.1 and 3.2. The concentrations also increased with depth at both ends for these specimens. For Specimen 7.1, chloride content decreased with depth and was above the corrosion threshold at both ends. In addition, concentrations decreased with depth for this specimen. For the exposure specimens, anchorage region concentrations were much lower in magnitude than top surface concentrations.

For all specimens, the pourbacks were visually in much better condition upon autopsy than the saltwater trays. Therefore, concrete permeability should not have played a role in the unusual chloride distributions seen in Figure 4.9. Additionally, care was taken to avoid extracting a sample from a crack, thus negating the effects of accumulated chlorides within the pourback cracks. Anchorage chloride levels may have increased in the dead ends of all specimens and the live ends of the dripper specimens due to overflow that occurred when saltwater was flushed from the specimens' saltwater trays each month. It is important to note that there is a full order of magnitude difference between top surface chloride concentrations and the anchorage chloride concentrations. The strange distributions visible in Figure 4.9 could be partially caused by inaccuracies of the testing equipment at lower chloride contents. Regardless of the explanation, the accuracy of chloride concentrations as a predictor of internal corrosion will be examined in Chapter 6.

## Chapter 5. Forensic Analysis

After the exposure period, ten saltwater exposure test specimens and one non-saltwater exposure control specimen were autopsied. First, the exterior of each specimen was thoroughly inspected for cracks, staining, and other signs of distress. Next, longitudinal bars, stirrups, ducts, and post-tensioning tendons were removed from the center of each specimen and inspected for signs of corrosion. Post-tensioning anchorages from the dead end of each specimen were removed and inspected, as well as from the live end of the three specimens that underwent anchorage saltwater exposure during the test period.

### 5.1 Autopsy Procedure

A complete summary of the autopsy procedures is given in Reference 28. A brief summary is included herein.

#### 5.1.1 Final Visual Examination

The exposed surfaces of each specimen were examined for surface defects, cracking, discoloration, efflorescence, and corrosion staining using the *Guide for Conducting a Visual Inspection of Concrete in Service*<sup>21</sup>. Each specimen was thoroughly photographed and top surface cracks were measured using a crack scope and crack comparator.

In order to compare the extent of cracking among specimens numerically, the crack rating was computed according to Equation 5-1, adapted from Salas<sup>8</sup>:

$$\text{Crack Rating} = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i^{\text{avg}} \times l_i \quad \text{Equation 5.1}$$

Where,

$w_i^{\text{avg}}$  = average crack width for crack  $i$

$l_i$  = crack length at end of testing period for crack  $i$

$m$  = number of longitudinal and transverse cracks within the main autopsy region

$i$  = crack under consideration

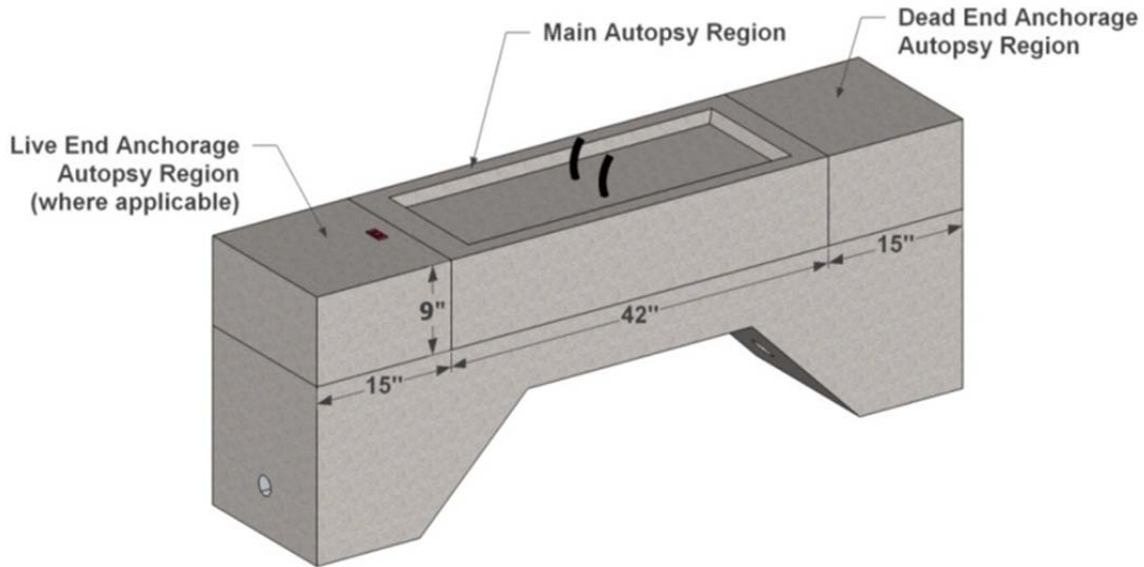
Crack width data is analyzed in Chapter 6.

#### 5.1.2 Specimen Unloading

Live load was removed by cutting the Dywidag bars at midspan with an oxy-acetylene torch.

#### 5.1.3 Cutting of Beams

The main autopsy region consisted of a 42 inch long, 9 inch deep block, which was sawed from the top of each specimen (see Figure 5.1). Additional blocks containing the anchorages were removed from the dead end of all specimens and from the live end of the three specimens that received dead end anchorage exposure. The anchorage blocks for Specimen 7.1 were each 6 inches longer than the other specimens' due to their longer anchorage hardware. The cut dimensions are shown in Figure 5.1.



*Figure 5.1: Cut Dimensions*

The dimensions of the main autopsy region were chosen to be comparable to the ones used by Salas<sup>8</sup> and Turco<sup>9</sup> in the autopsies of TxDOT Project 0-1405 specimens. However, the length of the main autopsy region was shortened by 30 inches due to the new specimens' shorter overall length.

#### **5.1.4 Removal of Reinforcing Elements**

The mild steel elements and post-tensioning tendons were removed from the main autopsy region with a breaker and hammer drills. Concrete was carefully chipped away in order to minimize damage to the components inside. The completely exposed reinforcement cage and tendons from Specimen 2.4 are shown in Figure 5.2. 42 inches of each tendon and longitudinal bar, as well as the top portion of seven stirrups were included in the main autopsy region.



*Figure 5.2: Reinforcement Cage and Post-Tensioning Tendons from Specimen 2.4*



### 5.1.5 Removal of Post-Tensioning Anchorages

Concrete was chipped away from the anchorage blocks using hammer drills. Care was taken to minimize damage to the anchorage components. Bearing plates and anchor heads were able to be removed intact for most specimens.

### 5.1.6 Disassembly of Post-Tensioning Tendons

After both tendons had been removed from the main autopsy region block, an electric grinder was used to cut each duct in half longitudinally so that it could be separated from the grout inside (see Figure 5.3). Next, the grout was examined for the presence of cracks, staining, discoloration, and voids. Samples for chloride content analysis were extracted from the grout at 2-inch intervals over the regions in which substantial corrosion damage was observed on the surrounding duct. If no damage was observed, one sample was taken at midspan only. All grout was then cleared from the strands. Strands were examined. A screwdriver was used to pry each strand apart so that its interstices could be inspected (see Figure 5.4).

Procedures for the anchorage block tendons were identical. However, no chloride samples were taken from the anchorage zone ducts. In order to disassemble the anchorages, each anchorage was cut in half with an oxy-acetylene torch. The ducts were cut with an electric grinder and removed. Then, grout was carefully chipped away from the strands. Finally, the anchor heads were heated until the strands and wedges were able to be loosened and removed.



*Figure 5.3: Removing Ducts Using Electric Grinder*



*Figure 5.4: Using Screwdriver to Unravel Strand*

### **5.1.7 Element Rating System**

A numerical rating system was used to evaluate and compare corrosion damage among the metal components inside each specimen. This system was developed by West<sup>10</sup> during his work on TxDOT Project 0-1405 and has been used by every other researcher assigned to that project since. West's system had no provisions for plastic ducts. As a result, the rating scale for galvanized steel duct was modified by the authors to account for the different type of damage that plastic ducts experience.

#### ***5.1.7.1 Epoxy-Coated Steel Rating System***

The top and bottom of each longitudinal bar were divided into 21 2-inch intervals. The inside and outside of the stirrups were divided into 6 2-inch intervals on the horizontal region and 2 3-inch intervals on each of their legs. The interval layout for longitudinal bars and stirrups is shown in Figure 5.5.

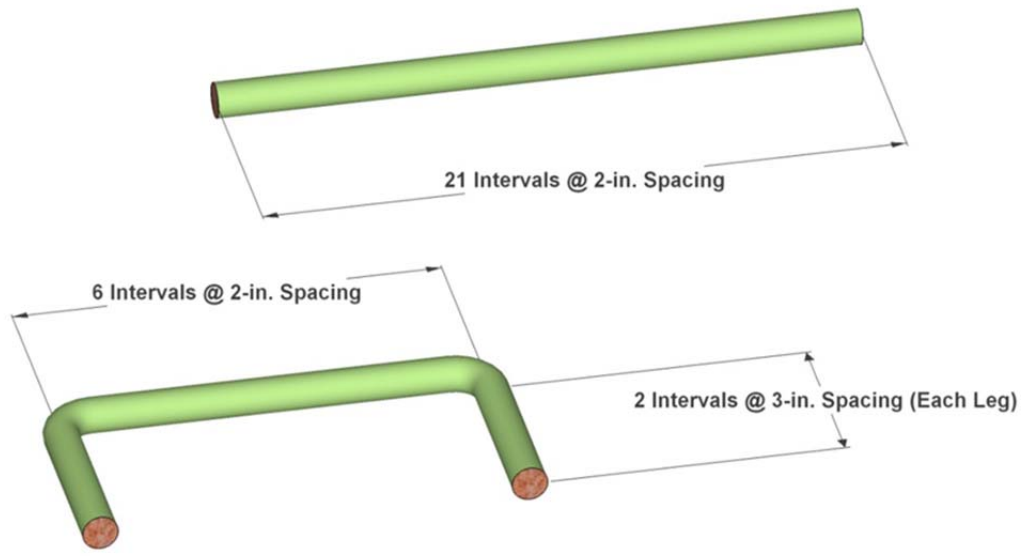


Figure 5.5: Interval Layout for Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

The numerical rating system used to evaluate each interval of the epoxy-coated steel components is shown in Table 5.1. It should be noted that none of the specimens from earlier project 0-1405 were constructed with epoxy-coated bars. Nevertheless, West’s rating system will be useful to compare corrosion damage to the epoxy-coated components among the project specimens.

Table 5.1: Numerical Rating System for Epoxy-Coated Steel Bars

Code	Meaning	Description	Rating
NC	No Corrosion	No evidence of corrosion.	0
D	Discoloration	No evidence of corrosion, but some discoloration from original color.	1
L	Light	Surface corrosion on <b>less</b> than one half of the interval, no pitting is present. Surface corrosion can be removed using a cleaning pad.	2
M	Moderate	Surface corrosion on <b>more</b> than one half of the interval, no pitting. <b>and/or</b> Any corrosion that cannot be completely removed using cleaning pad.	4
P	Pitting	Pit visible to the unaided eye.	8
AR	Area Reduction	Measurable reduction in bar cross-sectional area due to corrosion.	R <sup>2</sup>

R = Estimated bar cross-sectional area reduction in percent.

A 3M Scotchbrite™ cleaning pad was used to determine whether the interval received a rating of L or M. When applicable, the pad was scrubbed on the component of interest with the amount of pressure used to scrub dirty pots and pans. Area loss was measured using a micrometer, then converted to percent of total cross-sectional area. The highest possible rating for an epoxy-coated steel component in one interval is 10,000, which would indicate loss of the entire section in that interval. The rating for a longitudinal bar is given by Equation 5.2:

$$R_{\text{bar}} = \sum_{i=1}^{21} (R_{\text{top},i} + R_{\text{bottom},i}) \quad \text{Equation 5.2}$$

The total rating for both longitudinal bars is given by Equation 5-3:

$$R_{\text{total}} = \sum_{n=1}^2 R_{\text{bar},n} \quad \text{Equation 5.3}$$

Where,

- $R_{\text{top},i}$  = corrosion rating on top bar surface, interval  $i$
- $R_{\text{bottom},i}$  = corrosion rating on bottom bar surface, interval  $i$
- $R_{\text{bar},n}$  = total bar corrosion rating, bar  $n$
- $i$  = interval, 1 to 21
- $n$  = bar number, 1 to 2

For Specimen 7.1,  $n = 4$  because it was constructed with two additional longitudinal bars. In order to compare longitudinal bar corrosion ratings among specimens, Equation 5.4 gives a generalized corrosion rating in units of average rating per foot of bar:

$$R_{\text{gen,bar}} = \frac{R_{\text{total}}}{2 \times 3.5} \quad \text{Equation 5.4}$$

Where 3.5 is the total length of each bar in feet.

The total rating for an individual stirrup is given by Equation 5.5:

$$R_{\text{stirrup}} = \sum_{i=1}^{10} (R_{\text{top},i} + R_{\text{bottom},i}) \quad \text{Equation 5.5}$$

The total rating for all seven stirrups in the specimen is given by Equation 5.6:

$$R_{\text{total}} = \sum_{n=1}^7 R_{\text{stirrup},n} \quad \text{Equation 5.6}$$

Where,

- $R_{\text{top},i}$  = corrosion rating on top bar surface, interval  $i$
- $R_{\text{bottom},i}$  = corrosion rating on bottom bar surface, interval  $i$
- $R_{\text{stirrup},n}$  = total bar corrosion rating, bar  $n$
- $i$  = interval, 1 to 10
- $n$  = stirrup number, 1 to 7

In order to compare stirrup corrosion among specimens, Equation 5-7 gives the generalized stirrup corrosion rating:

$$R_{\text{gen,stirrup}} = \frac{R_{\text{total}}}{7 \times 2} \quad \text{Equation 5.7}$$

Where 2 is the total length of each stirrup in feet.

### 5.1.7.2 Galvanized Duct Rating System

Like the longitudinal bars, the galvanized ducts were divided into twenty-one 2-inch intervals. The top and bottom halves of the duct were evaluated separately at each interval on both the inside and outside surfaces. The interval layout for the galvanized ducts is shown in Figure 5.6.

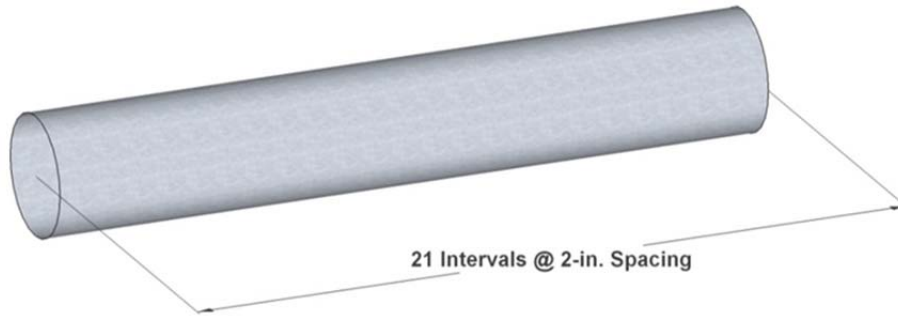


Figure 5.6: Interval Layout for Galvanized and Plastic Ducts

The length of galvanized duct removed from the anchorages was also rated using this system with the appropriate number of 2-inch intervals. The numerical rating system used to evaluate each interval of the galvanized duct is shown in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2: Numerical Rating System for Galvanized Duct

Code	Meaning	Description	Rating
<b>NC</b>	No Corrosion	No evidence of corrosion.	0
<b>D</b>	Discoloration	No evidence of corrosion, but some discoloration from original color.	1
<b>L</b>	Light	Surface corrosion on <b>less</b> than one half of the interval, no pitting is present.	2
<b>M</b>	Moderate	Surface corrosion on <b>more</b> than one half of the interval, no pitting.	4
<b>P</b>	Pitting	Pit visible to the unaided eye.	8
<b>H</b>	Hole Through Duct	Hole corroded through duct. Used in conjunction with ratings D, L, M, and S.	32 + $A_h$
<b><math>A_h</math> = Estimated area of hole(s) in mm<sup>2</sup>.</b>			

Duct hole dimensions were measured with a micrometer. The highest possible corrosion rating for the galvanized duct in one interval would be 8,139, indicating that the entire duct is corroded away over the entire interval. The rating for the entire duct is given by Equation 5.8:

$$R_{\text{total}} = \sum_{i=1}^{21} (R_{\text{top,outer},i} + R_{\text{bottom,outer},i} + R_{\text{top,inner},i} + R_{\text{bottom,inner},i}) \quad \text{Equation 5.8}$$

Where,

$R_{\text{top,outer},i}$  = top outer surface corrosion rating, interval  $i$   
 $R_{\text{bottom,outer},i}$  = bottom outer surface corrosion rating, interval  $i$

- $R_{top,inner,i}$  = top inner surface corrosion rating, interval  $i$
- $R_{bottom,inner,i}$  = bottom inner surface corrosion rating, interval  $i$
- $i$  = interval, 1 to 21 for main autopsy region, 1 to 3 or 4 for anchorages

Each duct is given a separate generalized corrosion rating to facilitate comparison among ducts. The generalized rating is given by Equation 5.9:

$$R_{gen,duct} = \frac{R_{total}}{3.5} \quad \text{Equation 5.9}$$

Where 3.5 is the length of each duct in the main autopsy region in feet. Generalized anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings are calculated for each specimen according to their length.

### 5.1.7.3 Plastic Duct Rating System

Like the galvanized duct, plastic duct was divided into twenty-one 2-inch intervals and evaluated on the top and bottom of both the inside and outside surfaces of each interval. The interval layout for plastic ducts is identical to that of the galvanized ducts and is shown in Figure 5.6.

The lengths of plastic duct removed from the anchorage regions was also evaluated using this system with the appropriate number of intervals. Because plastic ducts do not corrode, the numerical system developed for them has fewer damage classifications. The numerical rating system used to evaluate each interval of plastic duct is shown in Table 5.3.

Duct hole dimensions and gouge/scratch depths were measured with a micrometer. The highest possible damage rating for the plastic duct in one interval varies by duct diameter, ranging from 9,436 to 13,612. This corresponds to the entire duct being absent over the entire interval. The damage rating and generalized damage rating for an entire duct are given by Equations 5.8 and 5.9, respectively.

**Table 5.3: Numerical Rating System for Plastic Duct**

Code	Meaning	Description	Rating
ND	No Damage	No evidence of damage.	0
G	Gouging/Scratching	Gouges or scratches are present on the duct walls.	$R^2$
H	Hole Through Duct	Hole present in duct. Used in conjunction with ratings ND and G.	$32 + A_h$
<b>R = Estimated reduction in wall thickness in percent.</b>			
<b><math>A_h</math> = Estimated area of hole(s) in <math>mm^2</math>.</b>			

### 5.1.7.4 Prestressing Strand Rating System

The strand was divided into twenty-one 2-inch intervals. All six outer wires and the inner wire of each strand were evaluated separately for each interval. The anchorage zone strand was also evaluated by this system with the appropriate number of intervals. The numerical rating system used to evaluate the prestressing strand is shown in Table 5.4. It should be noted that this system does not take metal type into account. As such, direct comparisons among different strand types are not possible.

**Table 5.4: Numerical Rating System for Prestressing Strand**

Code	Meaning	Description	Rating
NC	No Corrosion	No evidence of corrosion.	0
D	Discoloration	No evidence of corrosion, but some discoloration from original color.	1
L	Light	Surface corrosion on <b>less</b> than one half of the interval, no pitting is present. Surface corrosion can be removed using a cleaning pad.	2
M	Moderate	Surface corrosion on <b>more</b> than one half of the interval, no pitting. <b>and/or</b> Any corrosion that cannot be completely removed using cleaning pad.	4
P1	Mild Pitting	Broad, shallow pits with a maximum depth not greater than 0.02 inches.	8
P2	Moderate Pitting	Pitting where the maximum depth ranges between 0.02 and 0.04 inches.	16
P3	Severe Pitting	Pitting where the maximum pit depth is greater than 0.04 inches.	32

The cleaning pad used to distinguish between light and moderate corrosion is the same as that used on the epoxy-coated steel components, applied with similar effort. Pit depth was measured with a micrometer. The three levels of pitting classification were established by Salas for Project 0-1405<sup>8</sup>. The highest possible rating for any one interval of strand is 224. This would indicate that severe pitting was found on every wire of the strand in that interval. The corrosion rating for an individual strand is given by Equation 5.10:

$$R_{strand} = \sum_{i=1}^{21} (R_{outer,i} + n_i \times R_{inner,i}) \quad \text{Equation 5.10}$$

The total corrosion rating for all strands in one duct is given by Equation 5-11:

$$R_{total} = \sum_{n=1}^3 R_{strand,n} \quad \text{Equation 5.11}$$

Where,

- $R_{outer,i}$  = corrosion rating on outer wires, interval  $i$
- $n_i$  = number of corroded outer wires in interval  $i$
- $R_{inner,i}$  = corrosion rating on inner wire, interval  $i$
- $n$  = strand number, 1 to 3
- $i$  = interval, 1 to 21 for main autopsy region

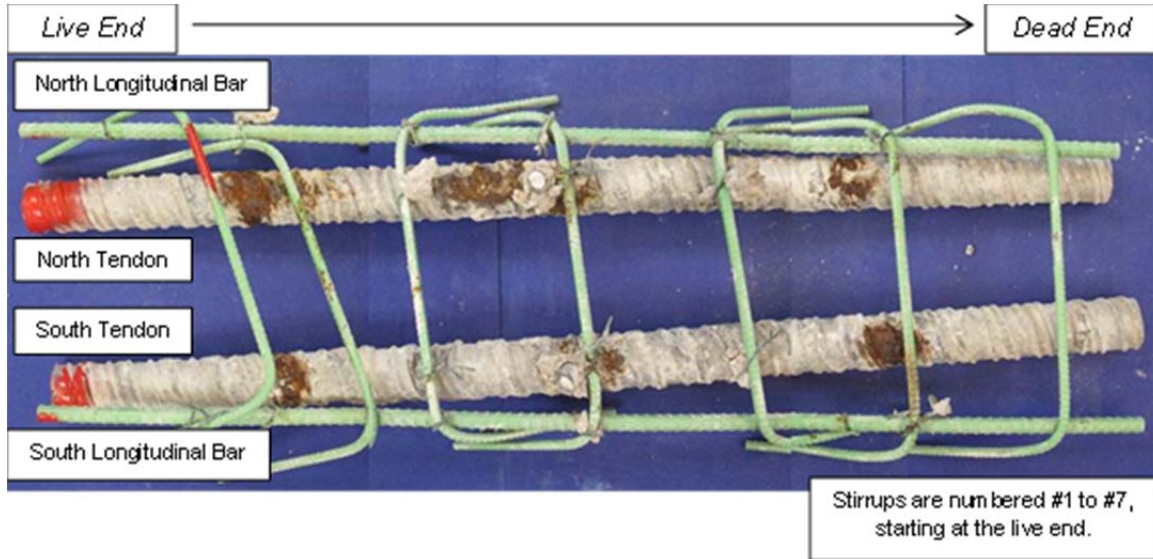
To allow strand corrosion ratings to be compared between ducts and among specimens, Equation 5.12 gives the generalized strand corrosion rating in units of rating per foot of strand:

$$R_{gen,strand} = \frac{R_{total}}{3 \times 3.5} \quad \text{Equation 5.12}$$

Where 3.5 is the length of each strand in feet.

## 5.2 Results of Forensic Analysis

Complete results of the forensic analysis for each specimen are presented in Reference 28. Highlights and comparative results are presented in Chapter 6. All longitudinal elements within the main autopsy region are pictured with a measuring tape (e.g., bars, ducts, and strand). The distance on the tape corresponds to the distance from the live end of the element pictured. For elements within the live or dead end anchorage zones, the measuring tape corresponds to the distance from the end of the element closest to the outside end of the specimen. For all specimens, elements within the main autopsy region are identified as shown in Figure 5.7.



*Figure 5.7: Forensic Analysis Element Naming Conventions*

In order to facilitate comparison to the autopsy data from Project 0-1405, all plots in this section were formatted in a similar manner to those generated by Salas<sup>8</sup> and Turco<sup>9</sup>.

### 5.2.1 Specimen T.1: Galvanized Duct, Conventional Strand

This specimen was the first of two trial specimens that were cast prior to the others so that the project team could practice their construction methods. It did not receive anchorage exposure during the testing period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.5.





Figure 5.8: Specimen T.1 Overall (Right) and Grout Vents (Left)

**Table 5.5: Specimen T.1 Corrosion Rating Summary**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	3	19	3
Stirrups	27	169	12
North Duct	1267	1680	480
South Duct	1580	3800	1086
North Strands	11	190	12
South Strands	18	288	27

### 5.2.1.1 Appearance

The exposed surfaces of the concrete showed some moderate scaling. Two approximately 6-inch-diameter hardened grout puddles were present around the vents, where a repair was made shortly after concrete placement. A small amount of staining was visible around the base of the north grout vent, suggesting the presence of corrosion inside the specimen. This is shown in Figure 5.8.

The specimen had two large transverse cracks running across its top face, each with an average width of 0.03 inches. These cracks extended down the north and south faces of the specimen. There was one longitudinal crack with an average width of 0.004 inches running perpendicular from the north grout vent to the transverse crack near the live end of the specimen. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.11.

### 5.2.1.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Both longitudinal bars were only lightly damaged, as shown in Figure 5.10. Discoloration was present at several spots along the top side of both bars, mostly coinciding with the locations where the stirrups were tied. The stirrups showed more damage than the longitudinal bars. Six stirrups had corrosion that could not be completely scoured away along at least one interval, as pictured in Figure 5.10. Corrosion ratings were highest for stirrups #2 and #4, which were located underneath the two large transverse cracks. Stirrup #4 showed the worst damage with approximately 5% area loss at the location where the north duct was tied to it.

### 5.2.1.3 Ducts

The north and south ducts both had localized severe corrosion damage as shown in Figure 5.10. Most damage on the north duct occurred at midspan and at the live end quarter point. Pitting and corrosion were more extensive on the inside of the duct. The shape and extent of the damage indicate the presence of small grout voids along the top of the entire duct. Significant corrosion and pitting also extended along the bottom inside surface. Here, the location of damage suggests that voids may have formed under the strands during grouting (see Figure 5.9).



Figure 5.9: Specimen T.1, Corrosion Along Gouges on Bottom Half of North Duct

Damage was somewhat more extensive in the south duct. Moderate to severe area loss occurred on the top of the duct at midspan, and much smaller holes were found on top of the duct near the dead end quarter point. These holes tended to form inside the helical flutes of the duct, as seen in Figure 5.10. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.11 and summarized in Table 5.5.

### 5.2.1.4 Grout

The tendon grout had very few discernible transverse cracks and no longitudinal cracks. Corrosion staining could be seen near midspan and the live end quarter point, coinciding with the corrosion observed in the duct at those locations. Orange-yellow staining was also visible at seemingly random points along the grout. Maximum chloride content was 0.085% at midspan, well above the corrosion threshold. Chloride content distributions are shown in Figure 5.11.

The largest void occurred in the south tendon just towards the dead end from midspan (see Figure 5.10). This void was approximately 1.5 inches across and continuous across several duct flutes. Chloride content was 0.083% at 25 inches from the live end and 0.058% at both 10 inches and 33 inches. The fairly uniform chloride measurements suggest that chlorides entered the duct through the area loss at midspan and traveled along the duct either through the top voids in the grout or through the interstices of the strands. Either scenario is possible, although the small number of cracks in the grout suggest that the chlorides traveled through the voids.

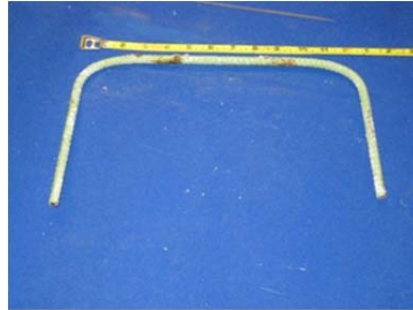
### ***5.2.1.5 Strand***

The three strands in the north tendon suffered only minor damage. The inner wires were more damaged, with light corrosion present on nearly all intervals. Corrosion ratings were uniform over the entire tendon, and all corrosion could be removed with a scouring pad.

The strands in the south tendon were somewhat more severely affected. On the outer wires, discoloration and light corrosion were present on many intervals. Corrosion that could not be scoured off occurred at a few points along each strand. The inner wires had light corrosion spots on almost all intervals. Corrosion ratings were mostly uniform over the entire tendon, although strand corrosion ratings were higher for the south tendon than for the north. A typical strand and inner wire are shown in Figure 5.10. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.11 and are summarized in Table 5.5.



**Longitudinal Bar**



**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.10: Specimen T.1 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

Crack diagram (top surface):

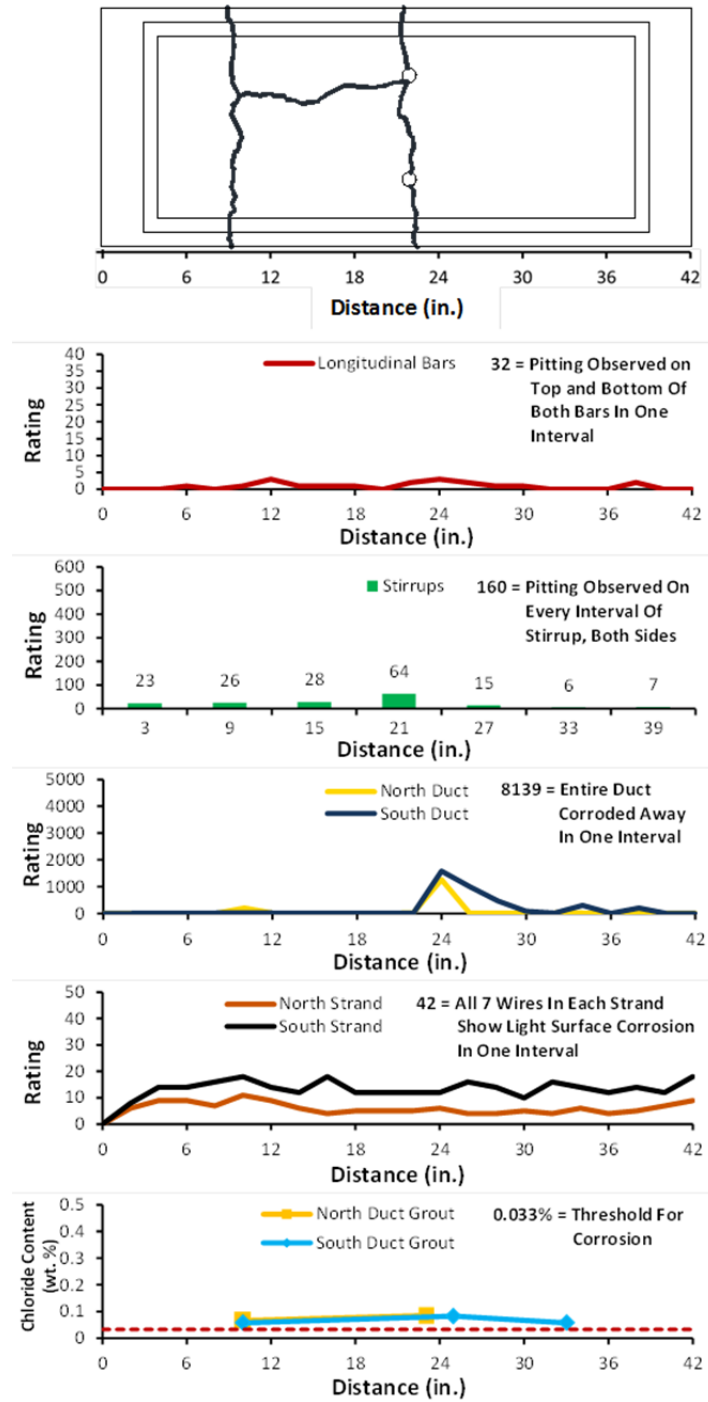


Figure 5.11: Specimen T.1 Crack Map and Corrosion Rating Plots

### 5.2.1.6 Dead End Anchorages

The epoxy applied to the anchorages prior to the pourback was mostly intact upon autopsy. North and south bearing plates and anchor heads had widespread light corrosion and

discoloration on all epoxied surfaces. The duct tape used to seal the bearing plate-duct connection was intact on both anchorages. Extensive surface corrosion was found on the surfaces covered by the duct tape. The north and south anchorages and anchor heads are shown in Figure 5.12 and corrosion ratings are given in Table 5.6.



Figure 5.12: Specimen T.1 Anchorages and Anchor Heads

Table 5.6: Specimen T.1 Anchorage Corrosion Rating Summary

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
North Duct	13	35	53
South Duct	6	17	26
North Strands	38	107	36
South Strands	25	94	31

Both north and south anchorage zone ducts experienced pitting and corrosion near their splice zone, where they had been wrapped in duct tape. Some localized corrosion and discoloration were found elsewhere on the ducts' outer surfaces. Corrosion ratings for the anchorage zone ducts are summarized in Table 5.6.

The strands in the anchorage zones of both the north and south tendons experienced light localized corrosion and discoloration scattered across their lengths. As with the main specimen tendons, the center wire of all strands was slightly more damaged than the outer wires. Damage to both sets of strands was most severe at the ends that were outside the anchor head. One strand in each duct experienced moderate corrosion on several wires in its outermost interval. All wedges were substantially intact with only light localized corrosion. The appearance of a typical

strand, with and without wedges, is shown in Figure 5.13. Corrosion ratings for the anchorage zone strands are summarized in Table 5.6.

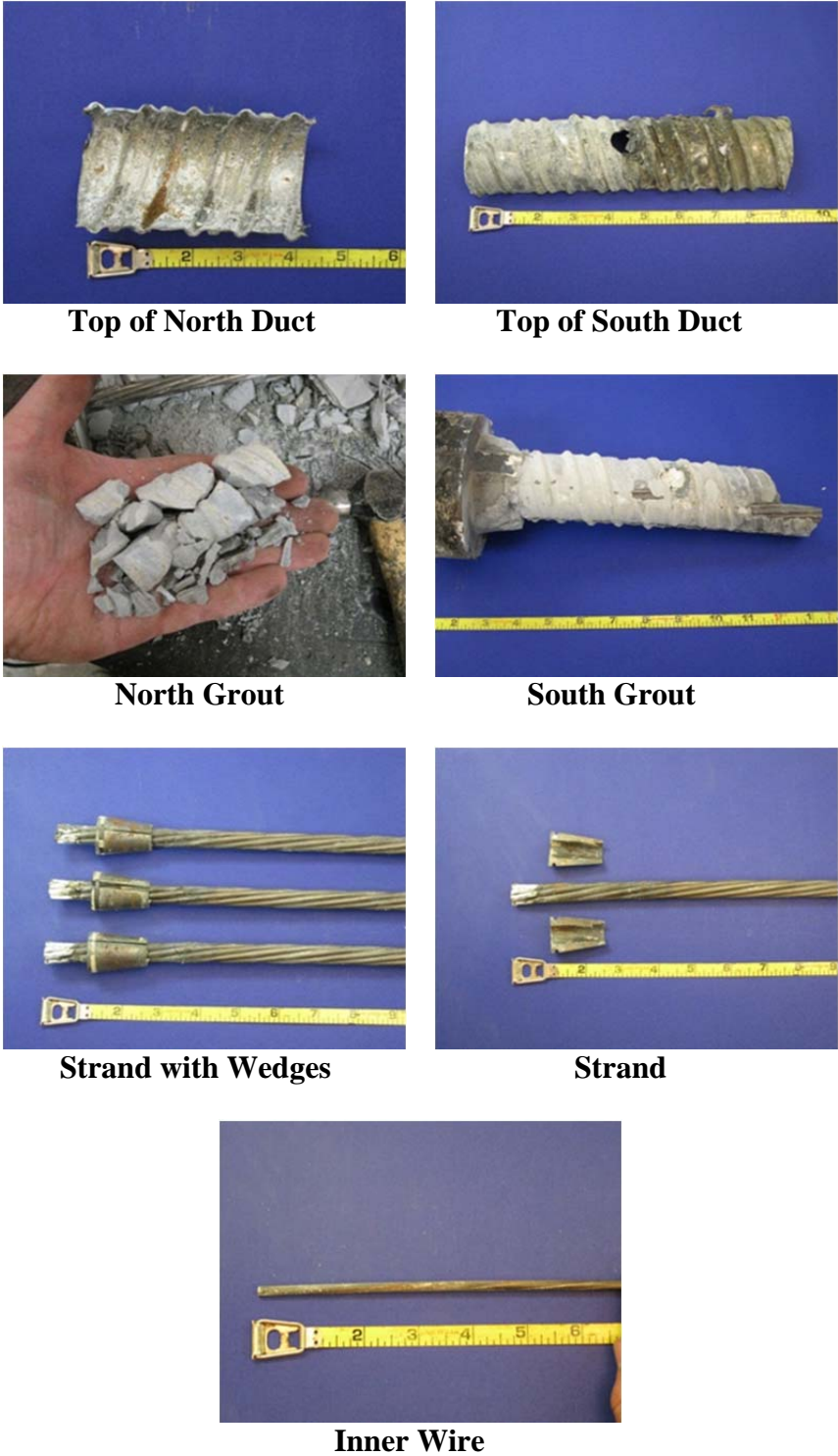


Figure 5.13: Specimen T.1 Anchorage Region Elements

## 5.2.2 Specimen T.2: Galvanized Duct, Conventional Strand, Galvanized Bearing Plates

This specimen was the second of two trial specimens that were cast prior to the others so that the project team could practice their construction methods. It did not receive anchorage exposure during the testing period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.7.



Figure 5.14: Specimen T.2 Overall (Left) and Grout Vents (Right)

Table 5.7: Specimen T.2 Corrosion Rating Summary

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	8	50	7
Stirrups	10	120	9
North Duct	4966	38318	10948
South Duct	1747	2256	645
North Strands	29	286	27
South Strands	29	395	38

### 5.2.2.1 Appearance

This specimen showed light to moderate scaling on many of its exposed surfaces, mostly on the top face and the upper north and south faces. Extremely faint discoloration was found at the base of the north grout vent, suggesting the presence of corrosion inside the specimen there. The exterior of the specimen is shown in Figure 5.14.

The specimen had two large transverse cracks running along its top face and down its north and south faces, each with an average width of 0.03 inches. The epoxy used to seal the vertical portions of these cracks to prevent leakage was intact. The dead end anchorage pourback showed significant separation as well as some delamination near its interface with the rest of the specimen. This is shown in Figure 5.15. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.19.





*Figure 5.15: Specimen T.2, Separation and Delamination Around Dead End Pourback*

#### ***5.2.2.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups***

Both longitudinal bars were only slightly damaged, showing light localized corrosion and discoloration. All corrosion on both bars could be scrubbed away with a scouring pad. Most of the damage on both bars occurred at the locations where the stirrups were tied, and damage was the most severe near midspan. The highest corrosion ratings coincided with the location of the transverse crack nearest to the live end. Typical longitudinal bar corrosion damage is shown in Figure 5.18. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.19 and summarized in Table 5.7.

Damage to the stirrups was light to moderate. Stirrup #4 was most damaged. It had pitting at two tie points on its outer surface. A typical stirrup is pictured in Figure 5.18. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.19 and summarized in Table 5.7.

#### ***5.2.2.3 Ducts***

Both ducts were severely damaged. The north duct had substantial area loss on its top portion amounting to over half of the total cross-sectional area in several intervals. This damage occurred mostly in the intervals between transverse cracks on the beam's surface (see Figure 5.18). The overall shape of the area loss and pitting inside the duct indicates the presence of a very large void extending over most of the duct's length. The bottom portion of the north duct was less damaged. Inside, there was widespread discoloration and light localized corrosion, mostly occurring on the same intervals as the area loss on the top half. Most of the corrosion inside the duct occurred where the strands had rubbed against it. This is shown in Figure 5.16.



*Figure 5.16: Specimen T.2, Corrosion Along Gouges on Bottom Half of North Duct*

Overall, the south duct was less damaged than the north duct. Typical damage to the top of the duct is shown in Figure 5.18. The corrosion inside the south duct also indicated the presence of a large void, albeit smaller than the north duct. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.19 and summarized in Table 5.7.

#### **5.2.2.4 Grout**

The top of the north tendon grout had a large void extending over its entire length. This void ranged from approximately 0.5 to 1.5 inches across (see Figure 5.18). The void was deepest at midspan of the tendon and shallowest at its ends, corresponding to the curvature of the tendon. The bottom of the north grout was poorly consolidated, with at least one strand exposed over nearly the entire autopsy region. The grout did not appear to be cracked. Chloride measurements were well above the threshold for corrosion throughout the region in which duct damage was the most severe. Maximum chloride content was 0.33% directly underneath the live end transverse crack on the specimen's surface. The chloride concentrations decreased with distance away from the peak value. This suggests that chlorides entered the duct from the transverse crack at that location and dissipated across the large grout void.

The south tendon grout had voids over most of its length. The largest void extended from near the live end of the grout to just past midspan (see Figure 5.18). This void was approximately 1.25 inches wide. The grout vent at midspan left a deep impression in the grout. This may indicate that the grout vent was not properly seated at the top of the duct and consequently slipped downward, possibly interfering with the flow of grout through the tendon. The underside of the south tendon grout was poorly consolidated. Like the north grout, there was at least one strand exposed over the entire length of the tendon. Chloride levels were much lower in the south duct grout but still above the corrosion threshold. The maximum chloride concentration was 0.094% at midspan. Chloride content for grout in both tendons is given in Figure 5.19.

#### **5.2.2.5 Strand**

One strand in the north tendon was slightly damaged. The outer wires were either undamaged or lightly discolored on all intervals, and the inner wire had light corrosion or discoloration on most intervals. At the location of the live end transverse surface crack, the inner wire of this strand showed some corrosion that could not be removed with a scouring pad. The other two strands in the north duct were substantially more damaged. Several outer wires on both strands had spots of surface corrosion that could not be scrubbed away and localized pitting at

midspan, with discoloration or light corrosion over the remaining intervals (see Figure 5.17). The inner wires of these strands were also more damaged, with flecks of light to moderate corrosion over most of their length. Overall, the corrosion ratings were highest at the location of transverse surface cracks and consistent over the rest of the tendon.

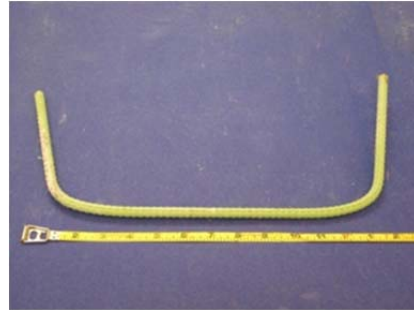


*Figure 5.17: Specimen T.2, North Duct Strand Showing Pitting Near Midspan*

The three south duct strands all showed similar levels of damage, and were more severely corroded than the north duct strands. Spots of light to moderate corrosion occurred at the location of the live end transverse surface crack on all three strands, with light localized corrosion and discoloration occurring on other intervals. The inner wires were uniformly damaged, with light surface corrosion occurring on almost all intervals. Corrosion ratings in the south duct strands showed peaks at crack locations, and were uniform and higher than the north duct strands. A typical strand and inner wire are shown in Figure 5.18. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.19 and summarized in Table 5.7.



**Longitudinal Bar**



**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.18: Specimen T.2 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

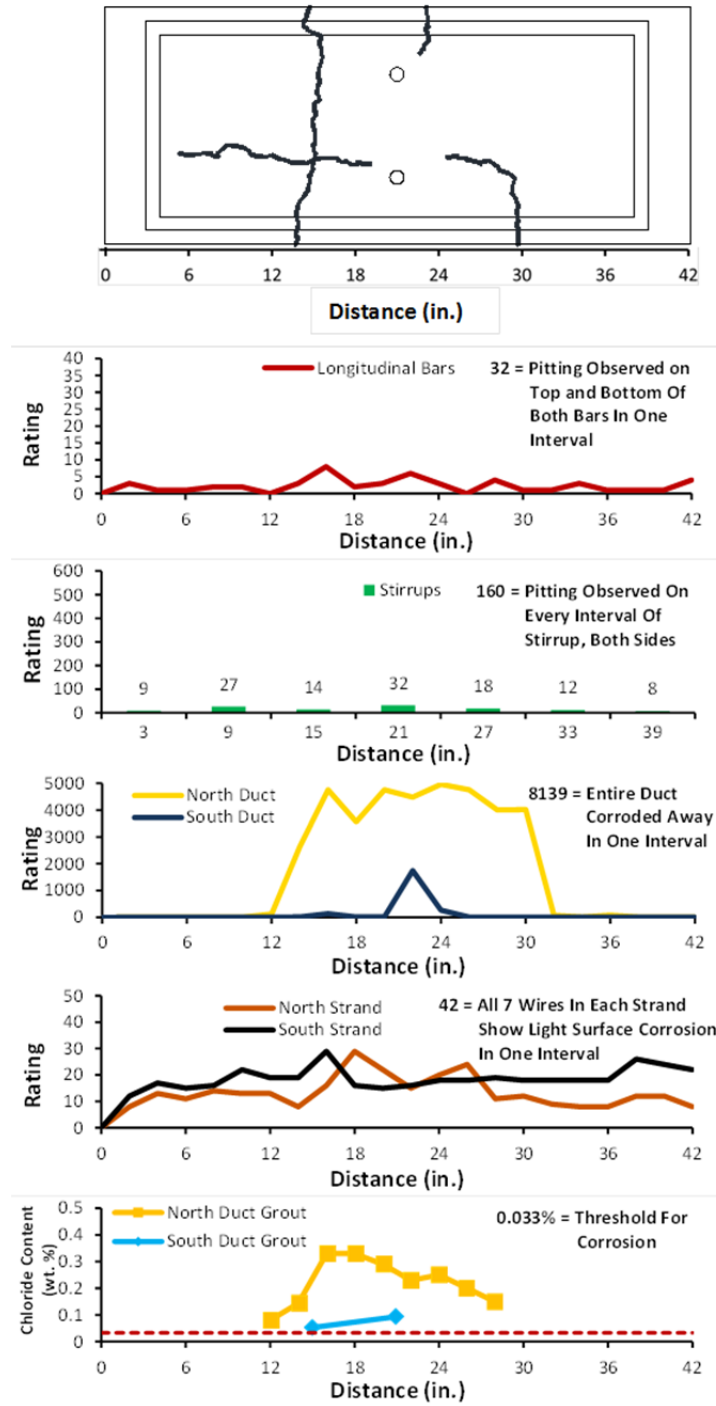


Figure 5.19: Specimen T.2 Crack Map and Corrosion Rating Plots

### 5.2.2.6 Dead End Anchorages

The epoxy applied to the anchorages before casting the pourback was largely intact. The epoxied surfaces were mostly either undamaged or lightly discolored. The bottom surfaces and outside edges of both bearing plates experienced some localized moderate corrosion. The duct

tape used to seal the joint between the ducts and bearing plates was completely intact. Some moderate corrosion was later found on the area of the bearing plate that had been covered by the duct tape.

**Table 5.8: Specimen T.2 Anchorage Corrosion Rating Summary**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
North Duct	12	27	41
South Duct	5	19	29
North Strands	54	217	42
South Strands	42	107	36

The anchorage zone ducts were only mildly damaged. Corrosion ratings for the anchorage zone ducts are summarized in Table 5.8.

The south tendon strands shortened by approximately 0.1 inches after the anchorage had been removed from the specimen, as shown in Figure 5.20. Strands in both tendons experienced light to moderate corrosion at their exposed ends and more localized light corrosion or discoloration elsewhere. The wedges showed some surface corrosion but were substantially intact. The appearance of a typical strand, with and without wedges, is shown in Figure 5.21. Corrosion ratings for the anchorage zone strands are and summarized in Table 5.8.



*Figure 5.20: Specimen T.2, Debonded Strands in South Anchorage*



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Stands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.21: Specimen T.2 Anchorage Region Elements*

### 5.2.3 Specimen 1.2: Galvanized Duct, Copper-Clad Strand

This specimen did not receive anchorage exposure during the testing period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.9.



Figure 5.22: Specimen 1.2 Top Surface (Left) and Leakage at Live End Corbel Crack (Right)

Table 5.9: Specimen 1.2 Corrosion Rating Summary

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	7	60	9
Stirrups	16	128	9
North Duct	3564	9813	2804
South Duct	3216	6190	1769
North Strands	21	441	42
South Strands	21	441	42

#### 5.2.3.1 Appearance

The overall condition of the concrete was much worse around and below the ponded saltwater region than at other locations. The specimen showed widespread light scaling in these regions. Corrosion staining was visible around the base of both grout vents, indicating the presence of corrosion within the specimen.

There were three large transverse cracks that crossed the top of the specimen and extended down its north and south faces. These cracks were located roughly at the quarter points of the specimen. Their average width was 0.02 inches. One longitudinal crack extended from near the middle transverse crack to the live end transverse crack approximately six inches from the north edge of the specimen, and its width was 0.004 inches. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.27.

#### 5.2.3.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Damage to both longitudinal bars was minor. Spots of discoloration and light surface corrosion occurred on the top and bottom of both bars at the locations where stirrups were tied. Typical longitudinal bar corrosion for this specimen is shown in Figure 5.26. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.27 and summarized in Table 5.9.

The stirrups also showed relatively minor damage. All but two of the stirrups had corrosion that could be completely scrubbed away with a scouring pad. Light to moderate corrosion and discoloration were most prevalent at the stirrups' bend locations and where the



ducts had been tied. The three stirrups with the highest corrosion ratings were located underneath each of the three transverse cracks on the specimen surface. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.27 and summarized in Table 5.9.

### 5.2.3.3 Ducts

Both galvanized steel ducts showed severe localized corrosion damage. The outside top half of the north duct experienced area loss and extensive pitting over several intervals near midspan and its quarter points, as shown in Figure 5.26. Inside the top half, pitting and area loss were just as severe. The void appeared to be continuous between 8 inches and 22 inches from the live end of the autopsy region. Corrosion may have initiated at midspan and traveled outward over this void (see Figure 5.23). The pattern of the discoloration on the bottom of the duct suggests that the grout was cracked over much of its length and that at least two of the strands had rubbed against it during its life. Among large areas of discoloration, some regions of the inside even showed the characteristic sheen of new metal.



Figure 5.23: Specimen 1.2, Area Loss and Large Void on Top Inner Surface of North Duct

The south duct was similarly damaged. Its area loss was more extreme than the north duct at the live end quarter point. Pitting and area loss occurred over only a few intervals near each quarter point and midspan. The remainder of the duct was only slightly discolored or lightly corroded, as shown in Figure 5.26. Overall, the discoloration within both ducts was much darker than expected. This may be due to the dark patina of the copper-clad strand in this specimen. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.27 and summarized in Table 5.9.

### 5.2.3.4 Grout

The north tendon grout was able to be removed from the duct fully intact. Upon examination, it showed visible transverse cracks every few inches along its entire length. The bottom portion of the grout was considerably darker than the top. This suggests density variation within the grout. Voids were clearly visible in the extracted grout. Near the ends, they were less than 1 inch across, and all were fully contained within the top flutes of the duct. The color within these voids varied from bright white on the live end of the grout to dark gray on the dead end. One continuous void was found extending from 8 inches to 22 inches from the live end of the grout. At midspan and the quarter points of the grout, heavy staining was found due to the corrosion in the surrounding duct, as shown in Figure 5.26. Isolated yellow-orange spots were seen at various points along the entire length of the grout. Two strands were partially exposed on the grout's underside over most of its length. The strands appear to have been too close to the

duct for the grout to properly consolidate there. Maximum chloride content was 0.179% at 18 inches from the live end of the autopsy region. This location corresponds to the specimen's midspan transverse surface crack. Chloride concentrations decreased away from midspan of the grout. All measured chloride concentrations were well above the threshold for corrosion.



*Figure 5.24: Corrosion Staining Within South Grout*

The south tendon grout was also cracked transversely every few inches along its length. Staining occurred at the locations corresponding to area loss and pitting of the surrounding duct. This staining permeated from the top of the grout down to the level of the strands (see Figure 5.24). Localized yellow-orange discoloration spots were also observed on all sides of the grout. Some portions of strand were exposed on the bottom of the grout, but not nearly to the extent of the north grout. The south grout was extremely well-consolidated compared to the north grout. Maximum chloride concentration in the grout was 0.112% at midspan. Measurements taken at 8 and 32 inches from the live end were approximately at the threshold for corrosion. Chloride content for grout in both tendons is given in Figure 5.27.

Both tendon grouts had similar chloride distributions. However, the north tendon grout had a long continuous void on its top surface, while the south did not. This means that chlorides are transported through strand interstices and grout voids at approximately the same rate, achieving the uniform distributions shown in Figure 5.27.

#### **5.2.3.5 Strand**

Strand damage was minor and extremely uniform in both tendons. The copper-clad strands did not show any corrosion on any wire within any interval. Instead, the strands assumed a dark black patina over their entire length. The patina was darkest and glossiest on the inner wire of each strand, but could be scoured off of the outer wires more easily than the inner wires. The patina as seen on the inner and outer wires of the strands is shown in Figure 5.26. The ends of each strand took on a slightly lighter patina than the areas within the autopsy region. The distinctive orange color of copper was even visible in spots at the ends of some strands. At the ends of several strands, a bright red color was observed, as shown in Figure 5.25. This may have been a phenomenon known as dezincification. This is a type of selective corrosion in which zinc leaches out from copper alloys and oxidizes, forming a characteristic red color<sup>22</sup>. The zinc content of the copper-clad strand is unknown. Transverse lines were visible on many outside wires of the strands in both ducts. These lines coincide with the locations of cracks in the north duct grout. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.27 and summarized in Table 5.9.



*Figure 5.25: Specimen 1.2, Possible Dezincification*



**Longitudinal Bar**



**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.26: Specimen 1.2, Main Autopsy Region Elements*

Crack diagram (top surface):

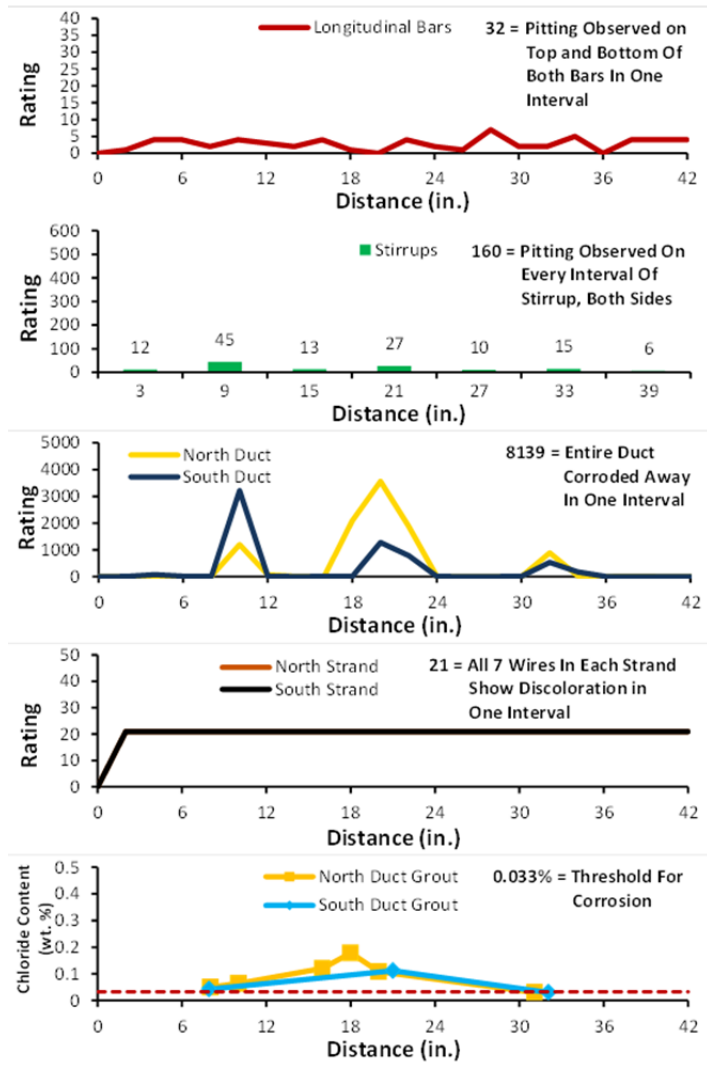
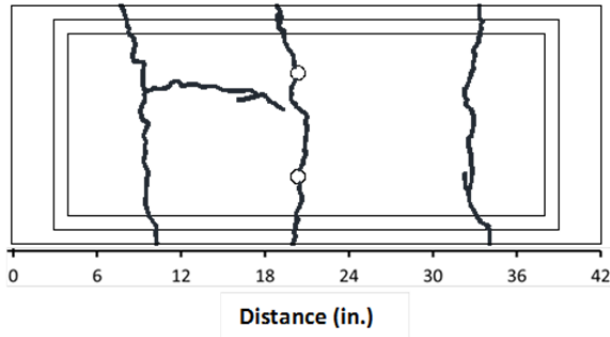


Figure 5.27: Specimen 1.2 Crack Map and Corrosion Rating Plots

### 5.2.3.6 Dead End Anchorages

Corrosion damage to the both anchorages was mild. Although the epoxy used to seal the anchorages prior to pourback had been scraped off during autopsy, the exposed surfaces of the bearing plates and anchor heads were mostly corrosion-free.

**Table 5.10: Specimen 1.2 Anchorage Corrosion Rating System**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Generalized</b>
<b>North Duct</b>	5	15	30
<b>South Duct</b>	7	16	32
<b>North Strands</b>	25	135	45
<b>South Strands</b>	22	127	42

Discoloration on the anchorage zone strands was not as uniform as in the main autopsy region. The black patina was intermittent over most of each anchorage zone strand. Multi-colored staining and some extremely localized corrosion were found in the wedge region. This suggests that the wedges may have damaged the copper coating and exposed the regular steel below. Damage to the inner wires was comparable to that of the outer wires for all strands. All wedges were found to be intact. The appearance of a typical strand, with and without wedges, is shown in Figure 5.28. Corrosion ratings for the anchorage zone strands are in Table 5.10.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.28: Specimen 1.2 Anchorage Region Elements*

#### **5.2.4 Specimen 2.2: Galvanized Duct, Hot-Dip Galvanized Strand**

This specimen did not receive anchorage exposure during the testing period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.11.



Figure 5.29: Specimen 2.2 Overall (Left) and Corrosion Stains Near Grout Vent (Right)

**Table 5.11: Specimen 2.2 Corrosion Rating System**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	12	144	21
Stirrups	12	193	14
North Duct	2840	11350	3243
South Duct	2704	9017	2576
North Strands	23	159	15
South Strands	19	154	15

#### 5.2.4.1 Appearance

Corrosion staining was found around the base of both grout vents, indicating the presence of corrosion inside the specimen. This staining is shown in Figure 5.29. In addition, extensive staining was discovered just beneath the surface of the saltwater pond in this vicinity during autopsy (see Figure 5.30).



Figure 5.30: Specimen 2.2, Corrosion Staining Under North Grout Vein



Three primary transverse cracks crossed the top of the specimen and extended down its north and south faces. Together, the three transverse cracks had an average width of 0.035 inches. The average width of the longitudinal cracks was 0.015 inches. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.32.

#### ***5.2.4.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups***

The north longitudinal bar was considerably more damaged than the south bar. The north bar experienced moderate corrosion and staining on over half its length. Overall, corrosion ratings were highest for both bars in the vicinity of the transverse crack near the dead end of the autopsy region. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.32 and summarized in Table 5.11.

The stirrups also experienced moderate but consistent damage (see Figure 5.31). Only two stirrups experienced pitting on any interval. The three most severely damaged stirrups were the ones located beneath each of the specimen's transverse surface cracks. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.32 and summarized in Table 5.11.

#### ***5.2.4.3 Ducts***

The north and south ducts showed severe localized corrosion damage. The north duct had significant area loss over the intervals corresponding to the locations of the specimen's transverse surface cracks (see Figure 5.31). Damage to the south duct was comparable to that of the north duct. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.32 and summarized in Table 5.11.

#### ***5.2.4.4 Grout***

The north tendon grout was cracked transversely every few inches along its entire length. Significant staining was present in the areas corresponding to duct corrosion and area loss. This staining seeped down the grout through its transverse cracks, though not to the level of the strands (see Figure 5.31). The grout appeared not to have consolidated well around the lowest strands in the tendon. At least one strand was partially exposed over much of the duct's length. Maximum chloride concentration in the grout was 0.084%, occurring 20 inches from the live end. Elsewhere in the north grout, the chloride levels were at or just above the corrosion threshold.

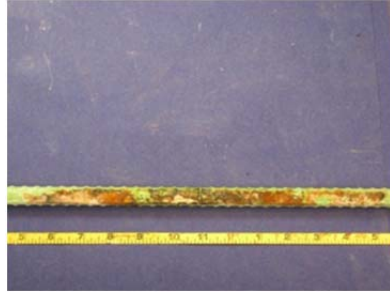
The south tendon grout was similar in appearance to the north tendon grout. A large, continuous void was present from about 8 inches to about 20 inches from the live end. This void was approximately 1 inch wide (see Figure 5.31). Extensive corrosion staining was found corresponding to the regions of the duct that experienced the most severe corrosion and area loss. Like the north duct, this staining seeped downward through the grout's transverse cracks. The maximum chloride content of 0.43% occurred 18 inches from the live end of the grout. Beneath the live end transverse surface crack, the chloride concentration was 0.14%. Beneath the dead end crack, chloride levels were just above the corrosion threshold. Chloride content for grout in both ducts is given in Figure 5.32.

#### ***5.2.4.5 Strand***

The north tendon strands suffered only minor damage. The outer wires of each strand had no corrosion or discoloration whatsoever in many intervals, and the inner wires had localized

discoloration at worst. Damage to the south tendon strands was comparable to the north duct strands. A typical strand and inner wire are shown in Figure 5.31. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.32 and summarized in Table 5.11.

The galvanized strand in this specimen had a much stronger bond with the surrounding grout than any type of strand seen thus far. Overall, grout was very difficult to remove from the strands in both tendons. In general, corrosion and discoloration appeared on the zinc coating of the outer wires in each strand. On the other hand, corrosion occurred mostly on the bare steel of the inner wire of each strand, which was exposed due to the galvanizing process occurring after the strands were wound.



**Longitudinal Bar**



**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.31: Specimen 2.2 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

Crack diagram (top surface):

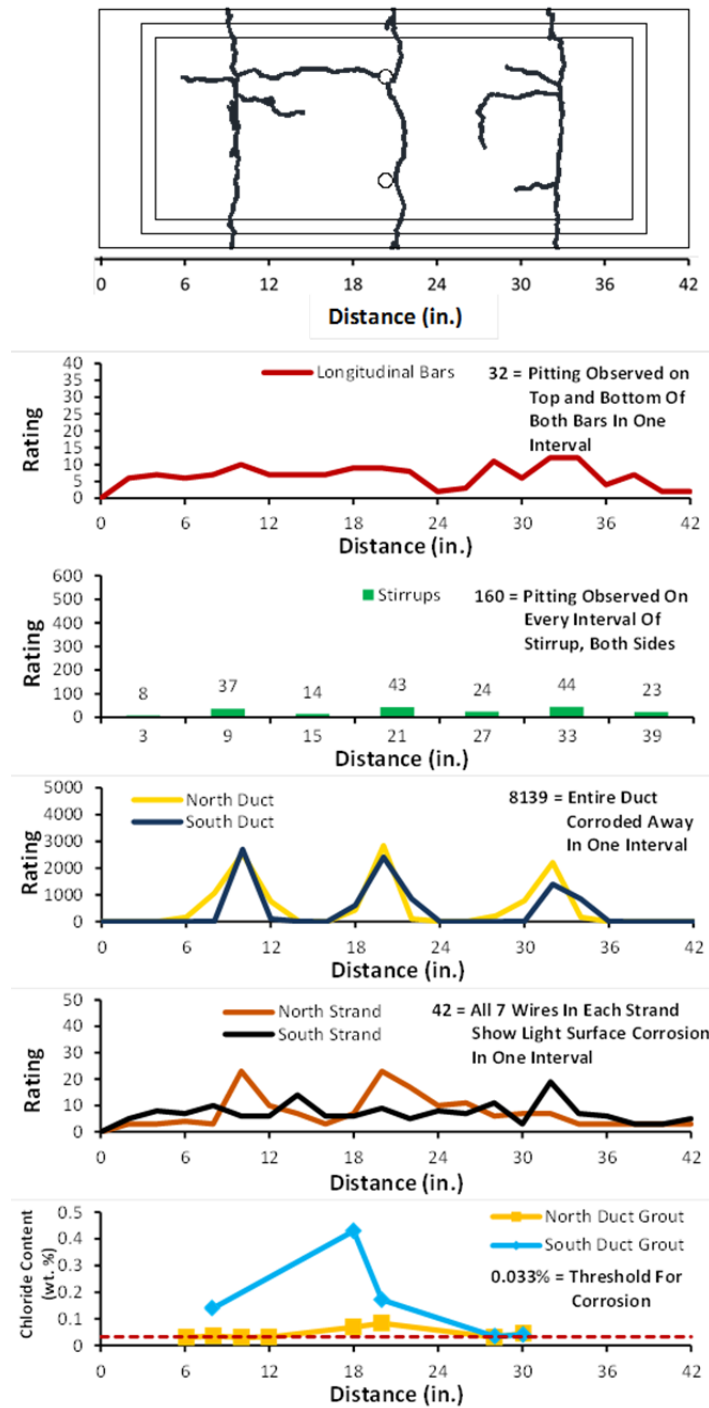


Figure 5.32: Specimen 2.2 Crack Map and Corrosion Rating

#### 5.2.4.6 Dead End Anchorages

After extraction, the epoxy used to seal the exposed surfaces of the anchorages was only partially intact on the bearing plates. The anchor heads were fully exposed. The north bearing

plate showed localized spots of moderate corrosion near the bottom of its exposed area and on the surfaces against which concrete was cast. Most of this corrosion occurred on the bottom surface. The south bearing plate experienced similar damage, although the moderate corrosion was somewhat less widespread on both its exposed surface and on the bottom of the surface that had been cast against.

**Table 5.12: Specimen 2.2 Anchorage Corrosion Rating System**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Generalized</b>
<b>North Duct</b>	7	16	32
<b>South Duct</b>	5	13	26
<b>North Strands</b>	38	86	29
<b>South Strands</b>	20	52	17

Both the north and south anchorage zone ducts experienced very mild corrosion damage. Lines visible in the duct surface discoloration suggest that the grout was cracked transversely. North and south ducts are shown in Figure 5.33. Anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.32 and summarized in Table 5.12.

In the anchorage zone, all strands were found to have an extremely strong bond with the surrounding grout, just as was observed in the main autopsy region. Damage to all anchorage zone strands was limited to discoloration or light surface corrosion for all wires in all intervals. All wedges were found to be intact. Some localized light corrosion was found on their exteriors as well as slight discoloration in their inner regions. Typical strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.33. Anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.11.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.33: Specimen 2.2 Anchorage Region Elements*

**5.2.5 Specimen 2.4: One-Way Plastic Duct, Copper-Clad Strand**

This specimen did not receive anchorage exposure during the testing period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.13.



Figure 5.34: Specimen 2.4 Overall (Left) and Cracking at Dead End Pourback (Right)

**Table 5.13: Specimen 2.4 Corrosion/Damage Rating Summary**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	14	101	14
Stirrups	530	590	49
North Duct	200	3100	886
South Duct	100	475	136
North Strands	21	441	42
South Strands	21	441	42

### 5.2.5.1 Appearance

Light to moderate spalling was visible around the specimen's transverse cracks, especially toward the middle of the specimen. The top of a corroded wire tie was visible through the surface of the concrete just toward the live end from the north grout vent. This is shown in Figure 5.35.



Figure 5.35: Specimen 2.4, Corroded Wire Tie at Top Surface

The specimen had three main transverse cracks that extended across its top face and down its north and south faces. The epoxy applied to those cracks on the side faces to prevent

leakage was still intact. These transverse cracks had an average width of 0.04 inches. Two secondary transverse cracks were also visible. These did not cross the entire specimen and had an average width of 0.035 inches. Two longitudinal cracks were found that connected the two transverse cracks nearest to the specimen's live end. The average width of these cracks was 0.015 inches. Most of the cracks on the specimen had more than one branch. Overall, the top of this specimen was the most cracked of any seen up to this point. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.39.

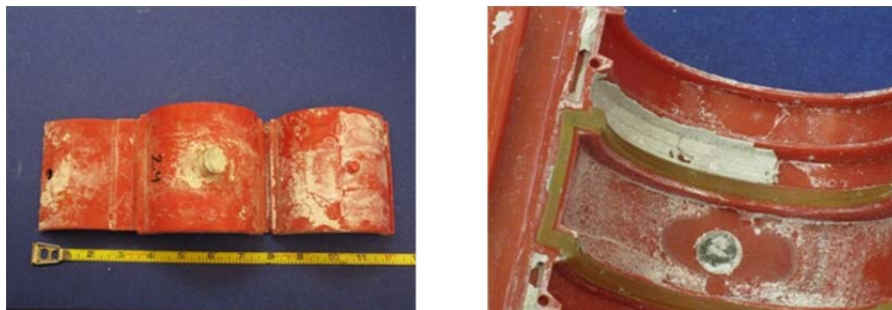
### ***5.2.5.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups***

Damage to the north and south longitudinal bars was moderate and localized, mostly where stirrups were tied (see Figure 5.38). Damage was more severe to the underside of the bar than to the top. The extent of corrosion was similar in the south bar, although somewhat more severe. Localized pitting was observed over one interval near the live end of the bar. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.39 and summarized in Table 5.13.

Stirrups in this specimen were moderately damaged. Six of the seven stirrups had moderate corrosion or pitting over at least one interval. The worst damage tended to occur at the bend points of the stirrups and at locations where ducts were tied. Stirrup #5 suffered the heaviest damage. This stirrup lost over 20% of its cross sectional area over a small length at midspan of its horizontal portion (see Figure 5.38). Damage did not correspond clearly to surface crack location. Although stirrup #5 was located beneath a transverse surface crack, corrosion ratings for the other six stirrups were relatively independent of location. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.39 and summarized in Table 5.13.

### ***5.2.5.3 Ducts***

The north and south plastic ducts were in near-perfect shape upon autopsy. The top of the inside of the north duct had scratches along approximately 36 inches of its length. These scratches had a depth of between 5 and 10 percent of the duct's wall thickness (see Figure 5.38). The top of the inside of the south duct was similarly damaged, although the scratches were shallower and shorter in length. Duct damage ratings are shown in Figure 5.39 and summarized in Table 5.13.



*Figure 5.36: Specimen 2.4 North Duct Coupler Exterior (Left) and Gasket (Right)*

The north duct coupler appeared undamaged. There were some small orange-brown flecks present on and around the coupler's grout vent outlet, and the same chalky white residue



that was observed on the ducts was also present on the exterior of the coupler. The coupler's mechanical connections and gaskets were intact. The latter did not appear to be affected by the widespread scratching that occurred in the duct itself (see Figure 5.36). Cement paste was present inside the coupler but outside the gasket. Inside the gasket were grout residue and the white crystals that were present inside both ducts. There was also evidence of a small void in the vicinity of the coupler's grout vent. The south duct was continuous and did not have a coupler. The epoxy used to seal the south duct grout vent was slightly detached from the duct at midspan.

#### ***5.2.5.4 Grout***

The north tendon grout was cracked transversely every few inches along its entire length. One longitudinal crack was visible on the underside of the grout. This crack appeared to terminate within approximately 6 inches of each end of the grout (see Figure 5.38). Chloride concentration at midspan was 0.2% in the north tendon.

The south tendon grout was also cracked every few inches along its length. One longitudinal crack was observed at roughly midheight of the grout. This crack extended along the grout's entire length. While intact, this grout was much smoother to the touch over its entire exposed surface than any grout encountered thus far. This may indicate that pressure was high and uniform during the grouting process. One strand was exposed on the underside of the grout from approximately 16 inches to 24 inches from the live end. Chloride concentration at midspan was 0.25% in the south duct. Chloride content for grout in both ducts is shown in Figure 5.39.

The chloride content at midspan of the grout in each tendon was well above the corrosion threshold despite the lack of any meaningful damage to the ducts themselves. The coupler also showed no signs of a breach. Thus, the chlorides could not have entered through either the duct or coupler. Similarly, there was no evidence to suggest that chlorides entered through the anchorage region on either end of the specimen. The only remaining means of chloride ingress would be the grout vent located at midspan of the south tendon and on top of the coupler located at midspan on the north tendon. The detached epoxy at the south duct grout vent supports the idea that chlorides entered the duct at a central location on the tendon. Chlorides entered through small imperfections in the grout vent-duct or grout vent-coupler interface and penetrated the grout through its transverse cracks. Because the copper-clad strand was uniform in appearance over the entire length of both tendons, it appears that the chlorides traveled along the tendons through the strand interstices, as well.

#### ***5.2.5.5 Strand***

A uniform, glossy black patina was observed over every interval of every wire in every strand of the specimen. The patina was much glossier and somewhat darker on the inner wires than the outer wires. At the ends of each strand, the patina was less prevalent, and traces of the original copper color were visible in many spots. This can be seen in Figure 5.38. On the outer wires, the patina could generally be removed with a scouring pad. This was not the case for the inner wires. Transverse lines were visible in the traces of grout near midspan of all strands. These lines indicated the locations of cracks in the surrounding grout (see Figure 5.37). Unlike specimen 1.2, no signs of dezincification were found. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.39 and summarized in Table 5.13.



*Figure 5.37: Specimen 2.4, Lines in Strand Discoloration*



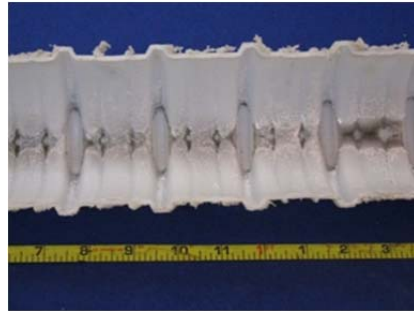
**Longitudinal Bar**



**Stirrup**



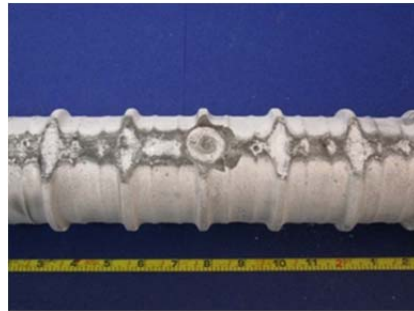
**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.38: Specimen 2.4 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

Crack diagram (top surface):

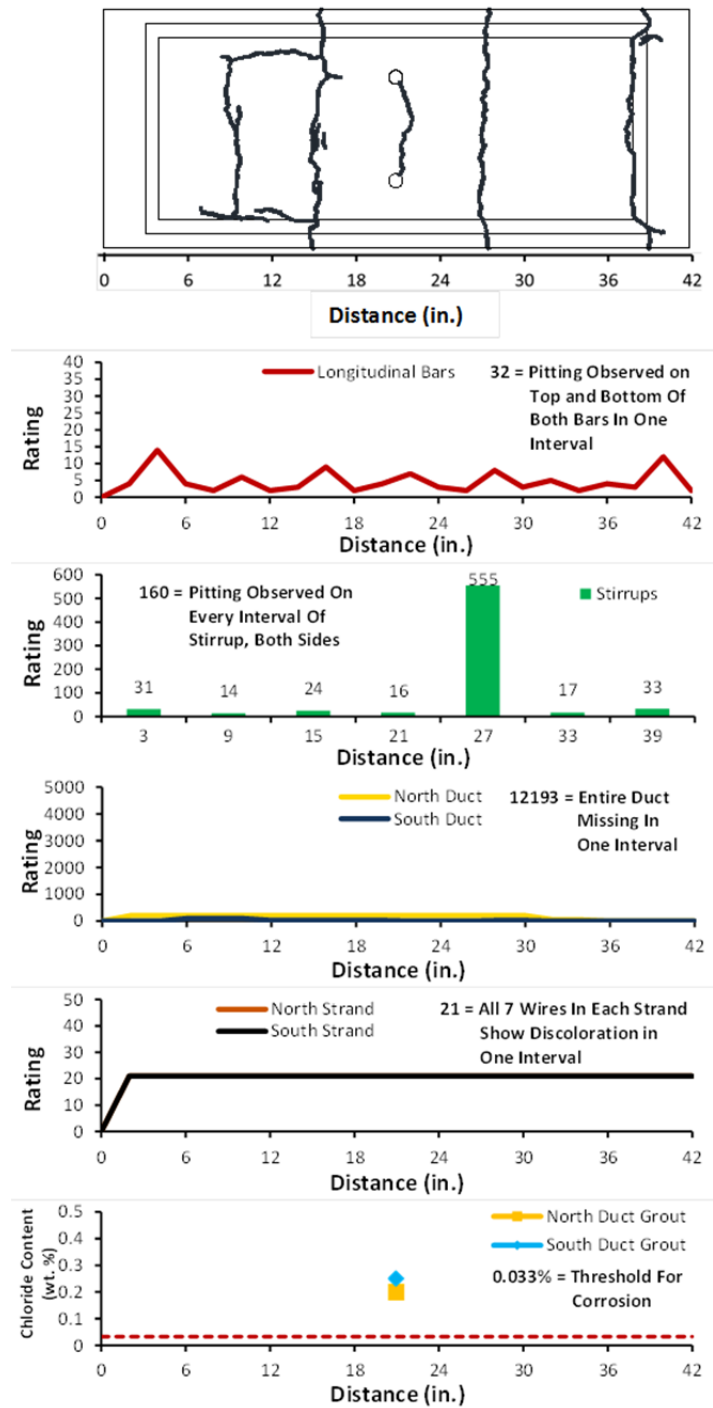


Figure 5.39: Specimen 2.4 Crack Map and Corrosion/Damage Rating Plots

### 5.2.5.6 Dead End Anchorages

The epoxy used to seal the exposed faces of the anchorages was almost entirely stripped away. Only small portions of the epoxy still adhered to the anchorages. The exposed face of the

north bearing plate showed extensive light to moderate corrosion. The exposed face of the south bearing plate was much less affected.

**Table 5.14: Specimen 2.4 Anchorage Corrosion/Damage Rating Summary**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
North Duct	0	0	0
South Duct	0	0	0
North Strands	37	156	52
South Strands	36	153	51

Both anchorage zone ducts showed evidence of voids in their upper flutes, as well as traces of the same white crystals found in the ducts of the main autopsy region. In addition, the outside of the ducts were covered with traces of the same chalky white residue that had been found on the outside of the ducts in the main autopsy region. North and south anchorage zone ducts are shown in Figure 5.40. No scratches or gouges were found inside the ducts. Anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings summarized in Table 5.14.

Within the first four inches from the end of the specimen of all six strands, the distinctive green color of corroding copper was visible in very localized spots. No sign of steel corrosion was found in this region on any strand. Moving in toward the specimen interior, the same patina that covered the strands in the main autopsy region was found, although the patina covered much less of the strands' overall area. Two of the specimen's dead end wedges were cracked, and some spots of moderate corrosion were found on both the inside and outside surfaces of all six wedges. Typical strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.40. Anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.14.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.40: Specimen 2.4 Anchorage Region Elements.*

### 5.2.6 Specimen 3.1: Two-Way Plastic Duct, Conventional Strand

For this specimen, grouting did not occur until 5 days after post-tensioning<sup>7</sup>. This specimen received dead end anchorage exposure during the test period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.15.



Figure 5.41: Specimen 3.1 Top Surface (Left) and Corroded Wire Tie at Top Surface (Right)

Table 5.15: Specimen 3.1 Corrosion/Damage Rating Summary

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	6	54	8
Stirrups	9	110	8
North Duct	20	120	34
South Duct	10	40	11
North Strands	16	185	18
South Strands	10	166	16

#### 5.2.6.1 Appearance

Some grout appeared to have spilled out of the specimens' top vents during grouting. This grout served as a patching compound for the surface air voids in that area. The saltwater tray showed a large number of small popouts on its surface. This, combined with the voids, gave the saltwater tray a pitted, craggy appearance (see Figure 5.41). The tops of two corroded wire ties were visible on the surface of the saltwater tray along a transverse crack approximately 6 inches toward the live end from the grout vents, as shown in Figure 5.41.

The top surface of the specimen was extensively cracked. Three transverse cracks crossed the top of the specimen. The transverse cracks had an average width of 0.02 inches. Two longitudinal cracks extended along almost the entire length of the autopsy region. These cracks had an average width of 0.006 inches. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.45.

#### 5.2.6.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Both the north and south longitudinal bars showed only minor corrosion damage, mostly at the locations where stirrups had been tied, as shown in Figure 5.44. Corrosion ratings for both bars were highest underneath the location of the specimen's transverse surface cracks. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.45 and summarized in Table 5.15.

The stirrups showed relatively minor damage. Only two stirrups showed pitting in any interval. Most corrosion and discoloration were observed at the inner and outer surfaces of the stirrups' bend radii, as well as at midspan of their horizontal regions (see Figure 5.44). The stirrups with the highest corrosion ratings were those found directly beneath the specimen's three transverse surface cracks. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.45 and summarized in Table 5.15.

### 5.2.6.3 Ducts

The entire north plastic duct had a chalky white residue over its entire exterior, along with several localized corrosion stains. Many of these spots were located near the heat shrink splice at midspan. The top interior portion of the north duct showed evidence of small voids that had formed in the duct's top flutes over its entire length. These voids were somewhat larger near the live end of the duct than the dead end, and all of the voids were made continuous by the duct's top longitudinal rib (see Figure 5.44). Damage to the south duct was similar to that of the north duct. The epoxy that sealed the grout vent at midspan appeared to have detached from the duct somewhat. It is unknown whether this occurred during autopsy or some time before (see Figure 5.44). The bottom interior portion of the duct had some light gouges between midspan and the dead end. It appeared that one strand had been bearing directly on the duct there. Duct damage ratings are shown in Figure 5.45 and summarized in Table 5.15.

The heat shrink coupler applied to the north duct was mostly intact at the time of autopsy. Both the inside and outside surfaces of the coupler showed similar discoloration and evidence of more voids than what was observed on the north duct itself. The seam between the dead end heat shrink and the coupler appeared somewhat detached around its entire circumference. This may have occurred during the autopsy process. The heat shrink tubing was somewhat brittle and easy to peel back from the duct surface. There may not have been a perfect heat shrink seal around both ducts. The coupler is pictured in Figure 5.42.

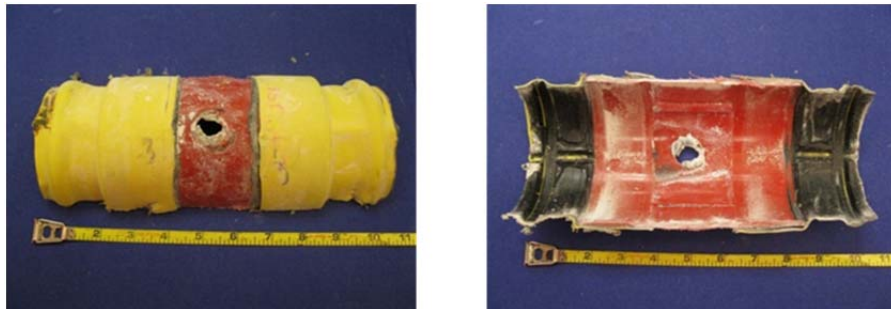


Figure 5.42: Specimen 3.1 North Duct Coupler Outer Surface (Left) and Inner Surface (Right)

### 5.2.6.4 Grout

The north tendon grout had transverse cracks every few inches along its entire length. This is not surprising because the grout is placed after the tendon has been post-tensioned so that the grout is not prestressed itself. No longitudinal cracks were observed. The outside wires of one strand were visible on the grout's bottom surface approximately 28 inches from the live end. There did not appear to be any problems with consolidation in this region. Large aggregate and



evidence of concrete paste intrusion were found on the underside of the splice region. This indicates that the heat shrink seal had been breached during the construction process (see Figure 5.43). The grout exterior was very smooth over its entire length, indicating high, uniform pressure during grouting. Chloride content at midspan was 0.067%.



*Figure 5.43: Specimen 3.1 Cement Paste and Large Aggregate Embedded in North Grout*

The south tendon grout was cracked transversely every few inches along its length. No longitudinal cracks were found. One continuous void, approximately 1.25 inches wide, was found on the top of the grout extending from the live end to near midspan. The remainder of the grout showed smaller voids, about 0.5 inches across, on its top surface, connected by the top longitudinal rib of the duct. The surface of the large void was white in color with a gray perimeter and many small gray craze cracks. The smaller voids were uniformly gray in color, as shown in Figure 5.44. Chloride content for north and south grouts is shown in Figure 5.45.

The presence of chloride concentrations above the corrosion threshold in both tendons indicates that chlorides entered by way of leaks. Breaches appeared to have occurred around the south duct grout vent interface and at the north duct coupler. The presence of cement paste and aggregate inside the coupler confirm that it was not watertight. It is possible that chlorides may have also entered through the north duct grout vent, but this was broken off during autopsy. No evidence was found to suggest that chlorides entered the tendon through either anchorage. The presence of strand corrosion along the entire north and south tendons suggests that chlorides were able to travel the entire length of duct from their midspan entry point through the strand interstices.

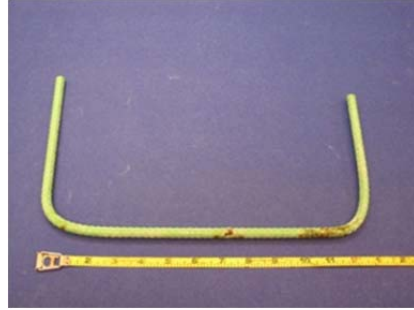
#### **5.2.6.5 Strand**

Corrosion damage to the north and south tendon strands were minor. The outer wires of all strands showed isolated flecks of light surface corrosion or somewhat more widespread discoloration. Over many intervals, no damage was observed at all.

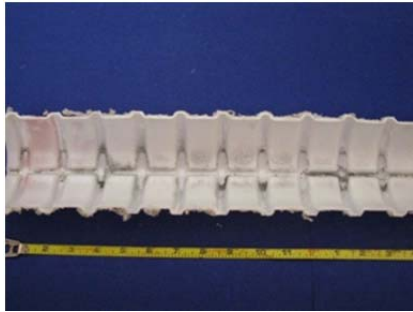
Corrosion ratings were nearly uniform along the strands' length. No clear correlation with crack location was observed. A typical strand and inner wire are shown in Figure 5.44. Strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.15.



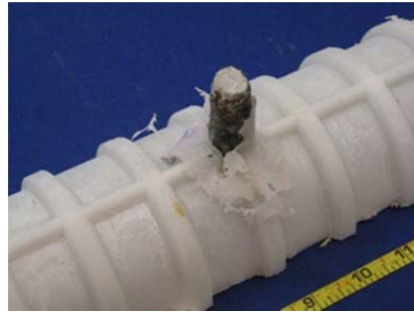
**Longitudinal Bar**



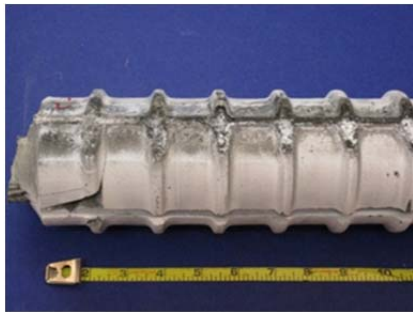
**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.44: Specimen 3.1 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

Crack diagram (top surface):

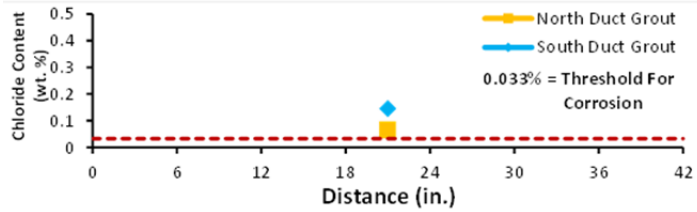
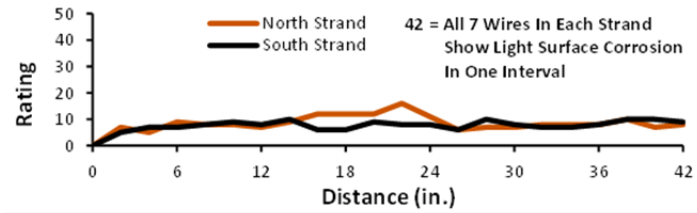
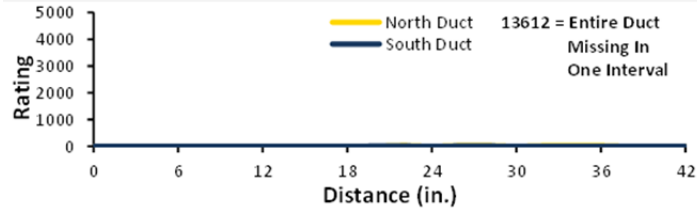
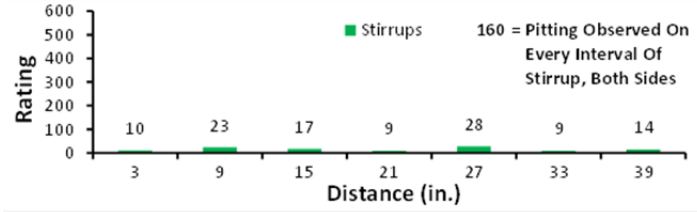
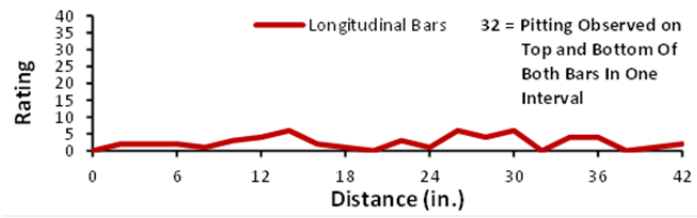
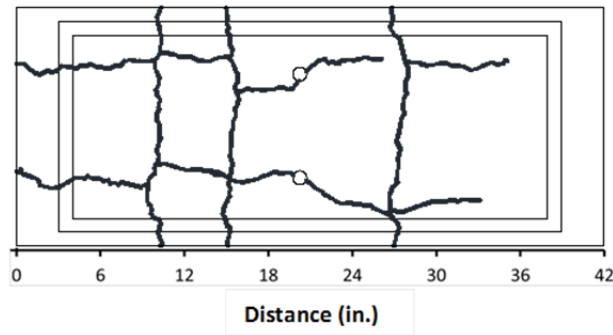


Figure 5.45: Specimen 3.1 Crack Map and Corrosion/Damage Rating Plots

### 5.2.6.6 Dead End Anchorages

Since the specimen had dead end anchorages exposure (drippers) photos are shown of both dead end (Figure 5.46) and live end anchorages for comparison (Figure 5.48). The epoxy used to seal the exposed areas of the anchorages was mostly intact on the bearing plates, but largely missing on the anchor heads. The exposed surface of the north bearing plate showed widespread moderate surface corrosion, mostly concentrated on the bottom half of the plate. The south bearing plate was much more affected, with moderate corrosion covering most of its outer surface. Extensive surface corrosion was found on the bottom surface of both bearing plates. Although the duct tape used to connect both ducts to the bearing plates was mostly intact, widespread corrosion and pitting were found underneath. This damage was more severe to the south bearing plate than to the north. The outer surfaces of both anchor heads had localized spots of light to moderate surface corrosion. The surfaces that had been bearing on the anchorages showed much more widespread moderate corrosion, corresponding to the respective level of corrosion in both bearing plates. The north and south anchorages and anchor heads are shown in Figure 5.46.



**North Anchorage**



**South Anchorage**



**North Anchor Head**



**South Anchor Head**

*Figure 5.46: Specimen 3.1 Dead End Anchorages and Anchor Heads*

The outside of both the north and south ducts showed the same chalky white residue that was found on the ducts in the main autopsy region. In addition, prominent corrosion stains were found on the outer surface of the ducts where they had been spliced with the anchorages. Some very light gouges were observed in the interior of the south duct. However, the ducts were moderately damaged during the autopsy process, so the damage may have occurred at that time. The bottom interior surfaces of both ducts showed traces of the white crystals that were found in

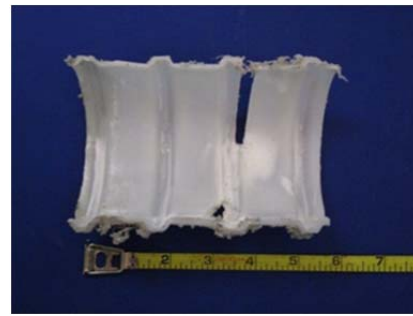
the main autopsy regions, but to a much lesser extent. North and south ducts are shown in Figure 5.47. Dead end anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.16.

Both the north and south tendon grout had small voids corresponding to the top of the transverse duct flutes. Heavy corrosion staining was visible on the edge of the grout nearest to the corroded anchorage-duct splices. Both grouts were damaged during the duct removal process, so the extent of cracking could not be determined. North and south grouts are shown in Figure 5.47.

Damage to the strands in both ducts was most severe in the regions outside the anchor head and inside the wedges. Light to moderate surface corrosion spots were found on several outer wires per strand in these regions. Further into the specimen, the outer wires were far less damaged, showing light discoloration and the occasional light corrosion spot. The inner wires of all strands were much more uniformly damaged, with light surface corrosion spots on most intervals. All 6 sets of wedges showed light to moderate corrosion on their outer surfaces and some discoloration spots inside. Damage to the wedges tended to be more extreme near their narrow end. Typical strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.47. Dead end anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.16.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.47: Specimen 3.1 Dead End Anchorage Region Elements*

### 5.2.6.7 Live End Anchorages

North and south anchorages and anchor heads are shown in Figure 5.48. The epoxy used to seal the exposed surfaces of both live end anchorages was almost entirely missing. The exposed front of the bearing plates were mostly covered with widespread moderate surface corrosion and some localized pitting. This damage tended to be more severe toward the bottom of the bearing plates. All outer surfaces showed some isolated surface corrosion, but widespread surface corrosion was found on the bottom surfaces of both bearing plates. This was most pronounced on the north bearing plate, whose bottom surface was nearly covered with corrosion. Some isolated damage occurred on the interior edges of both bearing plates, as well. The duct tape used to seal the bearing plate-duct connections was mostly intact on the north anchorage but mostly missing on the south anchorage. Heavy corrosion and some pitting were found underneath the duct tape. The inside surfaces of both anchor heads showed widespread moderate to heavy corrosion, while the outside surfaces were only slightly discolored. Corrosion on the sides of the anchor heads was more severe in the vicinity of the bearing plates.



**North Anchorage**



**South Anchorage**



**North Anchor Head**



**South Anchor Head**

*Figure 5.48: Specimen 3.1 Live End Anchorages and Anchor Heads*

North and south ducts are shown in Figure 5.49. Anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.16.

Both north and south tendon grouts were heavily damaged during the autopsy process. As a result, the extent of cracking and voids could not be ascertained. The grout appeared well-consolidated and uniform in color. Significant staining was present at the grout-anchorage interface for both the north and south duct grouts.

Damage to the anchorage zone strands was minor. Only two strands showed any corrosion spots that could not be scrubbed away. In general, the most severe corrosion occurred underneath the wedges and outside the anchor head. Corrosion spots were found on several wires per strand in these intervals. The outer wires on the remainder of the strands showed only minor surface corrosion spots or discoloration. The damage was only slightly more severe on the inner wires away from the anchor head region. All 6 wedges showed light to moderate surface corrosion on their outer surfaces and spots of discoloration on their inner surfaces. Typical strands, both with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.49. Anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.16.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.49: Specimen 3.1 Live End Anchorage Region Elements*



**Table 5.16: Specimen 3.1 Dead and Live End Anchorage Corrosion/Damage Rating System**

Component	Dead End Anchorage			Live End Anchorage		
	Maximum	Total	Generalized	Maximum	Total	Generalized
North Duct	0	0	0	20	30	60
South Duct	20	30	60	0	0	0
North Strands	34	130	37	38	126	36
South Strands	53	139	46	28	117	33

**5.2.6.8 Comparison of Anchorage Corrosion**

Overall, the live end bearing plates and anchor heads showed more severe and more widespread corrosion than the dead end components that had been subject to the drippers. The ducts in this specimen were made of plastic and no holes were discovered in the anchorage regions. Chloride ingress would have had no effect on their damage. Generalized corrosion ratings are roughly equal for the north tendon strands, while the south tendon strands have a much higher rating at the dead end than the live end. This suggests that more chlorides may have been present at the dead end than at the live. However, the extent of corrosion in the strands is small enough that human error may have played a role in discerning the corrosion rating. Additionally, south tendon strand corrosion ratings were only significantly higher at the dead end in the region that lay within and outside of the anchor head. Otherwise, ratings were relatively consistent.

The inconsistent corrosion between the dead end anchorage components and their live end counterparts suggests that the observed corrosion was independent of exposure. It appears that either the pourback was of high enough quality to prevent chloride ingress at the dead end, or the chlorides entered the specimen but never moved past the anchorage hardware.

**5.2.7 Specimen 3.2: Two-Way Plastic Duct, Hot-Dip Galvanized Strand**

During the grouting process, small air bubbles were seen at the base of the south duct grout vent on top of the specimen<sup>7</sup>. This specimen received dead end anchorage exposure during the testing period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.17.



*Figure 5.50: Specimen 3.2 Overall (Left) and Efflorescence at Live End Corbel Crack*

**Table 5.17: Specimen 3.2 Corrosion/Damage Rating Summary**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Generalized</b>
<b>Longitudinal Bars</b>	6	42	6
<b>Stirrups</b>	12	126	9
<b>North Duct</b>	10	80	23
<b>South Duct</b>	20	180	51
<b>North Strands</b>	13	140	13
<b>South Strands</b>	15	182	17

#### ***5.2.7.1 Appearance***

The specimen was lightly to moderately scaled on its top, north, and south faces. No signs of corrosion were visible on the surface of the specimen.

Three primary transverse cracks crossed the top face of the specimen and extended down its sides. The average width of these cracks was 0.015 inches. Several longitudinal cracks extended along various portions of the top surface. These were mostly located above the specimen's ducts. Average width of the longitudinal cracks was 0.004 inches. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.54.

#### ***5.2.7.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups***

Both longitudinal bars experienced very minor corrosion damage (see Figure 5.53). The highest corrosion ratings occurred beneath the transverse surface crack nearest the live end of the autopsy region. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.54 and summarized in Table 5.17.

All stirrups showed localized corrosion damage as shown in Figure 5.53. Stirrup #1 showed the worst corrosion damage with localized pitting at the midpoint of its horizontal span. In general, corrosion ratings decreased across the autopsy region from live end to dead end. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.54 and summarized in Table 5.17.

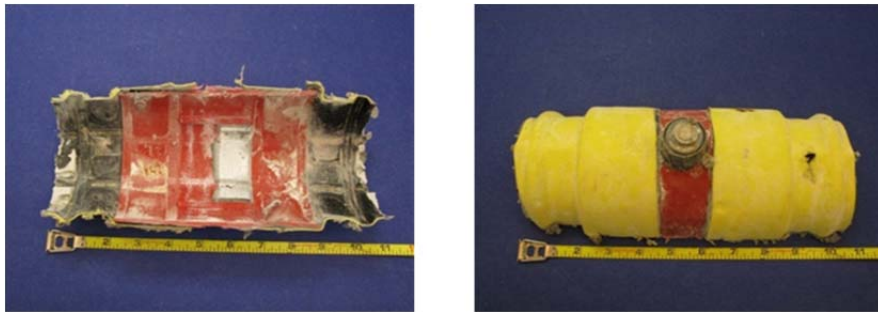
#### ***5.2.7.3 Ducts***

The exterior of the north duct was covered in chalky white residue. Some localized, dull corrosion staining was visible, as well. The top interior portion of the duct showed evidence of small voids that had formed within the top ribs of the duct. These voids appeared slightly larger on the live end half of the duct than on the dead end half. Traces of shiny white crystals were found around the upper ribs in the duct's interior, as well as intermittently on the lower region (see Figure 5.53). Light scratches were observed near midspan and near both ends of the duct on its bottom portion. This indicates that the duct was slightly damaged by the strand as it was passed through prior to stressing.

Chalky white residue and dull corrosion staining was observed on the outside of the south duct. The epoxy used to seal the joint between the duct and grout vent had separated somewhat from the duct surface. It is uncertain whether this occurred during autopsy or during construction. The inner top portion of the duct showed signs of voids within its upper transverse ribs. These voids were uniform in size along the duct's length and were made continuous by the duct's longitudinal rib, as shown in Figure 5.53. White crystals were observed near the upper ribs and on the bottom of the duct's interior. The bottom half of the duct had widespread light gouging over more than a foot of its length, centered at midspan. It appeared that one strand had

been bearing directly on the duct in that region. Duct damage ratings are shown in Figure 5.54 and summarized in Table 5.17.

The outer surfaces of the heat shrink splice showed the same chalky white residue as the rest of the north duct. The interfaces between the heat shrinks and the plastic coupler were somewhat detached (see Figure 5.51). This damage may have occurred during the autopsy process. The heat shrink tubing seemed somewhat brittle and was easy to peel back from the plastic coupler. The splice's seals may not have remained intact during the specimen's exposure.



*Figure 5.51: Specimen 3.2 North Duct Coupler Inner Surface (Left) and Outer Surface (Right)*

#### **5.2.7.4 Grout**

The north tendon grout had transverse cracks every few inches along its length. No longitudinal cracks were found. Small voids, approximately 0.75 inches across, were found on the top surface of the grout. The grout as a whole was very difficult to crack open, and its entire surface was very smooth to the touch. These observations suggest that the grout was very well consolidated. Segments of strand were visible along the bottom of the grout over much of its length. Chloride content at midspan of the grout was 0.48%.

The south tendon grout showed transverse cracks, but these cracks were only visible every few inches near midspan of the grout. Voids were observed in the top portion of the grout. These voids were approximately 1 inch in width along the entire length of grout and were connected by the duct's top longitudinal rib (see Figure 5.53). Like the north duct grout, this grout was difficult to break in order to extract the strands within. In addition, the grout was very smooth to the touch and shiny in appearance, especially on its bottom surface. These observations suggest that the south duct grout was extremely well consolidated. Chloride content at midspan was 0.188%. Chloride content for grout in both ducts is shown in Figure 5.54.

Concentrations were well above the corrosion threshold in both tendons, indicating that breaches allowed chlorides to enter. The north tendon had a higher chloride content than the south, suggesting that the breach in the north duct coupler was more extensive than the breach in the south duct grout vent. Chlorides may have entered the north tendon through the coupler's grout vent, although damage incurred during autopsy does not allow this to be determined. Nothing suggests that chlorides entered the tendons through the anchorages. The extent of chloride travel along the tendon is not known because only one measurement per tendon was taken. However, the presence of strand corrosion along the entire strand suggests that chlorides traveled the entire length of both tendons through the strand interstices.

### 5.2.7.5 Strand

The north and south tendon strands were only slightly damaged. Small, isolated flecks of light corrosion or discoloration were found on one or more outer wires on some intervals, although the outer wires showed no damage at all on many intervals. The inner wires were slightly more damaged. Corrosion ratings were generally uniform along the entire length of the tendons.

A typical strand and inner wire are shown in Figure 5.53. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.54 and summarized in Table 5.17.

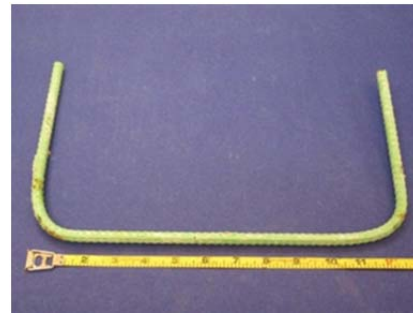
Similar to Specimen 2.2, the galvanized strand in this specimen was observed to have a much stronger bond with the surrounding grout than other types of strand. In addition, small bubbles were observed in the interstices of several strands, most prominently within a few inches of the end of the strands, as shown in Figure 5.52. This may be a sign that a chemical reaction occurred between the strands' zinc coating and the surrounding grout.



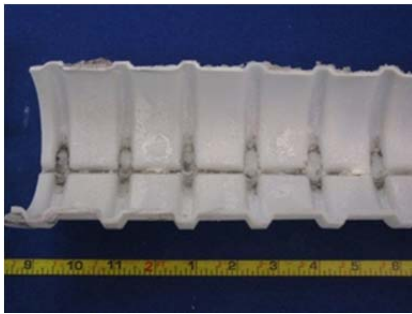
*Figure 5.52: Specimen 3.2, Bubbles in Interstices of Galvanized Strand*



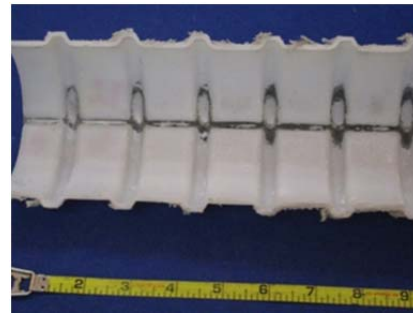
**Longitudinal Bar**



**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.53: Specimen 3.2 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

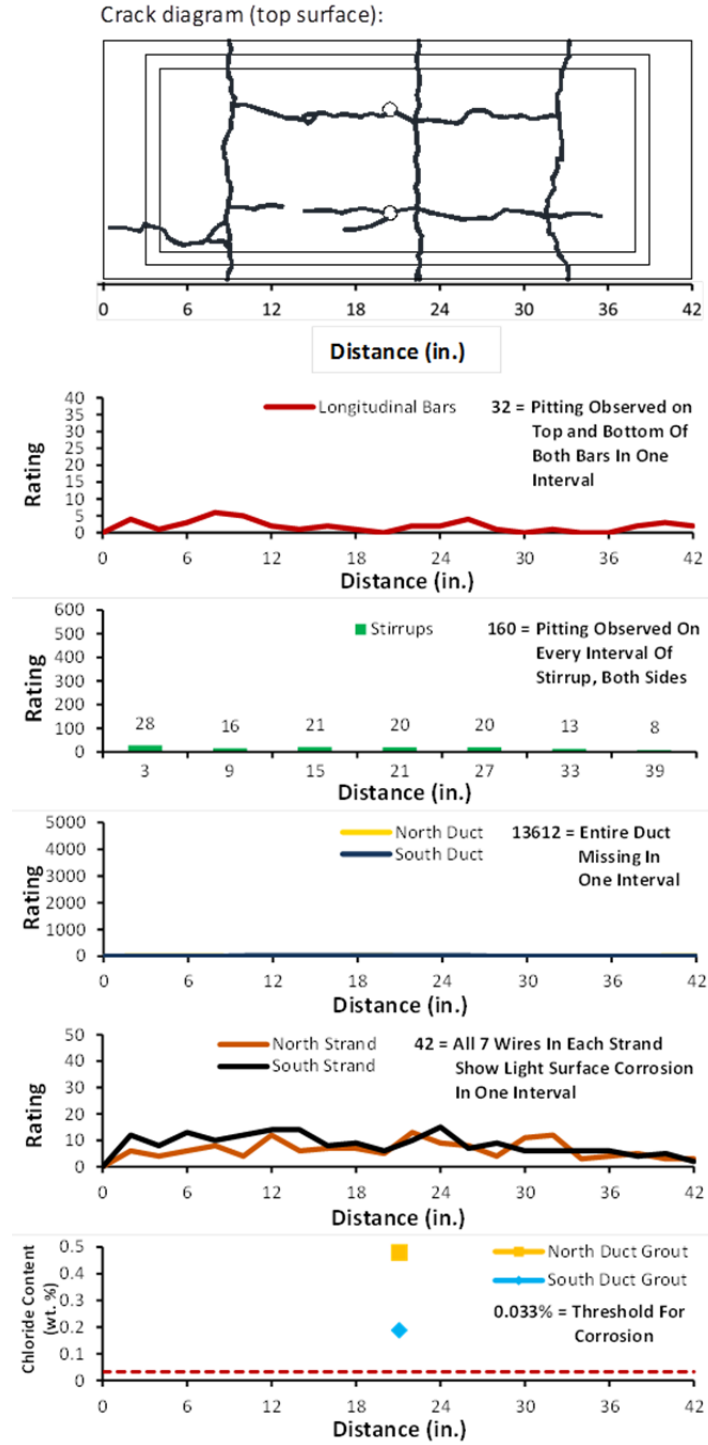
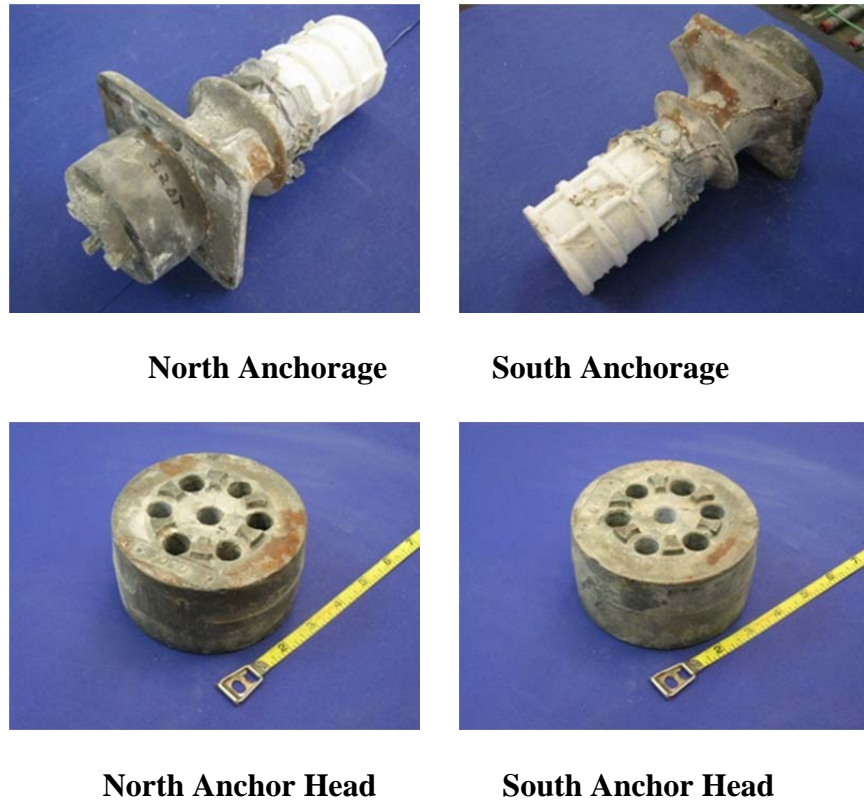


Figure 5.54: Specimen 3.2 Crack Map and Corrosion/Damage Rating Plots

### 5.2.7.6 Dead End Anchorages

The epoxy used to seal the exposed surfaces of both dead end anchorages was mostly intact on the bearing plates and mostly missing on the anchor heads. Both bearing plates showed

only localized light to moderate corrosion over a small portion of their exposed area. Corrosion was much more widespread on the underside and along the lower interior edges of the bearing plates. The duct tape used to splice the ducts to the anchorages was mostly intact at the time of autopsy. Only one small spot of corrosion was observed on the interior side of the south anchor head. The level of discoloration on the other surfaces was comparable to the north anchor head. The north and south anchorages and anchor heads are shown in Figure 5.55.



*Figure 5.55: Specimen 3.2 Dead End Anchorages and Anchor Heads*

The exterior of both anchorage zone ducts showed traces of chalky white residue. Isolated corrosion staining was also observed on both ducts where they were spliced to the anchorages. Scattered patches of shiny white crystals were found on the interior portions of both ducts. Evidence of small voids was also seen on the top interior portion of both ducts. The north duct had some light gouging due to strands rubbing near the anchorage splice. There was no such damage observed in the south duct. North and south ducts are shown in Figure 5.56. Anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.18.

Both north and south tendon anchorage zone grouts showed evidence of voids on their top surfaces. These voids did not appear to be connected by the top longitudinal rib of the duct. The bottom surfaces of both grouts were smooth and appeared extremely well consolidated. Like the main autopsy region grouts, the dead end anchorage grouts were very difficult to chip away. North and south tendon grouts are shown in Figure 5.56.

The dead end anchorage zone strands experienced localized discoloration and light surface corrosion along their entire lengths. The outer wires in all strands showed discoloration and flecks of corrosion that could be removed with a scouring pad over many intervals. Damage

was the worst at the exposed strand ends and in the region where the wedges were located. The inner wire on each strand was typically more extensively corroded or discolored near the wedge region than the outer wires. Inner wire damage further into the specimen was comparable to that of the outer wires. All wedges were found to be intact with only light localized corrosion or discoloration on their outer surfaces. Typical strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.56. Dead end anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.18.





**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.56: Specimen 3.2 Dead End Anchorage Region Element*

### 5.2.7.7 Live End Anchorages

Most of the epoxy on the exposed surfaces of the live end anchorages was gone. The south bearing plate experienced light corrosion on some of its exposed surface, while the north bearing plate had moderate corrosion over the majority of its exposed area. The north and south bearing plates were moderately corroded on their bottom surfaces and on all inside edges of the bearing plates. This damage was more severe on the north anchorage than the south anchorage. Although the duct tape splices were mostly intact on both anchorages, there was extensive moderate corrosion and some pitting found underneath the duct tape. The north anchor head experienced widespread moderate corrosion on its inner surface and lighter localized corrosion on much of its other surfaces. The south anchor head was much less damaged, with light to moderate localized corrosion on its inside surface and extremely localized light corrosion or discoloration elsewhere. The north and south anchorages and anchor heads are shown in Figure 5.57.



**North Anchorage**



**South Anchorage**



**North Anchor Head**



**South Anchor Head**

*Figure 5.57: Specimen 3.2 Live End Anchorages and Anchor Heads*

The outer surfaces of both ducts showed a chalky white residue. Additionally, the outer surface of the north duct was significantly stained at the duct's interface with the bearing plate due to the corrosion that had occurred there. Inside the duct, evidence of small voids was found in the duct's upper ribs. The voids appeared to be connected by the duct's narrow longitudinal rib. Patches of shiny white crystals were found on the inside surfaces of the duct. In addition, several light scratches were found on the inside of the south duct. These most likely occurred while the strands were being threaded through the duct. Light scratches were seen in the north duct, but these were not nearly as extensive and occurred over only one interval. North and south

ducts are shown in Figure 5.58. Live end anchorage zone corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.18.

Damage to the live end anchorage zone strands was light to moderate. The outer wires of all strands showed some discoloration and localized light corrosion in most intervals. The inner wires showed similar damage, although corrosion was somewhat more widespread in the inner wires. Spots of corrosion that could not be scrubbed away were found on the inner wires of two of the north duct strands. Overall, corrosion ratings were highest where the strands had been exposed and where they had been inside the anchor heads. All wedges were intact, showing only localized light corrosion and discoloration. Most of this damage was observed on the outer surfaces of the wedges. Typical strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.58. Live end anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.18.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.58: Specimen 3.2 Live End Anchorage Region Elements*

**Table 5.18: Specimen 3.2 Live and Dead End Anchorage corrosion/Damage Rating Summary**

Component	Dead End Anchorage			Live End Anchorage		
	Maximum	Total	Generalized	Maximum	Total	Generalized
North Duct	10	10	20	10	10	20
South Duct	0	0	0	20	60	120
North Strands	35	128	37	31	128	37
South Strands	30	121	35	35	105	30

**5.2.7.8 Comparison of Anchorage Corrosion**

The live end bearing plates and anchor heads appeared marginally more corroded than their dead end counterparts. Damage to the anchorage zone ducts was more severe at the live end than at the dead end. However, this is inconsequential because the damage was not caused by corrosion, nor was it severe enough to allow chloride ingress into the tendon. Damage to the strands was comparable in both anchorage regions. The strand corrosion rating plots are nearly identical for the live and dead end strands. No clear correlation between exposure and corrosion can be seen. These factors suggest that chlorides did not enter the specimen at its dead end, perhaps due to the absence of any large cracks on the specimen’s dead end face.

**5.2.8 Specimen 3.4: One-Way Plastic Duct, Hot-Dip Galvanized Strand**

This specimen did not receive anchorage exposure during the testing period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.19.



*Figure 5.59: Specimen 3.4 Overall (Left) and Discoloration around Surface Cracks (Right)*

**Table 5.19: Specimen 3.4 Corrosion/Damage Rating System**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	5	46	7
Stirrups	6	89	6
North Duct	10	180	51
South Duct	10	60	210
North Strands	12	150	14
South Strands	17	194	18

### 5.2.8.1 Appearance

Light scaling was observed in the saltwater tray as well as the north and south faces of the specimen. A faint dark discoloration was visible alongside several of the specimen's surface cracks. This discoloration extended about ½ inch on either side of the cracks, as shown in Figure 5.59.

The specimen had 5 transverse cracks. Three of these were continuous across the top surface, while the other 2 only extended a few inches into the saltwater tray. Average width of the transverse cracks was 0.02 inches. Two longitudinal cracks were observed on the specimen's top face. Both passed through one grout vent, and the crack closer to the north face of the specimen was the longer of the two. Average width of the longitudinal cracks was 0.008 inches. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.63.

### 5.2.8.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Damage to both the north and south longitudinal bars was light, with most of the bars' surface area showing no signs of corrosion whatsoever (see Figure 5.62). Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.63 and summarized in Table 5.19.

Corrosion observed in the stirrups was similarly mild. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.63 and summarized in Table 5.19.

### 5.2.8.3 Duct

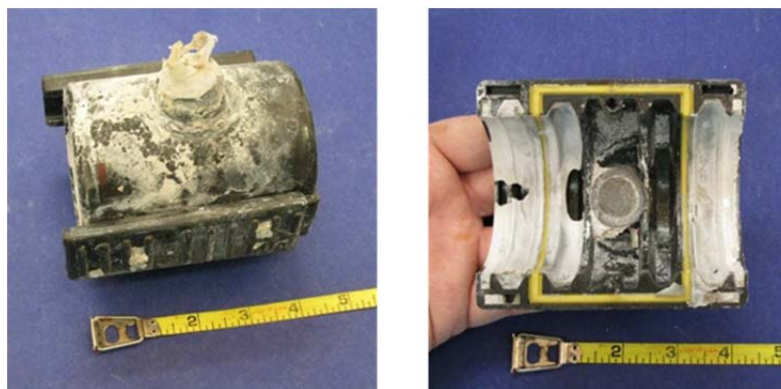
The exterior of the north duct was covered with a chalky white residue. No corrosion staining was observed. The pattern of the residue on the top of the duct in particular suggests that water was present there, as shown in Figure 5.62. Inside, the duct showed a shinier white residue along most of its length. Evidence of voids was found in the top inner portion of the duct. Most of these voids appeared to be confined in the top transverse ribs of the duct. However, evidence of one continuous void was visible within approximately 6 inches of the live end of the autopsy region. This void was visible from the cut live end of the duct before the grout was extracted. The bottom interior portion of the duct was marked with intermittent light gouges that were found along nearly its entire length. The pattern of the gouges suggests that two or more strands were bearing directly on the duct before grouting occurred (see Figure 5.60).



Figure 5.60: Specimen 3.4 Strand Gouging on Bottom of North Duct

Damage to the south duct was similar to that of the north duct. Chalky white residue with apparent water marks was observed on the outside of the duct, and shiny white residue was found on the inside, as shown in Figure 5.62. Some extremely isolated corrosion staining was observed at a few points along the duct's length. The duct's midspan grout vent had been sealed with a zip tie, which was intact at the time of autopsy. No epoxy was found at the grout vent-duct interface. Inside the duct, evidence of voids was observed. The voids were isolated to the transverse ribs of the duct on the dead end half, while one continuous void was found on the live end half of the duct. This suggests that the grout vent at midspan may have slipped and blocked the flow of grout to the live end of the duct. Light gouges were seen along most of the duct's length on its bottom interior portion. It appeared that all three strands were bearing on the duct during the life of the specimen. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.63 and summarized in Table 5.19.

The north duct coupler was physically intact, and its two mechanical fasteners were functional at the time of autopsy. Similar discoloration to that of the north duct was observed on both the inner and outer surfaces of the coupler. Evidence of one small void was observed near the grout vent on the top inner surface of the coupler. The gasket on the bottom half of the coupler was mostly intact, and a clear boundary between cement paste and grout residue was observed over most of its length. One breach in the gasket was found on the live end of the coupler, indicated by cement paste leaking through the gasket. The top gasket was in worse condition. The live end half of the gasket was breached and had allowed cement paste to fill almost 1/3 of the coupler's sealed area (see Figure 5.61). These breaches suggest that the gasket was not firmly applied to the full perimeter of the duct before concrete was cast around it.



*Figure 5.61: Specimen 3.4 North Duct Coupler Outer Surface (Left) and Breach in Upper Gasket (Right)*

#### **5.2.8.4 Grout**

The north tendon grout was cracked transversely every few inches along its length. One large void, approximately 2 inches across, was found on nearly the entire live end half of the duct. Smaller voids, ranging in size from 1 to 1.5 inches, were found confined to the areas where the duct's ribs had been on the dead end half of the grout. Strands were visible on the surface of the grout over most of its length. All three strands were visible near the live end of the autopsy

region (see Figure 5.62). Chloride content was 0.45% at midspan and 0.039% 6 inches from the live end of the grout.

The south tendon grout was similar in appearance to the north tendon grout. The south tendon grout was cracked every few inches along its length. No longitudinal cracks were found. One continuous void, about 1.5 inches wide, was observed along most of the live end half of the grout. On the dead end half of the grout, all voids were approximately 1 inch wide and isolated to the ribs of the duct. All voids were somewhat smaller than in the north grout, although their color was comparable. All three strands were visible on the underside of the grout along most of its length, and at least one strand was visible along the entire length of the grout. Chloride content was 0.36% at midspan. Chloride content for both ducts is shown in Figure 5.63.

The midspan grout chloride content of both tendons was above the corrosion threshold, showing that both the north duct coupler and the south duct grout vent were breached by chlorides during exposure. The grout vent located on the north duct coupler may have leaked as well, but this cannot be determined due to autopsy damage. It is not believed that any chlorides entered the tendon through the anchorages. The chloride content in the north tendon at 6 inches from the live end was much lower than midspan, although still above the corrosion threshold. Because no other means of chloride ingress into the duct were found, this means that chlorides entered at midspan and traveled along the live end of the tendon. The chlorides may have passed through the strand interstices or along the continuous void. Strand corrosion suggests that chlorides found their way to the strands in both tendons.

#### ***5.2.8.5 Strand***

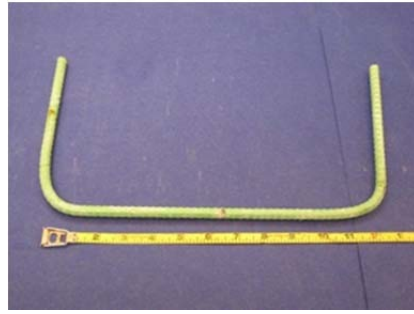
Damage to the north tendon strands was minor and relatively uniform along the length of the tendon. The south tendon strands were slightly more damaged than the north duct strands. On the outer wires, discoloration and spots of corrosion were found on almost every interval of every strand. On one interval of one strand, this corrosion could not be removed with a scouring pad. The inner wires were uniformly discolored, and light corrosion spots were found along much of their length. Corrosion ratings were higher in the south strands than the north. Ratings reached their peak roughly 15 inches from the dead end of the autopsy region. A typical strand and inner wire are shown in Figure 5.62. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.63 and summarized in Table 5.19.

As with previous specimens containing hot-dip galvanized strand, the strands in this specimen were observed to have a very strong bond with the surrounding grout. Also, some small bubbles were found in the strands' interstitial grout, suggesting that a chemical reaction may have occurred.





**Longitudinal Bar**



**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.62: Specimen 3.4 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

Crack diagram (top surface):

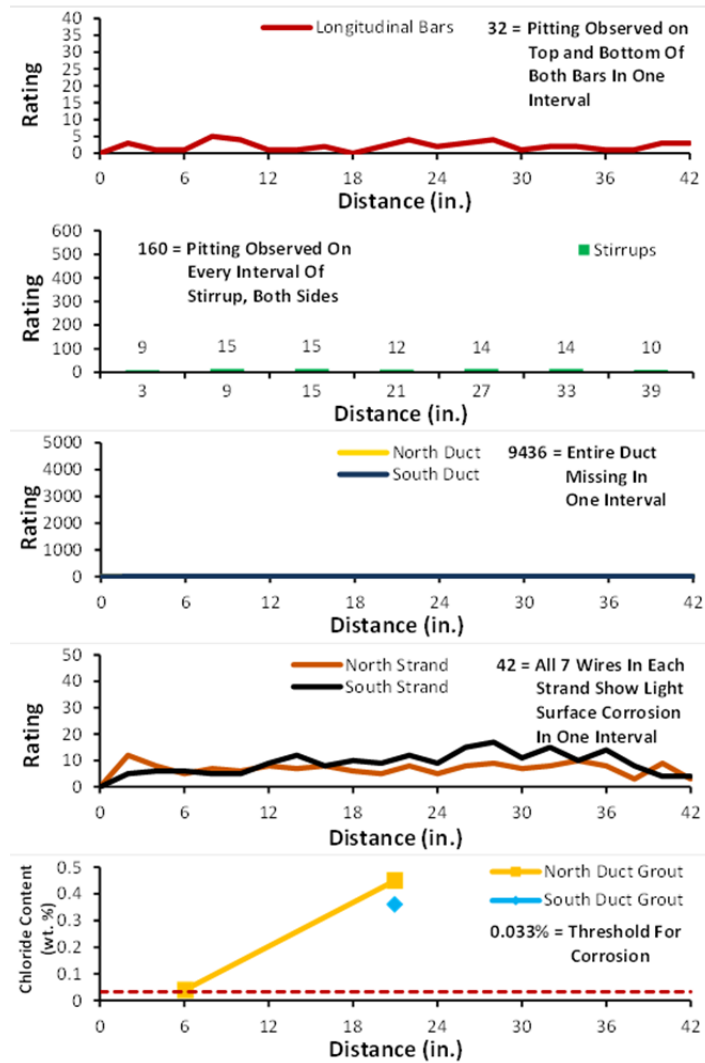
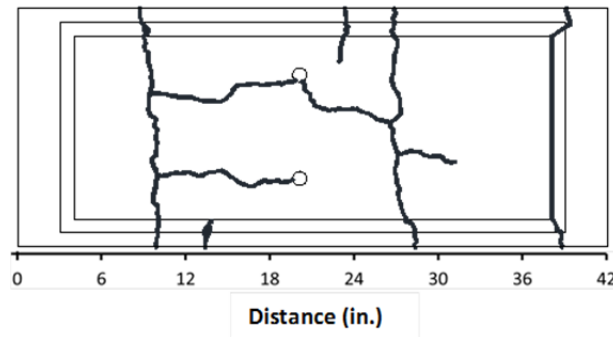


Figure 5.63: Specimen 3.4 Crack Map and Corrosion/Damage Rating Plots

### 5.2.8.6 Dead End Anchorages

The epoxy used to seal the exposed surfaces of the anchorages prior to applying the pourback were partially intact on the bearing plate and completely gone on the anchor head. The north bearing plate showed some very localized light surface corrosion, mostly on its lower half. Isolated light to moderate surface corrosion was found on the underside of the north bearing plate, mostly occurring near the grout vent located there. Some pitting was observed on the lower, inside edge of the bearing plate. The south bearing plate was more extensively corroded, with moderate surface corrosion occurring on most of its lower half. Moderate surface corrosion and some pitting were observed around the inside edges of the bearing plate, as well. The duct tape used to seal both bearing plates to their ducts was intact, with some light to moderate corrosion occurring on the anchorage surfaces beneath. The north anchor head showed only light surface corrosion on its side surface near the bearing plate, with faint discoloration occurring on other surfaces. The south anchor head was similar in appearance. However, the corrosion was less prominent and the discoloration more widespread.

**Table 5.20: Specimen 3.4 Anchorage Corrosion/Damage Rating System**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Generalized</b>
<b>North Duct</b>	200	240	480
<b>South Duct</b>	0	0	0
<b>North Strands</b>	21	26	77
<b>South Strands</b>	33	28	84

The outside surface of both ducts showed the same chalky white residue that was found on the ducts in the main autopsy region. Large deposits of cement paste were found in the splice region of both ducts. This occurred because the ducts are slightly smaller than the anchorage opening, which allowed paste to enter and adhere to the ducts. North and south ducts are shown in Figure 5.64. Anchorage zone corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.20.

The south tendon grout was severely damaged during extraction, so no meaningful observations could be made. The north tendon grout showed signs of small voids on its top surface and a long void within the anchorage itself. Over the region that had been covered by the north duct, the grout appeared to be well consolidated. The grout in this region was very dark and very hard to break. Two strands were visible on the grout's bottom surface over the entire duct region. The grout was not observed to be cracked. North and south tendon grouts are shown in Figure 5.64.

The anchorage zone strands in both tendons showed similar levels of corrosion. Small flecks of light surface corrosion and discoloration were observed over the entire length of strand, generally on more than one wire per interval. Outer wire damage was greatest in the region that had been inside the wedges. Inner wire damage was uniform, with discoloration and light surface corrosion spots found along the entire length of wire on every strand. All wedges were physically intact, showing only mild surface corrosion on their outer surfaces and isolated spots of discoloration inside. Typical strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.64. Anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.20.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.64: Specimen 3.4 Anchorage Region Elements*

### 5.2.9 Specimen 4.2: One-Way Plastic Duct, Stainless Steel Strand

This specimen did not receive anchorage exposure during the test period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.21.



Figure 5.65: Specimen 4.2 Overall (Left) and Discoloration around North Grout Vent (Right)

Table 5.21: Specimen 4.2 Corrosion /Damage Rating Summary

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	4	26	4
Stirrups	10	78	6
North Duct	400	4740	1354
South Duct	250	2640	754
North Strands	6	6	1
South Strands	6	8	1

#### 5.2.9.1 Appearance

The specimen showed light scaling on its top, north, and south faces. Large aggregate was visible over a large portion of the edges surrounding the saltwater tray. Some faint corrosion and discoloration was observed around the base of the north grout vent, indicating the presence of corrosion within the specimen (see Figure 5.65).

Two transverse cracks were found on the specimen's top face. Average width of the transverse cracks was 0.02 inches. One short longitudinal crack was observed emanating from the south grout vent. The average width of this crack was 0.04 inches. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.69.

#### 5.2.9.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Both the north and south longitudinal bars experienced no corrosion and very little discoloration, as shown in Figure 5.68. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.68 and summarized in Table 5.21. Corrosion damage to the stirrups was mild. However, stirrup #5, shown in Figure 5.68, showed pitting over one interval at its center. The highest corrosion ratings were observed in the stirrups underneath the specimen's transverse surface cracks. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.69 and summarized in Table 5.21.

### 5.2.9.3 Duct

The north plastic duct showed a large amount of chalky white residue on its outer surface. This residue formed small swirls near the live end of the duct, suggesting that small pockets of moisture may have been present there. Patches of shiny white crystals were found inside the duct. Evidence of a large, continuous void was found on the inner top portion of the duct, extending from the live end of the duct to the splice at midspan. Smaller voids were observed on the dead end half of the duct. These appeared to be confined to the top ribs of the duct. Gouges were observed on the duct's bottom interior surface, suggesting that at least one strand had been bearing on the duct over its entire length. Deep scratches, amounting to approximately 10% of the duct's thickness, were seen on the top interior surface of the duct along almost its entire length. This damage was likely caused by the highly curved strands as they were threaded through the duct prior to stressing (see Figure 5.68).

Damage to the south duct was comparable to that of the north duct. Chalky white residue was found on the outside of the duct, and isolated spots of shiny white crystals were found inside. Evidence of a large void was observed on the live end half of the duct's top interior surface. This void extended from 2 inches from the live end of the duct to just past midspan (see Figure 5.68). Smaller voids were found on the dead end half of the duct. These voids appeared to be completely contained within the top ribs of the duct. Extensive scratching was present on the entire interior of the duct, amounting to about 10% of the duct's thickness in places. No gouges were observed. The epoxy used to seal the grout vent at its intersection with the duct was somewhat separated from the duct surface. It is unknown whether this occurred during autopsy or during exposure. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.69 and summarized in Table 5.21.

The north duct coupler was physically intact at the time of autopsy, and both of its mechanical fasteners were operational. The coupler showed similar discoloration to that of the north duct, both inside and out, as seen in Figure 5.66. Evidence of a large void was found on the top inside surface of the coupler. The gasket appeared mostly intact. However, one small breach was found on the lower, live end portion of the gasket. A small amount of cement paste had intruded into the inner portion of the coupler at that location, as shown in Figure 5.66. On the upper half of the coupler, a clear boundary between grout and gasket was observed, indicating that a positive seal was made there.



*Figure 5.66: Specimen 4.2 Coupler Outer Surface (Left) and Lower Gasket Breach (Right)*

#### 5.2.9.4 Grout

The large curvature of the strands caused both the north and south grout to fracture along their lengths as the ducts were removed. Large, continuous voids, approximately 2 inches across, were present on the live end half of each grout, and smaller voids were seen on the dead end half (see Figure 5.68). These voids were approximately 0.75 inches in width. Chloride content was 0.39% at midspan of the north grout and 0.32% at midspan of the south grout. Chloride content for north and south grouts is shown in Figure 5.69.

The uniformly high chloride contents at midspan of both tendons indicate that the north duct coupler and the south duct grout vent were breached to a similar extent. The grout vent on the north duct coupler may have leaked as well, but it was too damaged from the autopsy to determine its soundness. The two anchorage pourbacks were intact, and there was no evidence that chlorides may have entered there. Large, continuous voids may have allowed chlorides to spread easily along both tendons. However, only one reading per tendon was taken and no signs of corrosion were found on the strands, so the extent of chloride penetration is unknown.

#### 5.2.9.5 Strand

All stainless steel strands in both the north and south tendons were nearly immaculate upon inspection. No corrosion or corrosion staining was found on the outer wires of any strand. The only discoloration observed was a light coating of white-gray grout residue (see Figure 5.68). This could easily be rubbed off over all intervals. When compared to a length of stainless steel strand that had been stored indoors for the duration of the exposure period, the strands extracted from the specimen showed no discernible difference in appearance, as shown in Figure 5.68. Small flecks of light surface corrosion were found at the dead end of every strand's inner wire, but this may have been due to water intrusion during the autopsy process. Strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.21.

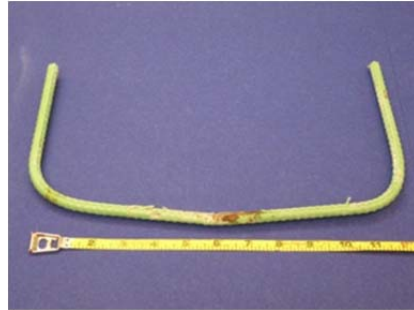
The stainless steel strands were observed to have a much weaker bond with the surrounding grout than other strand types. Grout easily fell away from the strands after the ducts were removed due to the weak bond and the strands' large curvature. Additionally, the strands in both ducts showed evidence of debonding after the concrete had been chipped away from the autopsy region, as shown in Figure 5.67.



Figure 5.67: Specimen 4.2, Debonded Strands at Live End of South Duct



**Longitudinal Bar**



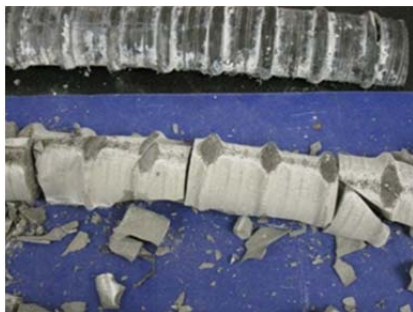
**Stirrup**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**North Grout**



**South Grout**



**Strand**



**Comparison with Unused Strand**

*Figure 5.68: Specimen 4.2 Main Autopsy Region Elements*



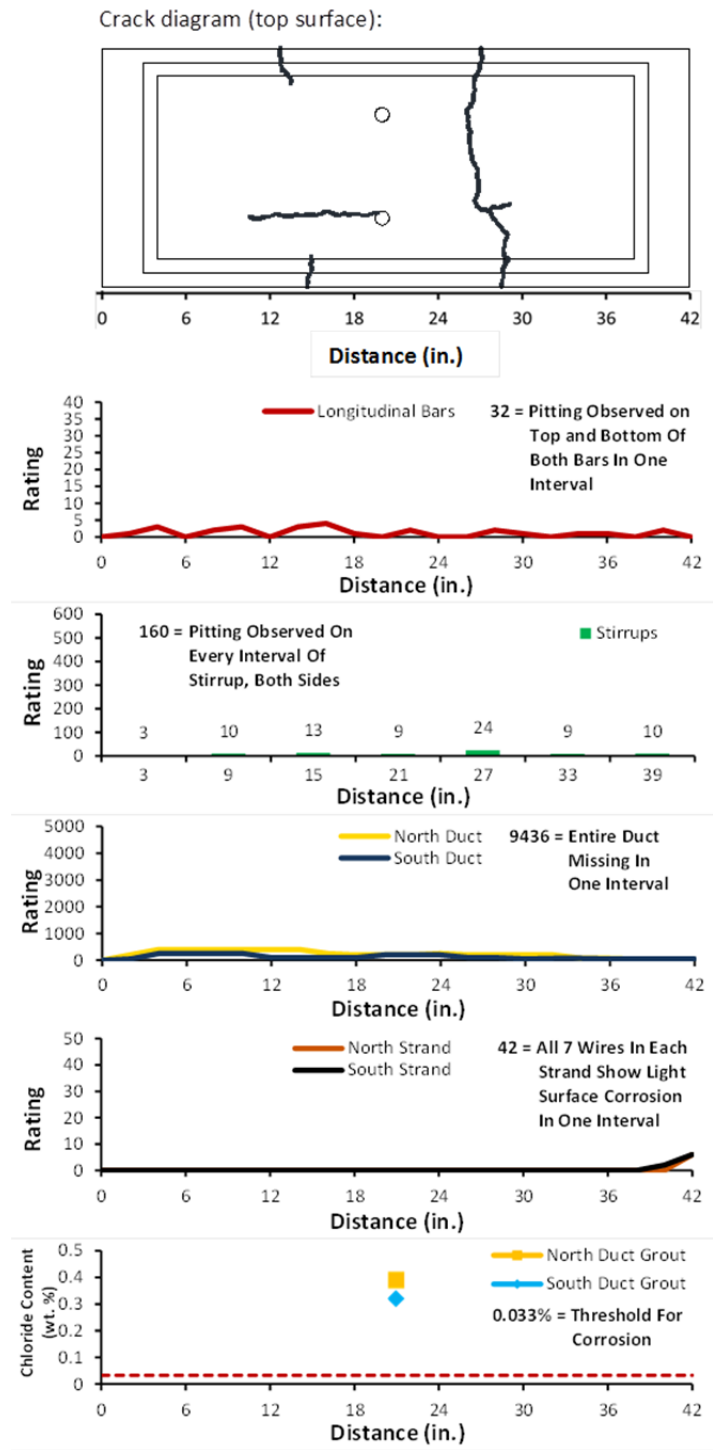


Figure 5.69: Specimen 4.2 Crack Map and Corrosion/Damage Rating Plots

### 5.2.9.6 Dead End Anchorages

The epoxy used to coat the exposed surfaces of both anchorages was partially intact on anchorages. Light to moderate surface corrosion was observed on the exposed surface of both bearing plates, tending to concentrate on the lower half of the bearing plates. Some pitting was observed on the bottom edge of the north bearing plate. Moderate surface corrosion was found on the inner surface of both anchor heads, and light surface corrosion was present on much of their side and outer surfaces.

**Table 5.22: Specimen 4.2 Anchorage Corrosion/Damage Rating Summary**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
North Duct	220	240	721
South Duct	0	0	0
North Strands	19	55	18
South Strands	14	51	17

Only a short length of anchorage zone duct was recovered for both the north and south anchorages. These duct segments were also heavily damaged, limiting the conclusions that could be drawn. The north duct showed substantial scratches on its bottom interior surface and some faint scratches on its top interior surface. The strands appeared to have damaged the duct as they were being threaded through prior to stressing. No scratches or gouges were observed within the south duct. North and south tendon ducts are shown in Figure 5.70. Anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.22.

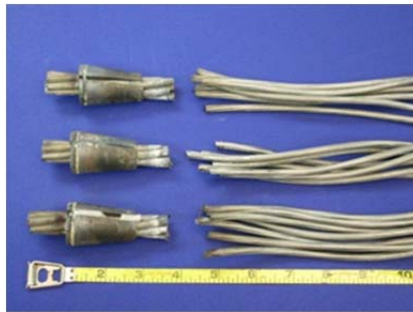
The north and south anchorage zone grouts shattered as the ducts were being removed, so observations were limited. The north and south anchorage zone strands were not in the same condition as those in the main autopsy region of the specimen. Discoloration was found on all strands in the region where wedges had been applied, both on the inner and outer wires of every strand. The only corrosion present on the anchorage zone strands was one small spot found on the end away from the anchor head on the inner wire of one south duct strand. All discoloration could be wiped away to reveal clean strand underneath. Typical strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.70. Anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.22.



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.70: Specimen 4.2 Anchorage Region Elements*

### **5.2.10 Specimen 7.1: Fully Encapsulated Tendon, Conventional Strand**

This specimen was constructed such that the post-tensioning strands and hardware were electrically isolated. This required the use of longer, specially equipped anchorages. Accordingly, the specimen's pourback regions were made longer to accommodate this. Due to the additional width of the anchorage components, the specimen only had one tendon that ran down the centerline of the specimen. To ensure that the specimen could be properly monitored using AC impedance measurements, two additional, uncoated longitudinal bars were provided in the tension zone of the specimen. This allowed electrical current to flow efficiently from concrete to the reinforcement cage. This specimen received dead end anchorage exposure during the test period. Component corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.23.



Figure 5.71: Specimen 7.1 Overall (Left) and Corrosion Staining in Saltwater Tray Wells (Right)

**Table 5.23: Specimen 7.1 Corrosion/Damage Rating Summary**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Epoxy-Coated Longitudinal Bars	6	63	9
Uncoated Longitudinal Bars	32	360	51
Stirrups	6	128	9
Duct	10	80	23
Strands	19	296	28

#### 5.2.10.1 Appearance

Moderate scaling was observed on the specimen's saltwater tray. Some light scaling was also observed near the top of the specimen's north and south faces. The live end grout vent was broken off near its base. Spots of severe corrosion staining were found in 3 of the 4 indentations within the saltwater tray, indicating the presence of corrosion inside the specimen (see Figure 5.71).

Several transverse cracks were present on the top face of the specimen. Although only one crossed the full width of the specimen, five of the cracks extended down both the north and south faces. Two of the transverse cracks were connected to longitudinal cracks that ran approximately 6 inches from the south face of the specimen. Average crack width for all surface cracks was 0.015 inches. Some separation was found at the joint between the live and dead end pourbacks and the surrounding concrete. The crack diagram is shown in Figure 5.74.

#### 5.2.10.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Damage to the epoxy-coated longitudinal bars was minor, as shown in Figure 5.73. The uncoated longitudinal bars provided for resistance monitoring showed moderate to severe corrosion damage. Spots of corrosion were observed along most of the bars' length. Near midspan, both bars were also pitted over several intervals (see Figure 5.73). The south uncoated bar was substantially more damaged than the north bar. It showed pitting on almost half of its total length. Longitudinal bar corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.74 and summarized in Table 5.23.

The stirrups were mildly damaged, as shown in Figure 5.73. It is possible that much of the discoloration at these locations was transported there from the uncoated bars. Stirrup #3 was

the most damaged, with nonremovable corrosion visible on top of its horizontal region over several intervals. This stirrup was located directly beneath the specimen's largest transverse surface crack. Stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.74 and summarized in Table 5.23.

### 5.2.10.3 Duct

The outside of the duct was extensively coated with chalky white residue. Some traces of corrosion products were found near the live end of the duct underneath the heat shrink sleeve. Inside, a shinier white residue was found, along with evidence of voids in the top inner ribs of the duct. These voids were uniform in size and did not appear to be continuous along the length of the duct (see Figure 5.73). Isolated light gouges were found on the duct's inner surface at various points along its length. It appeared that at least one strand had been bearing on the duct at those locations. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.74 and summarized in Table 5.23. The dead end and live end couplers were completely intact. Both sets of fasteners were fully functional at the time of autopsy, and no cement paste appeared to have breached the gaskets at any point of either coupler (see Figure 5.72). The outer and inner surfaces of both couplers showed similar discoloration to that which was seen on the duct. Both primary heat shrink sleeves were also intact. Extensive paste intrusion was observed near the outer end of each sleeve, along with some corrosion staining, as shown in Figure 5.72. The sleeves had a somewhat loose fit on the ducts. It is unknown how much of the cement paste was introduced during construction and how much was a byproduct of the autopsy process. At the dead end coupler, an additional heat shrink sleeve had been applied to the top of the duct because the primary sleeve had split during its application. This additional sleeve was observed to be loose at the time of autopsy, although it may have been jarred loose during the extraction process.



Figure 5.72: Specimen 7.1 Live End Coupler (Left) and Live End Sheath (Right)

### 5.2.10.4 Grout

The specimen's grout was cracked every few inches along its length. These cracks were very faint, and no longitudinal cracks were observed. Voids that were approximately 1 inch wide were found along the top surface of the grout. These voids were confined by the upper ribs of the duct, but some small bubbles were also observed between ribs (see Figure 5.73). Chloride contents were below the corrosion threshold along the length of the grout: 0.029% at midspan, and 0.030% and 0.027% at the live end and dead end couplers, respectively. Grout chloride content is shown in Figure 5.74. Because no breaches were found in the duct couplers, chlorides

must have entered the tendon by some other means. Corrosion found on the anchorage components suggests that chlorides may have entered there. This is discussed in section 5.2.10.6.

#### ***5.2.10.5 Strand***

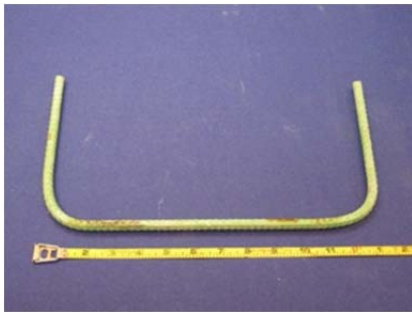
Corrosion damage to the strands was uniform and minor. The outer wires of each strand showed spots of discoloration and light surface corrosion over most intervals. All corrosion could be removed with a scouring pad (see Figure 5.73). The inner wire on each strand was somewhat more damaged. Corrosion that could not be removed was found in several intervals along each strand. Strand corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.74 and summarized in Table 5.23.



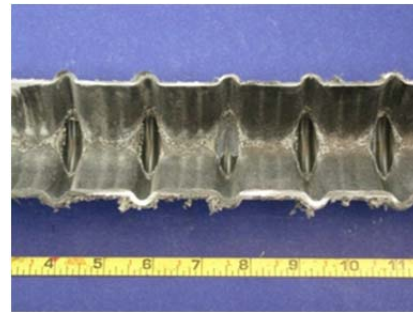
**Coated Bar**



**Uncoated Bar**



**Stirrup**



**Top of Duct**



**Top of Grout**



**Side of Grout**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.73: Specimen 7.1 Main Autopsy Region Elements*

Crack diagram (top surface):

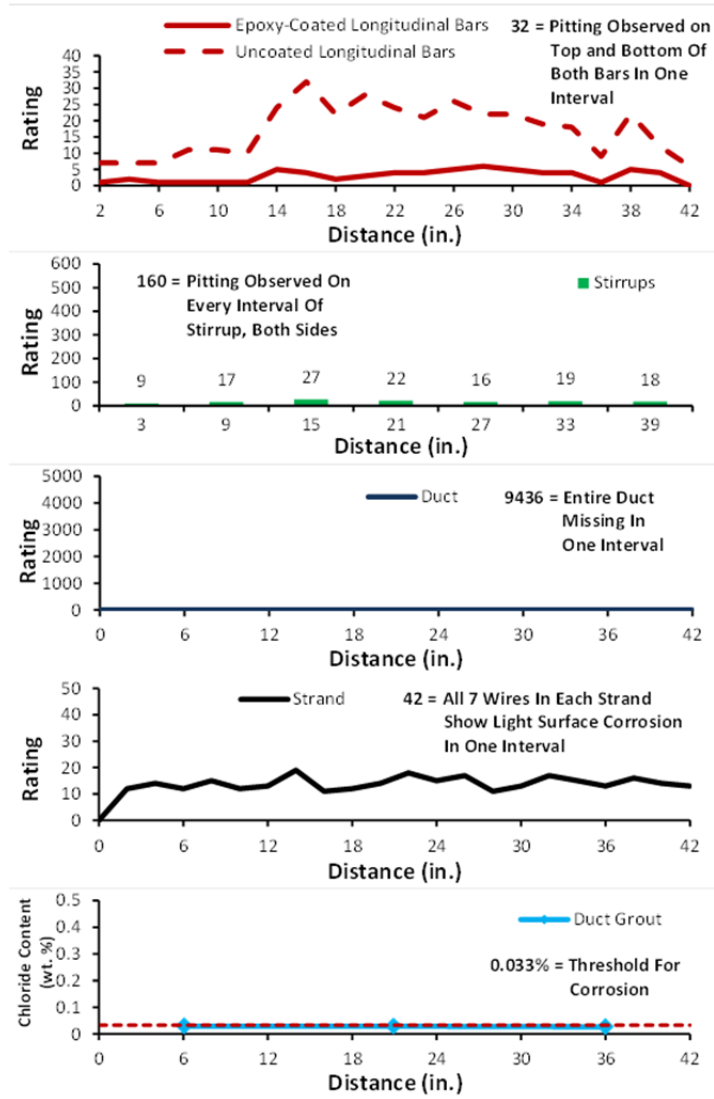
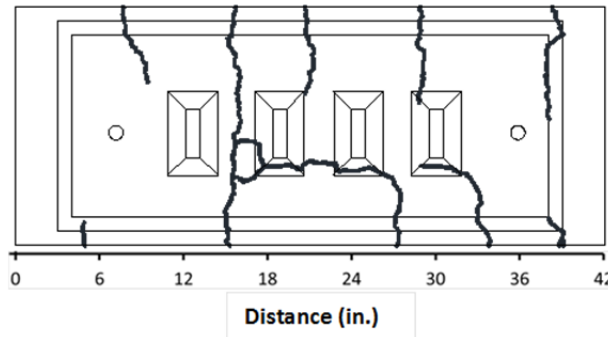


Figure 5.74: Specimen 7.1 Crack Map and Corrosion/Damage Rating Plots



#### **5.2.10.6 Dead End Anchorages**

The VSL CS-2000 anchorage system contained several cap components that will be described here in order from the end of the specimen toward the inside. See Figure 5.75 for the layout and names of these components. The outside of the grout cap was covered in chalky white residue. Some light corrosion staining was also observed on the top of its outer surface and along its outer lip. The retaining ring was severely pitted around the top of its outer face. Localized pitting and corrosion was found elsewhere on the retaining ring, mostly on or near its outer edges. The insulation plate showed widespread corrosion staining on both of its faces. The discoloration was most severe near the top of the plate. The bearing plate showed widespread moderate surface corrosion on the surface in contact with the insulation plate. Lighter corrosion was also observed around the bearing plate's forward edge. Some light to moderate surface corrosion was observed on the rear of the bearing plate. The anchor head was lightly discolored over much of its exposed surfaces. The surface that had been bearing on the bearing plate showed widespread moderate corrosion and some pitting. Also, a small "window" of corrosion was observed on the top, outer surface of the anchor head. A grout void that was similar in shape to the "window" appeared to have been located there. This may have been a chloride ingress point. Anchorage components are shown in Figure 5.76.



*Figure 5.75: Specimen 7.1 Anchorage Components, from Top: Grout Cap, Retaining Ring, Insulation Plate, Bearing Plate*



**Anchorage**



**Grout Cap**



**Insulation Plate**



**Bearing Plate**



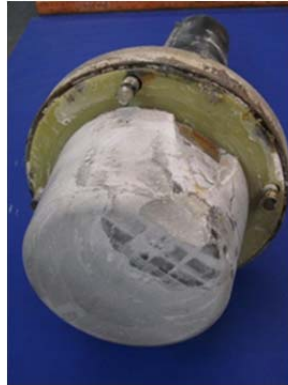
**Anchor Head**

*Figure 5.76: Specimen 7.1 Dead End Anchorage Cap Components*

The trumpet was completely intact at the time of autopsy. Chalky white residue was observed on the outer surface of the trumpet. Some localized corrosion staining was observed near the bearing plate. Inside the trumpet, lines were visible in the shiny grout residue that suggested that the grout was cracked longitudinally there. The trumpet is pictured in Figure 5.78. Trumpet damage ratings are summarized in Table 5.24.

The grout inside the grout cap was not cracked. The top third of the grout cap was slightly darker than the rest, and a clear boundary was visible between these regions, as shown in Figure 5.77. This may have occurred because grouting was completed in stages. It is possible that the time between stages was too great. A void was observed on the top of the grout within the grout cap adjacent to the insulation plate. The corroded “window” of the anchor head was visible beneath the void. Some corrosion products were found around the perimeter of the void,

and the void appeared to terminate at the location of the grout cap vent. The grout within the trumpet was also uncracked, contradicting evidence found to the contrary inside the dead end trumpet. The grout was darker on its bottom surface along its whole length, as shown in Figure 5.78. This indicates that segregation may have occurred. A small void surrounded by dark bubbling was found on the top of the grout.



*Figure 5.77: Specimen 7.1 Dead End Grout Cap Showing Grout Discontinuity*

The dead end anchorage zone strands were somewhat damaged but overall in good condition. The outer wires of each strand showed spots of discoloration or light surface corrosion over most of their length. All corrosion could be scrubbed away with a scouring pad. The inner wires were more damaged, with light to moderate surface corrosion occurring over all intervals, as shown in Figure 5.78. On the inner wires of two strands, the heaviest corrosion occurred on the intervals that had been located inside the anchor head. Light to moderate surface corrosion was found on the exterior of all three wedges. The interior of each wedge was not damaged. A typical strand is shown with and without wedges in Figure 5.78. Dead end anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.24.



**Top of Trumpet**



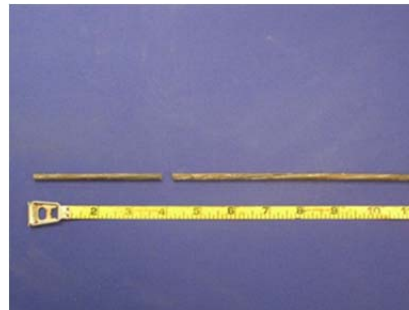
**Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.78: Specimen 7.1 Dead End Anchorage Region Elements*

#### **5.2.10.7 Live End Anchorage Components**

The orientation of the components within the live end anchorage cap is shown in Figure 5.75. The grout cap was covered in white, chalky residue and showed moderate corrosion staining along its outer lip. Localized moderate corrosion and pitting were found on all surfaces of the retaining ring. The most severe damage occurred near the top of the ring. The insulation plate was lightly stained on both sides. Staining was most severe in the vicinity of its inner edge. The bearing plate showed widespread moderate corrosion and some localized pitting on the surface it shared with the insulation plate. The corrosion near the middle of this outer surface was burnt orange in color, while the corrosion around the bearing plate's outer edge was a much darker red. The inboard side of the bearing plate had localized light to moderate surface corrosion, mostly occurring on its upper portion. Many small spots of light surface corrosion were observed on the outer surfaces of the anchor head, while moderate surface corrosion

covered much of the surface that had rested on the bearing plate. A small “window” of moderate corrosion was found on the upper surface of the anchor head. This appeared to coincide with the location of small grout void there and may have been another chloride ingress point for the tendon. Anchorage cap components are shown in Figure 5.79.



**Anchorage**



**Grout Cap**



**Insulation Plate**



**Bearing Plate**



**Anchor Head**

*Figure 5.79: Specimen 7.1 Live End Anchorage Cap Components*

The live end trumpet was similar in appearance to the dead end trumpet. Chalky white residue was found on its outer surface, along with small areas of corrosion staining on the portion of the trumpet that had been inside the bearing plate. Shiny white residue was present on the inner surfaces of the trumpet. Lines in this residue suggested that the grout may have been cracked there. The live end trumpet is pictured in Figure 5.80. Trumpet damage ratings are summarized in Table 5.24.

The grout within the live end grout cap was uncracked and showed similar evidence of a cold joint near its top surface to that observed within the dead end anchorage. A large void was visible on the top surface of the grout, and some light corrosion staining was present around its edges all the way to the location of the grout vent. The “window” of corrosion on the top of the anchor head was visible within the void. The grout within the trumpet was cracked transversely on its end nearest to the inside of the specimen. These cracks appeared to correspond to the pattern observed on the inside of the trumpet. Some efflorescence was observed in the vicinity of these cracks, as shown in Figure 5.80. It is unknown whether this was due to chlorides or bleed water from the grout. One longitudinal crack was also observed extending along the middle of the grout from the inside end to the bearing plate. The bottom half of the grout appeared much darker in color than the top half, indicating that segregation may have occurred during grouting. A very small void was present on top of the grout near the bearing plate.

The live end anchorage strands were somewhat less damaged than the dead end strands. Discoloration spots were visible along many of the outer wires’ length in all three strands, as shown in Figure 5.80. Occasional spots of light surface corrosion were observed on the outer wires. These did not occur solely in the anchor head regions of each strand. The inner wires were more corroded. Localized light surface corrosion was present on all intervals (see Figure 5.80). With the exception of one interval on one of the outer wires, this corrosion could be removed with a scouring pad. All three wedges were substantially intact, although spots of moderate surface corrosion were found on their outer surfaces. Typical live end anchorage region strands, with and without wedges, are shown in Figure 5.80. Live end anchorage zone strand corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.24.



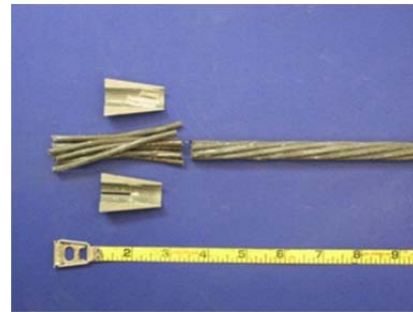
**Top of Trumpet**



**Grout**



**Strands with Wedges**



**Strand**



**Inner Wire**

*Figure 5.80: Specimen 7.1 Live End Anchorage Region Elements*

**Table 5.24: Specimen 7.1 Live End Anchorage Region Elements**

Component	Dead End Anchorage			Live End Anchorage		
	Maximum	Total	Generalized	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Trumpet	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strands	28	163	36	20	140	31

**5.2.10.8 Comparison of Anchorage Corrosion**

Damage to the dead end anchorage cap components was slightly more severe than the damage to the live end components. Trumpet damage was not severe enough to allow chloride ingress into the anchorage. Therefore, trumpet damage ratings will not be considered here. Strand corrosion ratings were slightly higher for the dead end strand on all but the two innermost intervals of the anchorage regions. Generalized corrosion for the live end strands was 5 units

higher than that for the dead end strands. Given that damage was uniformly more severe for dead end anchorage components than for their live end counterparts, it is possible that the corrosion was affected by the saltwater spray applied to the dead end during the test period. Further, it appears that chlorides entered the tendon through the anchorage caps. Due to the similar appearance of the corroded “window” on both anchorage caps, the chlorides originated from the saltwater pond and not the dripper. From the anchorages, chlorides were able to traverse the entire tendon within the strand interstices, which resulted in the uniform corrosion ratings observed in the main autopsy region.

However, the difference in corrosion damage between the ends of the specimen was not drastic enough to conclude with certainty that exposure worsened the corrosion at the dead end.

### 5.2.11 Control Specimen: Galvanized Duct

This specimen was cast as part of the 6 series but was never fitted with strand nor loaded. It remained in indoor storage in the south bay of Building 24 for the duration of the exposure period. As the autopsy process was being planned, it was determined that this specimen should be autopsied to provide a baseline level of damage to which other specimens could be compared.



Figure 5.81: Control Specimen Overall Appearance

Table 5.25: Control Specimen Corrosion Rating Summary

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
Longitudinal Bars	0	0	0
Stirrups	0	0	0
North Duct	0	0	0
South Duct	0	0	0

#### 5.2.11.1 Appearance

The beam was in near-immaculate condition at the time of autopsy, as shown in Figure 5.81. Some light scaling had taken place along the edges of the saltwater tray. Small surface air voids were visible on the north and south faces of the specimen, as well as within the saltwater tray. No cracks were observed at any location on the specimen, as it had never been stressed.

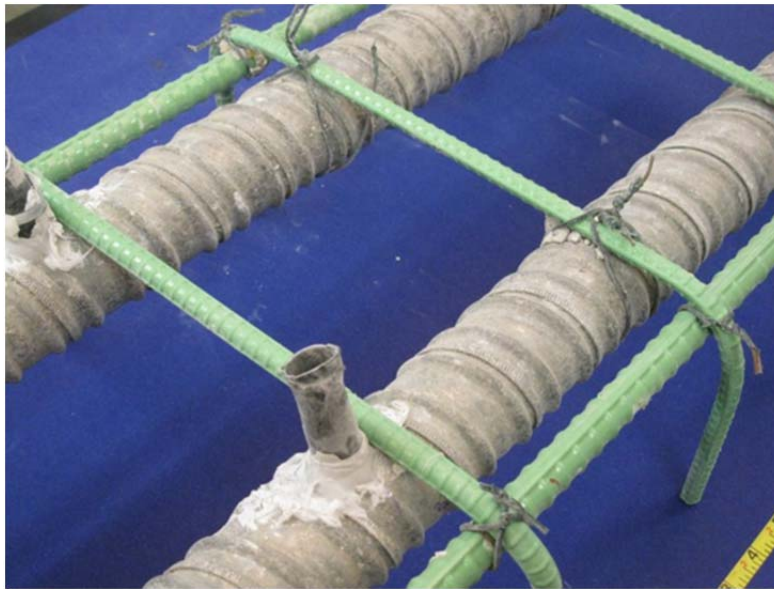


### **5.2.11.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups**

None of the epoxy-coated bars or stirrups within the specimen showed any signs of corrosion whatsoever (see Figure 5.82). Longitudinal bar and stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.83 and summarized in Table 5.25.

### **5.2.11.3 Duct**

The outside of both the north and south ducts was covered in a dull gray residue, as seen in Figure 5.82. No corrosion damage was found on the outer surfaces of either duct. Because the ducts had not been grouted, their inner surfaces were exposed to air for the entire exposure period. As this was not consistent with conditions inside the ducts of the exposure specimens, the inside surfaces of the control specimen were not evaluated for corrosion. Duct corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 5.83 and summarized in Table 5.25.



*Figure 5.82: Control Specimen Rebar Cage and Ducts*

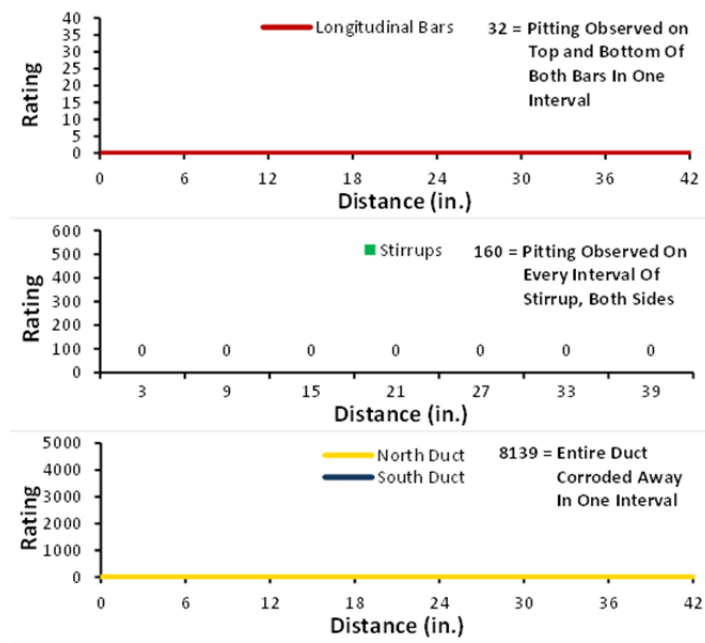


Figure 5.83: Control Specimen Corrosion Ratings

#### 5.2.11.4 Dead End Anchorages

A uniform layer of light surface corrosion was present on the exposed surface of the bearing plates. Localized light to moderate surface corrosion was found along the outside edges of the bearing plates, as well as on the portions of the anchorages around that concrete had been cast. The duct tape used to make the connection between the ducts and bearing plates was intact. A small amount of light surface corrosion was found beneath the duct tape on both bearing plates. North and south anchorages are shown in Figure 5.84.

Some spots of discoloration were present on the outside of the north and south ducts in the area where the duct tape had been applied. This is shown in Figure 5.84. The inner surfaces of the ducts were not evaluated because they had spent several years exposed to air. Anchorage zone duct corrosion ratings are summarized in Table 5.26.



**North Bearing Plate**



**South Bearing Plate**



**Top of North Duct**



**Top of South Duct**

*Figure 5.84: Control Specimen Anchorages and Ducts*

**Table 5.26: Control Specimen Anchorage Corrosion Rating Summary**

Component	Maximum	Total	Generalized
North Duct	2	2	3
South Duct	1	1	1



## Chapter 6. Analysis of Results

### 6.1 Overall Observations from Forensic Analysis

#### 6.1.1 Specimen Appearance and Cracking

The surface concrete of all specimens developed scaling in and around the saltwater tray. Corrosion staining was visible on the top surface of several specimens, most often near the base of one or both grout vents. Most specimens displayed wider and more numerous top surface cracks than had been observed immediately after live load application. Crack ratings for all specimens are shown in Figure 6.1. The highest crack ratings occurred in Specimens 2.2 and 2.4, while the lowest crack ratings were computed for Specimens T.2 and 4.2. Crack ratings do not show a strong correlation with duct type. In fact, the two highest and two lowest crack ratings were found in one specimen with plastic ducts and one with galvanized steel, respectively. This suggests that galvanized duct corrosion, while quite extensive, was not extensive enough to cause surface cracking.

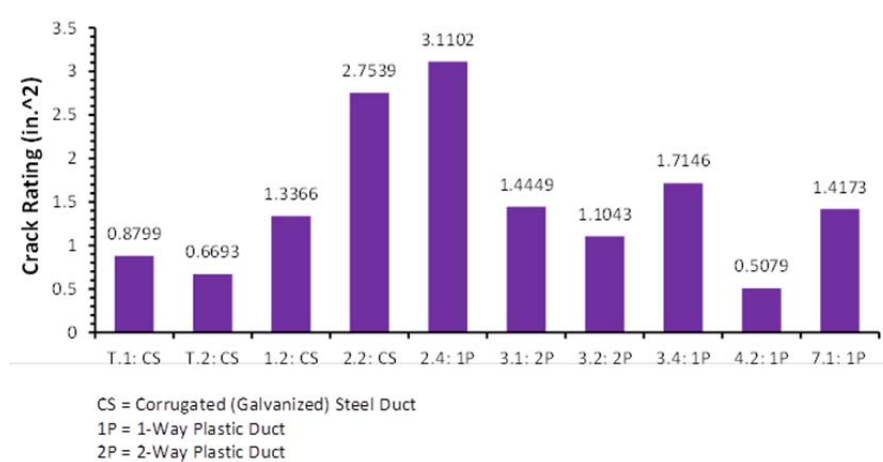


Figure 6.1: Crack Ratings

#### 6.1.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Overall, the specimens' epoxy-coated reinforcing elements were in good condition. Corrosion damage was mild and limited to small areas of each bar or stirrup. In between these regions, the epoxy coating was completely intact. Discoloration and corrosion tended to occur at locations where damage to the epoxy coating was likely to have occurred, such as points where the bars had been tied or lifted with a crane. Pitting and area loss were extremely rare. Discoloration was the most common form of corrosion damage.

Generalized longitudinal bar and stirrup corrosion ratings are shown in Figure 6.2 and plotted with crack ratings for each specimen. In general, it appears that specimens with higher crack ratings also tend to have higher longitudinal bar and stirrup corrosion ratings. For most specimens, it was observed during autopsy that corrosion ratings were highest for the regions of the bars and stirrups located directly underneath each specimen's surface cracks. Figure 6.2 supports this finding by linking the extent of epoxy-coated bar corrosion to crack rating.

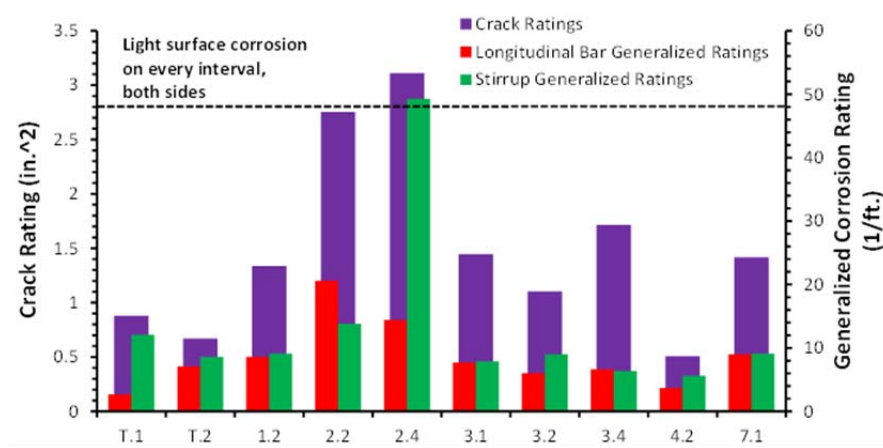


Figure 6.2: Generalized Longitudinal Bar and Stirrup Corrosion Ratings and Crack Ratings

### 6.1.3 Duct

Galvanized steel ducts performed very poorly, with every one showing area loss and pitting over a portion of its length. Substantial area loss and pitting were present at locations of grout voids. Corrosion and discoloration were less localized, appearing over larger portions of the ducts' length. Damage was most severe along the portions of duct that were located beneath each specimen's transverse cracks.

The plastic ducts were found to be only lightly damaged at the time of autopsy. This damage was caused either by strands scratching the inner surface of the duct while being threaded through the specimen, or by one or more strands gouging into the duct during stressing. Damage ratings were highest in Specimen 4.2, which contained stainless steel strand. The highly curved stainless steel strand scratched the ducts during strand placement, resulting in higher damage ratings for this specimen.

No holes or leaks were found in any of the plastic ducts, indicating that the ducts themselves did not allow chlorides to enter the tendons. However, breaches were observed in the heat shrink or mechanical couplers used to connect the two halves of the north duct on all but one specimen. Also, the epoxy used to seal the grout vent to the south duct was observed to be loose on all specimens. This provided a route for chlorides to enter the tendon and may explain the high chloride levels in all tendons with plastic ducts except for Specimen 7.1.

### 6.1.4 Grout

Grout condition varied by specimen. Some grouts were smooth, consistent in color, and extremely difficult to break open during autopsy. Others were somewhat rough to the touch, showed color variations, and shattered after the duct was removed. This suggests that pressure was not well-controlled during the hand operated pump grouting process. Overall, grout quality improved in specimens that were cast later in the construction sequence. All grouts showed voids to some extent. Most voids were limited to the extreme top portions of each duct's transverse ribs, but some were substantially larger and extended along large portions of the tendon. Strands were visible on the bottom surface of many grouts. For some specimens, the grout did not consolidate well around the strands at these locations. The bond strength between grout and strand varied by strand type. Nearly all grout chloride levels were at or above the 0.033%

threshold for corrosion, regardless of whether the grout voids were continuous. This, combined with the uniform strand corrosion that was observed, implies that chlorides entered the ducts and traveled along the strand interstices.

### **6.1.5 Strand**

Conventional strands showed discoloration or light corrosion spots on their outer wires and somewhat more severe corrosion spots on their inner wires. The spots were most frequent in the regions that had been in direct contact with the surrounding duct. Galvanized strands showed similar damage. However, most corrosion on the outer wires of each galvanized strand occurred on the zinc coating, while damage to the inner wire occurred on the bare interstitial steel. Copper clad strands were uniformly coated with a black patina, which appeared glossier on the inner wires than the outer wires. Stainless strand was covered with a light coating of grout residue but was otherwise immaculate.

### **6.1.6 Anchorages**

The exposed surfaces of the bearing plates and anchor heads showed patches of light to moderate corrosion. Inside the specimens, corrosion was most prominent on the underside of the bearing plates, suggesting that voids may have formed there during casting and that moisture was able to enter. Anchorage region ducts showed similar damage to their counterparts in the main autopsy region. Grouts were similar in appearance, but voids were smaller in size. Anchorage region strands were most corroded at their outer tips and at the regions that had been located inside the anchor head. Wedges were almost always intact, although many displayed light to moderate surface corrosion.

There is little evidence to show that the presence of anchorage drippers had any effect on the corrosion of the anchorage post-tensioning components. In fact, corrosion was nearly uniform within both anchorages of the three dead end exposure specimens. This indicates that anchorage corrosion occurred due to other factors, such as exposure to air prior to pourback application or chloride ingress from the saltwater bath.

## **6.2 Analysis of Variables**

### **6.2.1 Strand Type**

Because the different strand types corroded in different ways, direct comparison among them is difficult. Generalized strand corrosion ratings are plotted with maximum chloride content for both tendons in each autopsy specimen in Figure 6.3. Note that the plots are organized by strand type.

For tendons with conventional strand, only Specimen 7.1 (electrically isolated tendon) had a maximum chloride content below the corrosion threshold. The north duct of Specimen T.2 had the highest strand corrosion rating but one of the lowest grout chloride concentrations. The south tendon of Specimen T.1, the north tendon of T.2, and the tendon in Specimen 7.1 all had similar generalized strand corrosion ratings. However, the maximum chloride content of these tendons varied dramatically, showing that corrosion rating is not dependent on chloride concentrations once the corrosion threshold has been exceeded.

The copper clad strands all took on a uniform black patina during their life. As a result, their generalized strand ratings were identical. However, all maximum chloride concentrations were above the corrosion threshold, varying from 0.11% to 0.25%. Therefore, corrosion of

copper-clad strand was independent of chloride content above the corrosion threshold for copper-clad strand.

For the specimens with hot-dip galvanized strand, generalized corrosion ratings were relatively uniform. However, chloride concentrations ranged from 0.08% to 0.48%. Again, this suggests that corrosion of galvanized strand was independent of chloride concentration past the corrosion threshold.

Only one specimen with stainless steel strands was autopsied. Generalized strand corrosion ratings were very low in both tendons of Specimen 4.2, while maximum chloride concentrations were about ten times higher than the corrosion threshold. This shows that the stainless steel strands were extremely corrosion resistant. None of the specimens autopsied had epoxy coated or stainless clad strands.

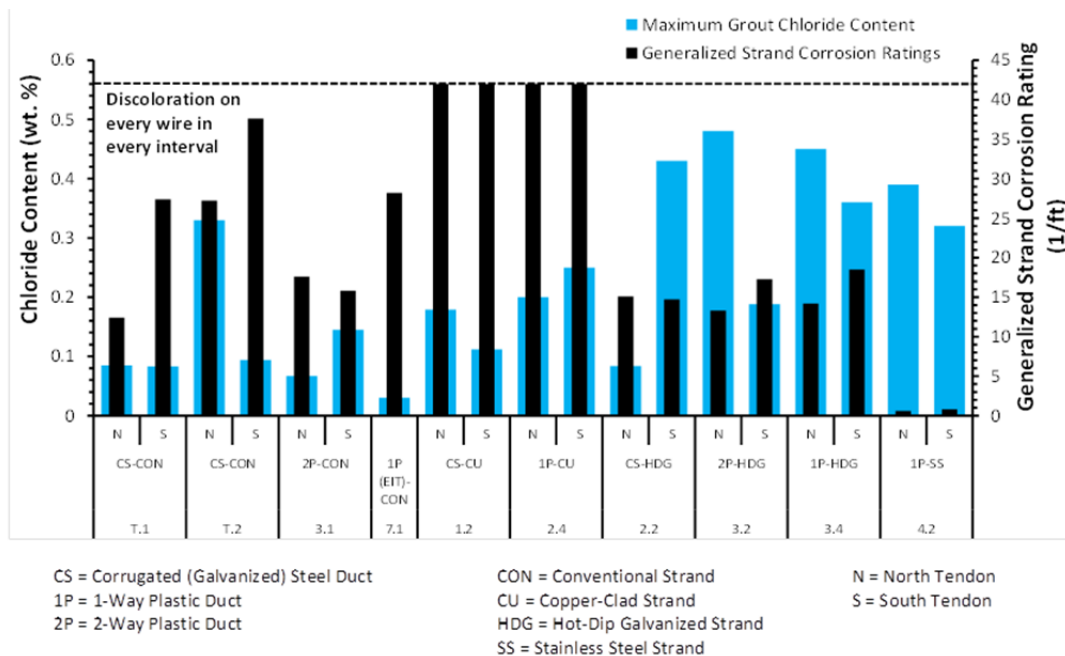


Figure 6.3: Generalized Strand Corrosion Ratings and Maximum Tendon Chloride Content, Organized by Strand Type

Figure 6.4 shows generalized strand corrosion ratings plotted with crack ratings for each specimen. The corrosion ratings shown represent the average of the tendons in each specimen. For each individual strand type, there is no clear correlation between strand corrosion rating and crack rating. High crack ratings do not necessarily correspond to high corrosion ratings. If cracking is assumed to indicate the extent of chloride ingress, this data confirms that strand corrosion does not depend on chloride content above the corrosion threshold.

Overall, the stainless steel strands performed the best. Copper-clad strands also showed no corrosion. Hot-dip galvanized and conventional strands had spots of discoloration and corrosion but were substantially intact. Based on observed corrosion damage alone, stainless steel strand would be best suited to prolonging the service life of a structure.

The role of grout in controlling strand corrosion cannot be neglected. Grout quality was not quantified in this study. Subjectively, the density and texture of tendon grout varied from specimen to specimen. The test specimens were grouted with a hand pump, not an electric pump



as is the standard in the post-tensioning industry<sup>7</sup>. Had an electric pump been used, grout voids may have been much smaller or eliminated altogether. This may have slowed the spread of chlorides through the tendons. It is important to note that regardless of grout quality, grout is not prestressed like the rest of a post-tensioned structure. Therefore, it will crack under service loads. If chlorides are present in a tendon, they can travel down these cracks to strand level.

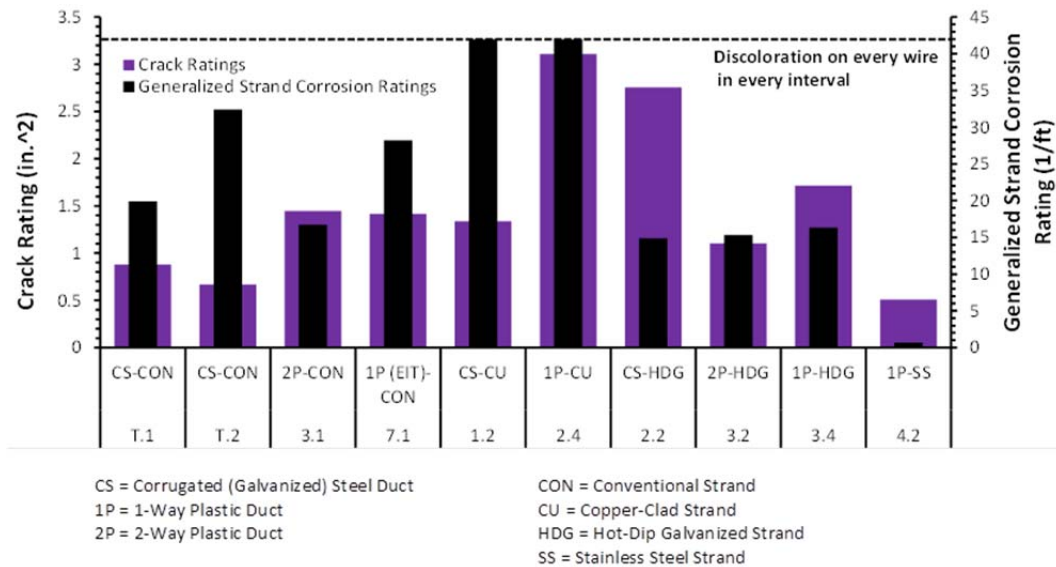


Figure 6.4: Average Generalized Strand Corrosion Ratings and Crack Ratings, Organized by Strand Type

### 6.2.2 Duct Type

The autopsy specimens contained galvanized steel duct or one of three types of plastic duct from two suppliers. Specimen 7.1, which was electrically isolated, contained the same type of one-way plastic duct as Specimens 3.4 and 4.2. In Figure 6.5, average generalized duct corrosion or damage ratings for each specimen are plotted with crack ratings.

Among the four specimens with galvanized steel ducts, corrosion ratings increased with crack ratings for Specimens T.1, 1.2, and 2.2. However, the highest duct corrosion ratings occurred for Specimen T.2, which had the lowest crack rating. This suggests a correlation between crack rating and duct corrosion rating, but other factors must also influence the extent of corrosion. From the forensic analysis, it was clear that corrosion initiated in the galvanized steel ducts at locations corresponding to each specimen’s transverse surface cracks. For Specimen T.2, cracking allowed duct corrosion to initiate at crack locations, then travel along the length of the large voids as chlorides continued to enter the tendons. Therefore, crack location and the presence of grout voids are just as important as crack rating in determining the extent of duct corrosion.

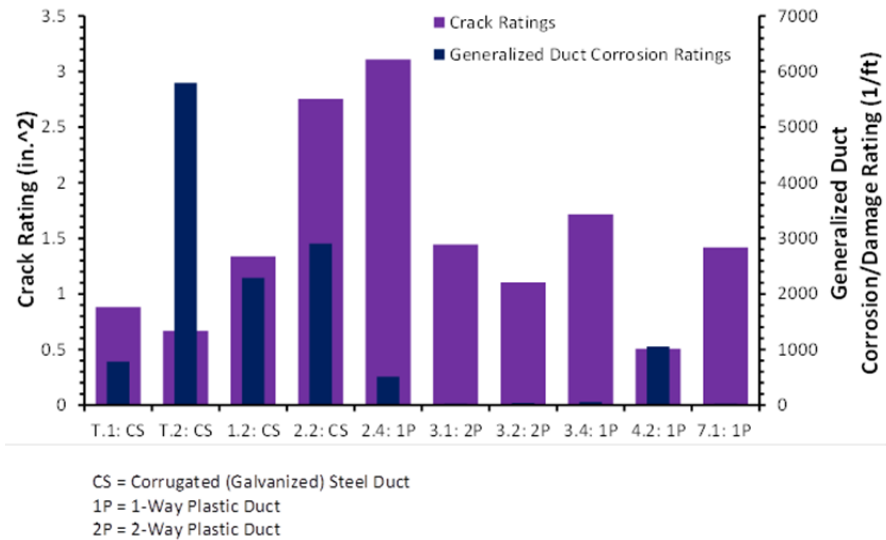


Figure 6.5: Average Generalized Duct Corrosion/Damage Ratings and Crack Ratings

Damage ratings were very low for the plastic ducts. Unlike the steel ducts, the plastic ducts were only damaged during strand placement and stressing. The ducts in Specimen 4.2 were most severely damaged during strand placement due to the stainless steel strands' high curvature. The presence of chlorides at duct level due to cracking did not affect the duct damage in the way that it would for steel ducts. No one type of plastic duct appeared to be less robust than any other, and all ducts were intact at the time of autopsy. Variation in plastic duct damage ratings depended more on strand curvature than on the structural integrity of the ducts. This was especially evident in Specimen 4.2, which had relatively high damage ratings due to the highly curved stainless steel strands it contained. The plastic ducts in Specimen 2.4 were also damaged in this manner by the copper-clad strands.

Figure 5.66 shows generalized duct corrosion and damage ratings plotted with maximum chloride content in each tendon. For the steel ducts, chloride content seemed to increase in each tendon along with the generalized corrosion rating in the surrounding duct. However, the highest overall chloride contents occurred in tendons with plastic ducts. This is a puzzling result, given the extensive area loss in the steel ducts. However, it confirms the presence of leaks in the couplers of the north plastic ducts and the grout vents of the south plastic ducts, as observed during the autopsy process. Plastic duct damage ratings showed no correlation to the grout chloride content.

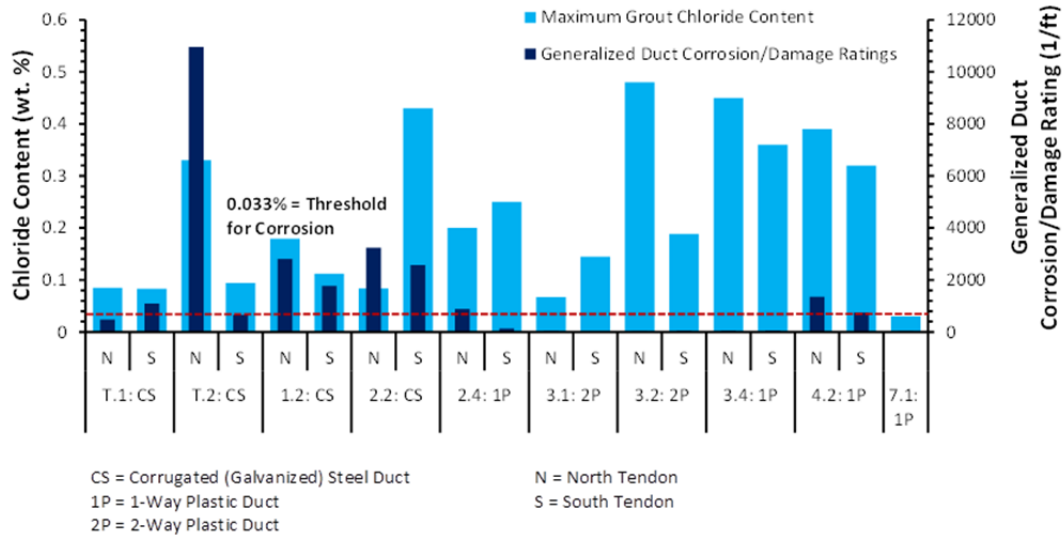


Figure 6.6: Generalized Duct Corrosion/Damage Ratings and Maximum Grout Chloride Content

In all, the plastic ducts were physically intact at autopsy, while the galvanized steel ducts were moderately to severely corroded. Although more chlorides were present inside the plastic ducts than the steel ducts, plastic ducts can provide a greater level of corrosion protection for a post-tensioned structure if all points of possible chloride ingress, such as grout vent connections, are properly sealed. Even in high chloride environments, the ducts themselves will never produce corrosion products in the presence of chlorides. This enables the plastic duct to act as a barrier, preventing or stopping the spread of corrosion throughout a post-tensioned structure.

### 6.2.3 Coupler Type

The specimens with galvanized steel ducts did not contain couplers. In each specimen with plastic ducts, the two halves of the north duct were connected with one of three couplers: GTI slip-on, GTI snap-on, or VSL snap-on. For each specimen, Figure 6.7 shows the chloride content within the tendon grout at the location of each coupler.

The highest grout chloride concentration was found inside the GTI heat shrink coupler within Specimen 3.2. The lowest concentrations were found in both VSL snap-on couplers inside Specimen 7.1, although these couplers had the benefit of being covered with an additional plastic sheath. Both chloride concentrations in Specimen 7.1 were below the corrosion threshold. The presence of chlorides within the couplers confirms that breaches had occurred, as observed during autopsies. For each coupler that was installed in more than one specimen, chloride concentrations vary significantly. This suggests that the integrity of the couplers depends more on workmanship during construction than on coupler type and manufacturer. The inexperience of the project team at construction time may have resulted in couplers that were not properly installed and that allowed chloride ingress during exposure.

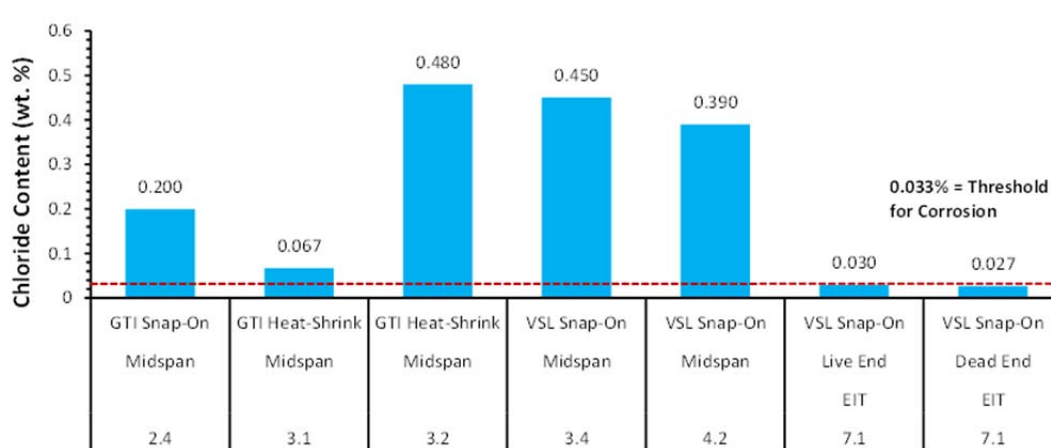


Figure 6.7: Grout-Chloride Contents at Coupler Locations

For all specimens with one coupled and one uncoupled plastic duct, grout chloride concentrations at midspan are plotted in Figure 5.68. From this figure, it is clear that chloride levels at midspan were well above the corrosion threshold in both tendons of each specimen. While chloride levels were generally higher in the north tendons, concentrations were of similar magnitude in the corresponding south tendons. This is most clear for Specimens 2.4, 3.4, and 4.2, for which both chloride concentrations were nearly equal. This trend confirms that the grout vents at midspan of the south ducts were indeed breached by chlorides during the exposure period.

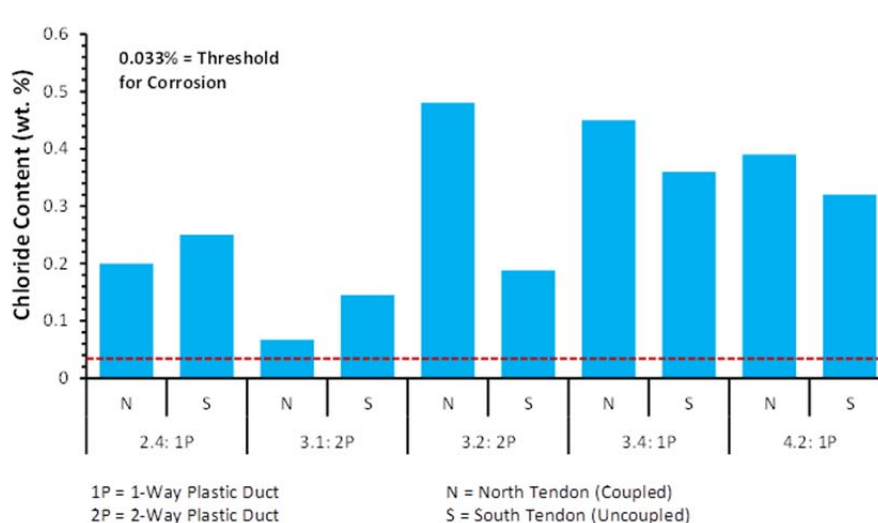


Figure 6.8: Midspan Grout Chloride Contents for Specimens with Two Plastic Ducts

### 6.2.4 Anchorage Type

Of the autopsy specimens, only T.2 had been constructed with galvanized bearing plates. Corrosion occurred at similar locations on the galvanized and non-galvanized bearing plates. Most corrosion was found on the underside of the bearing plates and on their end surfaces. The

galvanized bearing plates were generally less corroded, and the corrosion found had occurred on the zinc, not on the steel beneath (see Figure 6.9).

Specimens T.1 and T.2 were both constructed with steel ducts and conventional steel strand, so these specimens can be used to compare the effects of bearing plate type on other elements within the specimens. Less corrosion was found on the bearing plate splice regions of the ducts in Specimen T.2 than Specimen T.1. This suggests that the galvanized bearing plates may have acted as a sacrificial anode and reduced corrosion in the galvanized ducts connected to them. Conversely, slightly more corrosion was found on the anchorage region strands in Specimen T.2 than in T.1. This may have been galvanic corrosion caused by the difference in potentials between the zinc bearing plates and the plain steel strands.



*Figure 6.9: Underside View of Anchorage with Non-Galvanized Bearing Plate (Left) and Galvanized Bearing Plate (Right)*

The galvanized bearing plates in Specimen T.2 performed better than the non-galvanized plates in Specimen T.1. However, the effect of the galvanizing zinc on the corrosion of other steel elements is not fully understood and should be carefully weighed before opting for galvanized bearing plates in a post-tensioned structure. In addition, the non-galvanized bearing plates on all other autopsy specimens showed corrosion but remained structurally intact after four years of exposure. This casts doubt on the need for galvanized components in the first place.

### **6.2.5 Fully Encapsulated System**

Specimen 7.1 was constructed such that its tendon was electrically isolated from all other elements in the specimen. Figure 6.2 shows that the epoxy-coated mild steel components inside Specimen 7.1 were corroded to about the same extent as other specimens with non-isolated plastic ducts, as would be expected. The crack rating for Specimen 7.1 was comparable to that of the other specimens. As shown in Figure 6.3, the generalized strand corrosion rating for Specimen 7.1 was the second highest among all specimens with conventional strand. Only the south tendon of Specimen T.2 experienced a higher rating. The generalized duct damage rating was very low, even compared to other specimens with VSL one-way plastic ducts (see Figure 6.5). This can be attributed to the low curvature of the conventional strand and to the robust construction of the VSL electrically isolated anchorage components. Grout chloride content was below the corrosion threshold at all points along the tendon. This confirms that the couplers and heat shrink sleeves applied at the trumpet-duct joints remained watertight for the entire life of the specimen. The grout chlorides must have entered the duct at some other location.

In general, corrosion damage in Specimen 7.1 was minor and comparable to other specimens. It is significant that this was the only specimen that did not have any grout chloride concentrations above the corrosion threshold. Had the exposure period lasted longer, this may have become an important factor in the corrosion protection of the strands. If a very long service life is desired for a post-tensioned structure, electrically isolated systems might be a viable option.

### 6.3 Comparison of Monitoring and Forensic Data

#### 6.3.1 Half-Cell Potential Data

##### 6.3.1.1 Half Cell Potential Data vs. Observed Corrosion

Average final half-cell potentials for each specimen are shown in Figure 6.10 with generalized longitudinal bar and stirrup corrosion ratings. All specimens except for 7.1 ended the test period with an average half-cell potential within the 90% chance of corrosion region, indicating that corrosion is very likely to be present<sup>14</sup>. Specimen 7.1 ended the test period in the uncertain corrosion category. Corrosion was present to some extent on the bars and stirrups in all specimens. In the sense of predicting the presence of corrosion, the final half-cell potential method was accurate. However, the half-cell potentials did not correlate well to the magnitude of the stirrup and longitudinal bar generalized corrosion ratings. Thus, the half-cell method did not accurately predict the relative severity of corrosion for the mild steel components in the autopsy specimens.

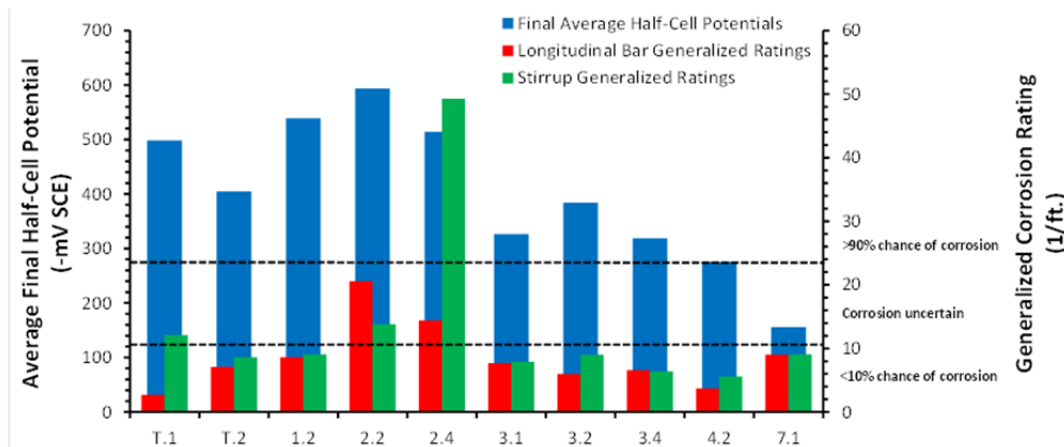


Figure 6.10: Average Final Half-Cell Potentials and Generalized Longitudinal Bar and Stirrup Corrosion

Average final half-cell potentials for the north and south tendon in every specimen are shown in Figure 6.11 plotted with generalized duct corrosion ratings. Only the specimens with galvanized steel ducts were considered because the half-cell method would be unable to predict damage to the plastic ducts. For these four specimens, final average half-cell readings were all in the greater than 90% chance of corrosion range. This might indicate that half-cell readings predicted corrosion in those specimens. However, almost all of the specimens with plastic ducts also had readings within the 90% probability range, as shown in Figure 6.10. It is likely that the

presence of duct corrosion made the half-cell readings more negative, but they were already very negative due to rebar corrosion.

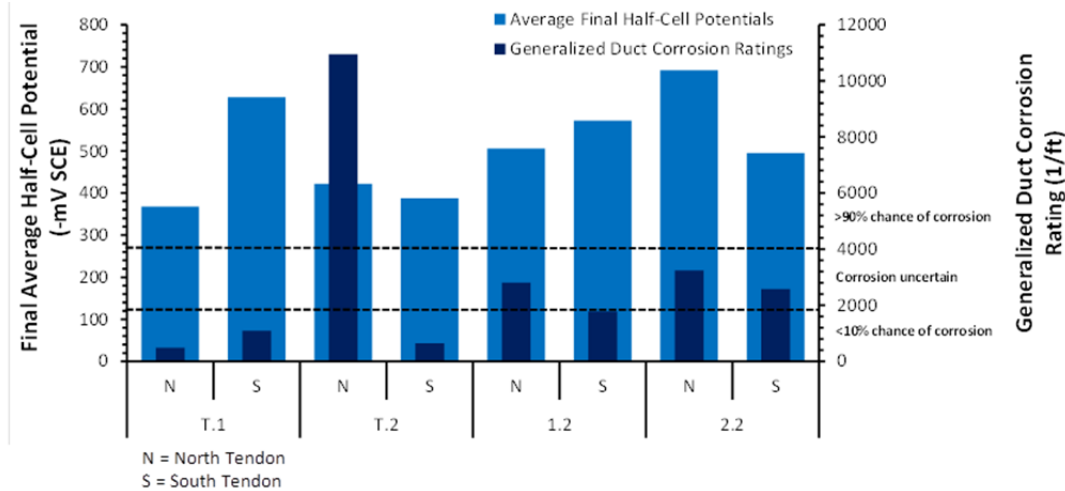


Figure 6.11: Average Final Half-Cell Potentials and Generalized Duct Corrosion Ratings for Specimens with Galvanized Steel Duct

Figure 6.12 shows average final half-cell potentials plotted with generalized strand corrosion ratings for north and south tendons of each Specimen, grouped by strand type. Final half-cell potentials for all seven tendons with conventional strand indicated that corrosion was uncertain or more than 90% likely. Because all conventional strands had some corrosion, the half-cell method was accurate in this regard. However, no relationship can be seen between the final half-cell potential and generalized corrosion rating.

The copper-clad strands all had identical strand corrosion ratings. Half-cell potential readings for the tendons in Specimens 1.2 and 2.4 were similar, and all four were within the 90% chance of corrosion range. Because the black patina on the strands in every specimen was so uniform, it is unknown how half-cell potentials correlate to copper-clad strand corrosion.

The three specimens with hot-dip galvanized strands all showed similar generalized corrosion ratings. Final average half-cell potentials were all above the 90% threshold and generally decreased from Specimen 2.2 to 3.2 to 3.4. In this case, a slight correlation can be seen between half-cell potential and strand corrosion rating.

Almost no corrosion was found on the stainless steel strands in Specimen 4.2. However, the final average half-cell potentials for the two tendons in that specimen indicated that corrosion was uncertain or more than 90% likely. The half-cell method was not accurate for stainless steel strands and probably was meaningless for detecting strand corrosion at all.

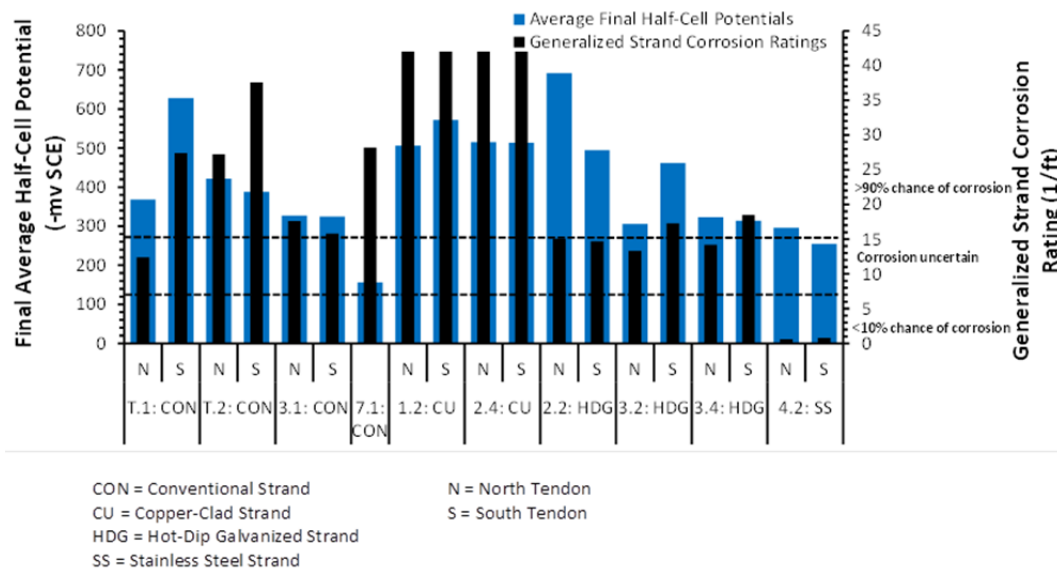


Figure 6.12: Average Final Half-Cell Potentials and Generalized Strand Corrosion Ratings

Overall, strand corrosion was found in all specimens that had a final half-cell reading in the uncertain or 90% probability range. However, all specimens had corrosion in their epoxy-coated mild steel elements. The galvanized ducts were also corroded in every specimen built with them. Therefore, the half-cell method successfully predicted the presence of corrosion only because all specimens had some corroded elements. The method did not predict which elements were corroded or their extent of corrosion. Therefore, the half-cell method is not suitable for predicting post-tensioning strand corrosion.

For all specimens except for Specimen 7.1, the steel elements of the specimens were all in contact at various points throughout the reinforcement cage. It was not possible to isolate the potential of each steel element within the specimen, even though measurements were taken separately at both tendons of each specimen. Like any other non-destructive monitoring technique, the half-cell method was not designed to stand alone<sup>14</sup>. Further research on non-destructive testing methods is required in order to develop a method that will accurately predict strand corrosion in post-tensioned structures.

### 6.3.1.2 Time to Corrosion vs. Observed Corrosion Damage

In Chapter 4, corrosion was assumed to initiate when the most negative half-cell reading within a specimen exceeded the 90% chance of corrosion threshold. The number of days to onset of corrosion for each specimen is shown in Figure 6.13 along with generalized longitudinal bar and stirrup corrosion ratings.

There was not much variation in the time to onset of corrosion among most autopsy specimens, which makes comparison difficult. Times to corrosion onset tended to be lower for specimens with higher bar and stirrup corrosion ratings, although this trend is not universal. The longest time to corrosion onset was observed in Specimen 4.2, which also had the least amount of corrosion on its bars and stirrups.



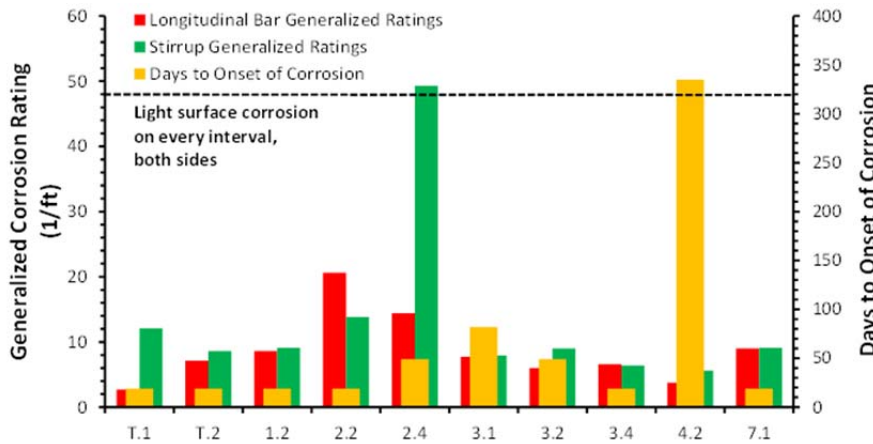


Figure 6.13: Longitudinal Bar and Stirrup Generalized Corrosion Ratings and Days to Onset of Corrosion

The number of days to corrosion is shown in Figure 6.14 along with the generalized duct corrosion/damage ratings for each specimen. All four specimens with galvanized steel duct were heavily damaged, and all four had the lowest time to corrosion onset at 19 days each. The six specimens with plastic duct showed much more variation in their time to onset of corrosion. Specimens 3.4 and 7.1 took only 19 days, while Specimen 4.2 took 335 days to initiate corrosion. This shows that elements inside specimens with plastic ducts generally take longer to begin corroding. This is logical because a post-tensioning duct has a substantial amount of surface area and is one of the first elements to be reached by chlorides from a surface crack. If the duct is plastic, it will not corrode like a steel duct would. The plastic duct will therefore block chloride penetration into the tendon for much longer, resulting in less corrosion and a longer amount of time with less negative half-cell potentials.

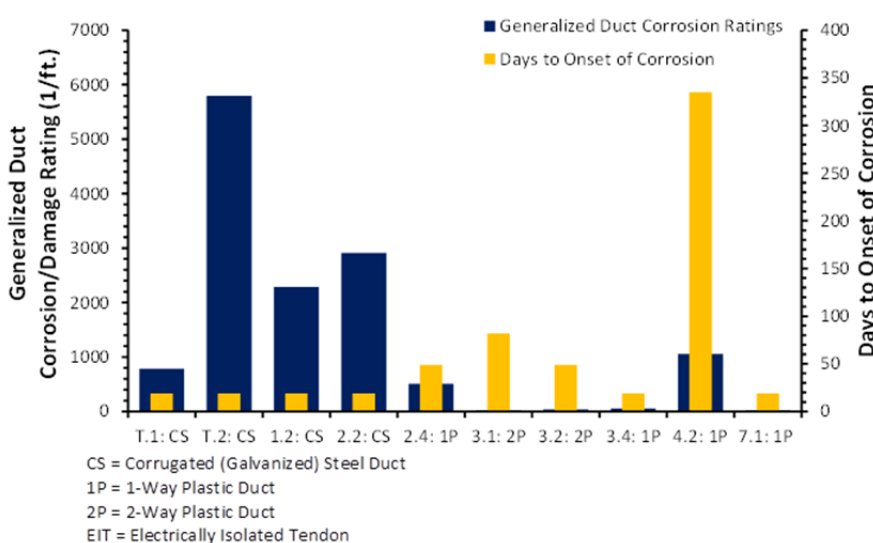


Figure 6.14: Generalized Duct Corrosion/Damage Ratings and Days to Onset of Corrosion

The number of days to onset of corrosion is shown in Figure 6.15 along with generalized strand corrosion ratings for each specimen, arranged by strand type. Among the four specimens with conventional strands, Specimen 3.1 had the lowest corrosion rating and the longest time to initiation of corrosion. The other three specimens started corroding at 19 days and had much higher generalized corrosion ratings. The two specimens with copper-clad strands showed little difference in time to onset of corrosion. The difference could be attributed to Specimen 1.2 having steel ducts and Specimen 2.4 having plastic ducts. Strand corrosion ratings were relatively uniform for the specimens with hot-dip galvanized strands, and corrosion began by the first or second half-cell reading for all three specimens. Specimen 4.2, built with stainless steel strands, showed the longest time to onset of corrosion.

From this data, it seems that corrosion was most likely to occur early in specimens with steel duct and any type of strand other than stainless steel. The fact that all four specimens with galvanized ducts began corroding immediately suggests that corrosion tended to initiate at the ducts, then spread to the bars and stirrups and inside the tendons. However, all specimens had corrosion on their bars and stirrups, even the specimens with plastic ducts. This means that corrosion may have initiated on the bars and stirrups. The low number of days to corrosion onset in most of the specimens indicates that corrosion was not limited by oxygen or chlorides, as can be the case if cracks are narrow or if moisture remains in cracks continuously.

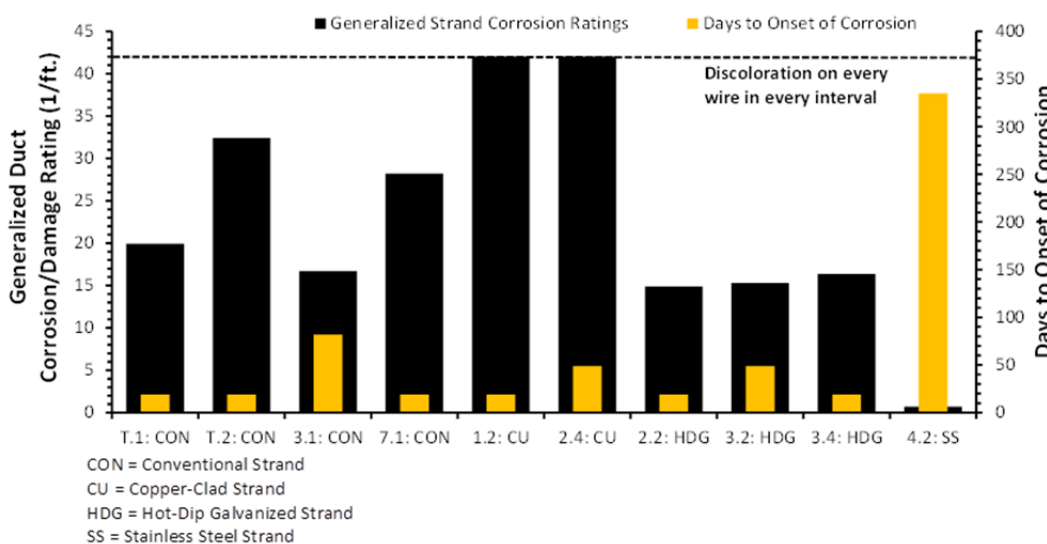


Figure 6.15: Generalized Strand Corrosion Ratings and Days to Onset of Corrosion

### 6.3.2 AC Impedance Data

AC impedance data serves as an indicator of the watertightness and electrical isolation of a tendon. As such, there is not yet a consensus in literature on how measured AC impedance values might directly indicate the presence or probability of corrosion. As mentioned in Chapter 4, a 30% or greater drop in measured resistance indicates the ingress of moisture into a tendon<sup>4</sup>. Resistance versus exposure time for Specimen 7.1 is shown in Figure 6.16 with the locations of 30% decreases marked with green squares. The first of these decreases occurred 25 days into exposure. According to the half-cell potential data, corrosion was initiated at 19 days when the most negative half-cell potential was first measured within the 90% probability of corrosion

region. If the first 30% decrease is assumed to indicate the onset of corrosion, both methods predicted approximately the same time to corrosion initiation.

Specific resistance can be used to ascertain the level of damage to a post-tensioning duct. In general, higher values of specific resistance indicate a lesser probability of damage or holes in the duct<sup>4</sup>. Given the questions surrounding the monitorability of Specimen 7.1, which were presented in Chapter 4, this will not be discussed here.

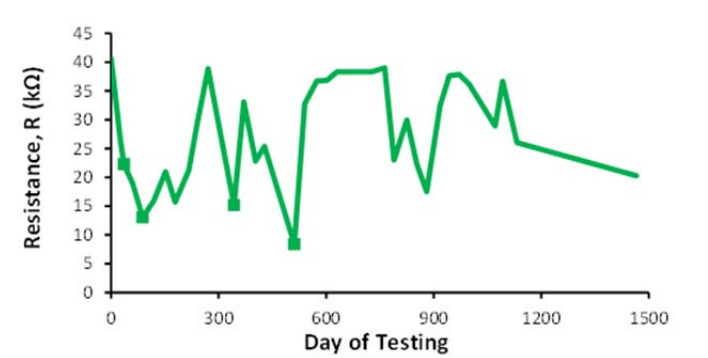


Figure 6.16: Resistance versus Time for Specimen 7.1

### 6.3.3 Chloride Penetration Data

The longitudinal bars and stirrups in all specimens were present at a depth of approximately 1 inch from the surface of the saltwater tray. Therefore, the concrete chloride sample extracted from that depth on the top surfaces of the specimens represents the chloride concentrations at bar and stirrup level. Chloride contents from the top surface of each specimen at 1-inch depth are shown in Figure 6.17 alongside generalized longitudinal bar and stirrup corrosion ratings.

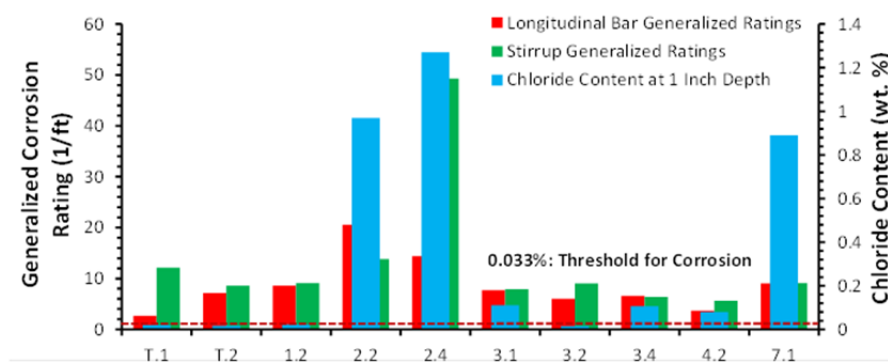


Figure 6.17: Generalized Longitudinal Bar and Stirrup Corrosion Ratings and Top Surface Chloride Content at 1-Inch Depth

Chloride samples were not extracted from the top surface at depths any greater than 1 inch. Therefore, the effect of chloride content on galvanized duct corrosion will not be examined here.

Six of the ten autopsy specimens had chloride concentrations greater than the corrosion threshold at 1-inch depth. The two specimens with the highest chloride concentrations also had the highest longitudinal bar and stirrup corrosion ratings. In general, higher corrosion ratings occurred in the specimens that had higher chloride contents, although this trend was not as clear for lower chloride contents. Specimen 7.1 had low bar and stirrup corrosion ratings in spite of a chloride concentration of almost 1% at bar level. This may be due to the additional indentations in that specimen's saltwater tray that may have caused an irregular chloride distribution.

## 6.4 Comparison with Project 0-1405 Results

A portion of TxDOT Project 0-1405 involved the construction, exposure testing, and autopsy of twenty-seven large scale beam specimens. Exposure initiated on the first set of beams in 1998, and the last set of beams was autopsied in 2006. This project can be considered the forerunner of Project 0-4562, as many of the lessons learned from the autopsies were used to fine-tune the corrosion resistance of the 0-4562 specimens and to better isolate variables for study. Salas performed autopsies on twelve of the Project 0-1405 specimens after 3.5 to 4.5 years of exposure<sup>8</sup>. His results are compared to the author's results after four years of exposure in this section.

### 6.4.1 Appearance

The external appearance of typical specimens from both projects is shown in Figure 6.18. The 0-1405 autopsy specimens were very poor in appearance after four years of aggressive exposure. Most specimens had moderate to severe staining on their top surface. Expansive stresses due to internal corrosion resulted in extensive surface cracking in addition to the pre-existing flexural cracks on some specimens. The large cracks provided easy ingress for chlorides from the top surface saltwater pond, and corrosion easily spread to regions of the specimens where no flexural cracks had been present.

The Project 0-4562 specimens were much better in appearance. Limited staining was observed on a few specimens, although some efflorescence was present on the top and end face surface cracks of several others. Additional cracks formed on some specimens after live load application, but there is no evidence to suggest that these cracks were the result of expansive stresses due to corrosion products within the specimens.



Figure 6.18: Typical Specimen from Project 0-14058 (Left) and Project 0-4562 (Right)

### 6.4.2 Longitudinal Bars and Stirrups

Uncoated rebar was used to form the longitudinal bars and stirrups of each 0-1405 specimen. These bars were found to have serious corrosion over most of the autopsy region. This corrosion resulted in substantial area loss, especially in the partially prestressed specimens. Crack width was observed to have a direct effect on the corrosion of reinforcement.

Project 0-4562 specimens made use of epoxy-coated rebar. Some discoloration and corrosion were present at locations where the coating was most likely to have been disturbed, such as bar curves and lifting points. Pitting was even found on occasion. However, most of the bars' and stirrups' epoxy coating remained intact, preventing widespread corrosion to those components. This indicates substantial value in the use of epoxy-coated reinforcement in aggressive exposures. A typical longitudinal bar from both projects is shown in Figure 6.19

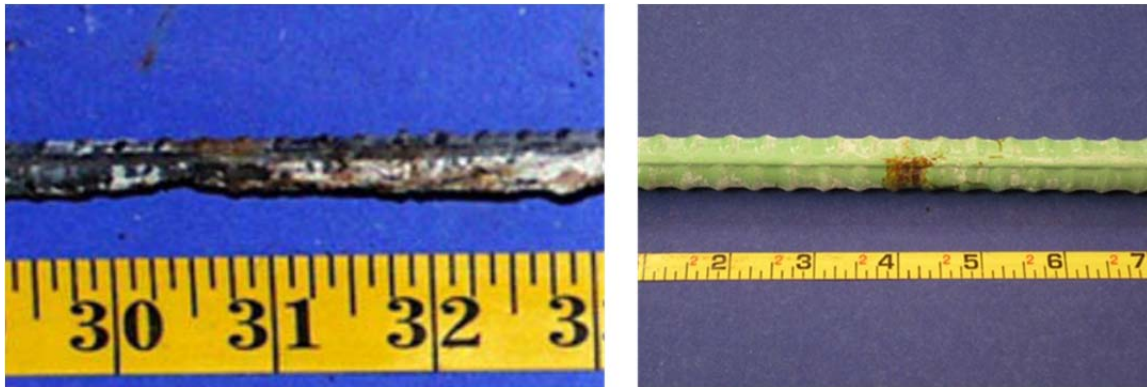


Figure 6.19: Typical Longitudinal Bar from Project 0-14058 (Left) and Project 0-4562 (Right)

### 6.4.3 Ducts

Typical steel ducts from both projects are shown in Figure 6.20. The comparable damage in the ducts indicates that the testing conditions were generally compatible in both projects. The galvanized steel ducts experienced pitting and area loss in several 0-1405 specimens, with the worst corrosion occurring at locations of grout voids. “Industry standard” (duct tape) and heat shrink splices performed very poorly, allowing chloride ingress at splice locations. Salas did not include any specimens with plastic ducts in his autopsies.

Galvanized duct corrosion was comparable in the 0-4562 specimens. Despite very little visible corrosion on the outer surface of the specimens, the galvanized duct within experienced substantial area loss and some pitting. This damage occurred mostly around transverse surface cracks and the locations of grout voids.



Figure 6.20: Typical Galvanized Steel Duct from Project 0-14058 (Left) and Project 0-4562 (Right)

#### 6.4.4 Grout

Grout type and grouting procedure were test variables for Project 0-1405. Specimens were constructed with different grout types using both industry standard and “poor” grouting techniques. Voids or evidence of porosity were found in all tendons. Grouting techniques were found to improve grout quality, although the improvement was offset by obsolete and underdesigned grout mixes.

Project 0-4562 specimens were constructed using prebagged grout, and a hand pump was used to inject the grout. Grout quality varied from specimen to specimen. Much smaller voids were present in all specimens, mostly limited to the upper flutes of the surrounding duct. Some evidence of segregation was observed on several grouts, suggesting that pressure was not uniform during grouting. However, overall grout quality was much improved over that of Project 0-1405.

#### 6.4.5 Strands

Conventional strand was found to be severely corroded in the Project 0-1405 specimens. Area loss and pitting were common, and some strands fractured during the autopsy process. Non-flow-filled epoxy-coated strand fared no better, as damage to the coating allowed moisture to enter and travel down the length of the strand. Galvanized strand began corroding later than the other strand types, but it was still heavily corroded and pitted.

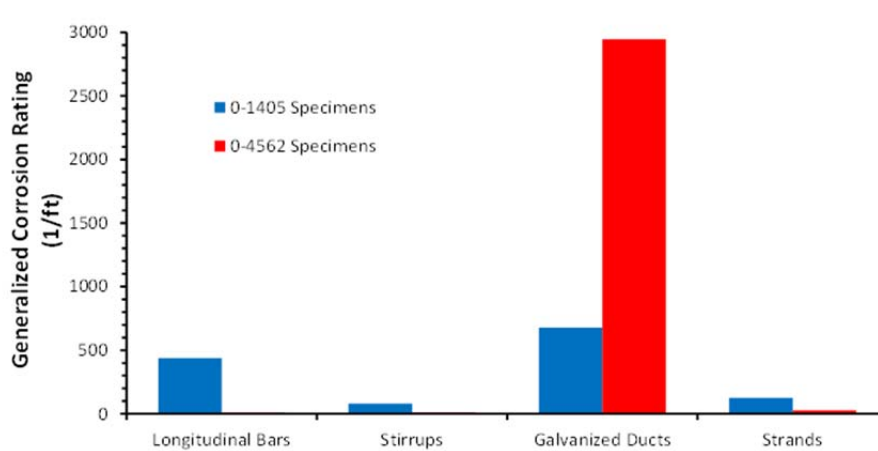
Conventional strand in the Project 0-4562 specimens showed spots of discoloration and light corrosion, mostly occurring at points that were in direct contact with the duct. Galvanized strand was similarly damaged, with corrosion occurring mostly on the protective zinc covering and not on the steel itself. Copper-clad and stainless steel strands were observed to have debonded slightly during the autopsy process, calling their bond strength into question. No fractures or other types of failure were observed. The improved plastic duct and better grout quality in Project 0-4562 helped control strand damage.

#### 6.4.6 Corrosion Ratings

Average generalized corrosion ratings from both projects for each component type are shown in Figure 6.21. Because none of the Project 0-1405 specimens autopsied by Salas had plastic ducts, only the four Project 0-4562 specimens with galvanized ducts were considered for

this comparison. Due to the epoxy-coated reinforcement used in Project 0-4562, corrosion in those longitudinal bars and stirrups was much less severe than what was observed by Salas. Accordingly, generalized ratings for those components are so low they do not show up in the plots. Strand corrosion was also much less severe in Project 0-4562 specimens. This may have been due to the better overall grout quality that was achieved in those specimens.

Duct corrosion ratings were substantially higher in Project 0-4562 specimens, as shown in Figure 6.21. This occurred because level of prestress and live load were variables in Project 0-1405. The varying prestress and live load levels caused the flexural crack widths in those specimens to vary drastically. Conversely, the crack ratings of Project 0-4562 specimens were held constant as a control variable, resulting in similar corrosion ratings among the four specimens with galvanized duct. The ducts from 0-1405 specimens that had narrower cracks were much less corroded than those with wider cracks, thereby reducing the average generalized rating.



*Figure 6.21: Generalized Corrosion Ratings for All Components of Project 0-1405 and Project 0-4562 among Specimens with Galvanized Steel Ducts*





## Chapter 7. Cost Analysis

### 7.1 Rationale

If properly implemented, the new corrosion-resistant post-tensioning materials studied in this project could be capable of extending the service life of a bridge by delaying or eliminating the onset of corrosion. However, it is important for designers to understand the additional construction costs that each upgrade entails. In this chapter, cost estimates for each of the main project variables are presented and analyzed. Quantities are based on what would be found in a typical segmental bridge.

### 7.2 Methodology

Unit costs of post-tensioning materials can vary widely based on the scale of the structure for which they are acquired. To achieve a uniform comparison, the project staff chose to analyze costs for the FM 2031 Gulf Intracoastal Waterway (GIWW) bridge in Matagorda, Texas (see Figure 7.1). This structure consists of a three-span, 680-foot-long cast-in-place post-tensioned segmental box girder bridge and 19 additional precast prestressed concrete approach spans. The bridge was opened to traffic in 2009<sup>23</sup>. Post-tensioning material quantities were obtained from TxDOT<sup>24</sup>. To simplify the cost comparison, only quantities of longitudinal post-tensioning materials for the three post-tensioned spans were considered. Those quantities are shown in Table 2.1. Only “neat” quantities were included. Auxiliary items such as grout vents and plugs were not considered.



*Figure 7.1: FM 2031 Bridge over Gulf Intracoastal Waterway in Matagorda, Texas<sup>25</sup>*

**Table 7.1: Matagorda GIWW Bridge Longitudinal Post-Tensioning Quantities**

Item	Quantity	Unit
2" Duct	2720	Ft.
3" Duct	9891	Ft.
4" Duct	18180	Ft.
2" Coupler	176	Each
3" Coupler	783	Each
4" Coupler	1452	Each
7-Strand Anchorage	8	Each
12-Strand Anchorage	88	Each
19-Strand Anchorage	160	Each
0.6" 7-Wire Strand	267403	Ft.

Costs for each type of duct and anchorage examined in this report were obtained from a post-tensioning supplier. Strand costs were obtained from the Federal Highway Administration<sup>1</sup> and from estimates of post-tensioning suppliers. Strand and duct estimates were provided in a unit price per foot. Coupler cost estimates were given as a price per coupler. Anchorage estimates were given as a package price per bearing plate, anchor head, and corresponding number of wedges. Because electrically isolated tendons are not currently used in the United States, prices were obtained from a source in Switzerland. These costs were converted to U.S. dollars using the market exchange rate at 5:00 PM EST on Friday, November 12, 2010<sup>26</sup>. All cost estimates exclude shipping, handling, and markup by the post-tensioning supplier. On-site labor costs were assumed to be identical for all materials.

### 7.3 Cost Data and Analysis

The baseline cost was defined as the official published construction cost of \$16 million<sup>23</sup>. Figure 7.2 shows the percent increase in the total construction cost for each combination of strand, duct, and anchorage based on the cost estimates obtained. Since the incremental costs of some improvements (i.e., the cost differential between non-galvanized bearing plates and galvanized bearing plates or between galvanized duct and plastic ducts) are so small, Figure 7.3 shows an expanded scale for the differences for conventional strand only. The increases are similar for other stand systems.

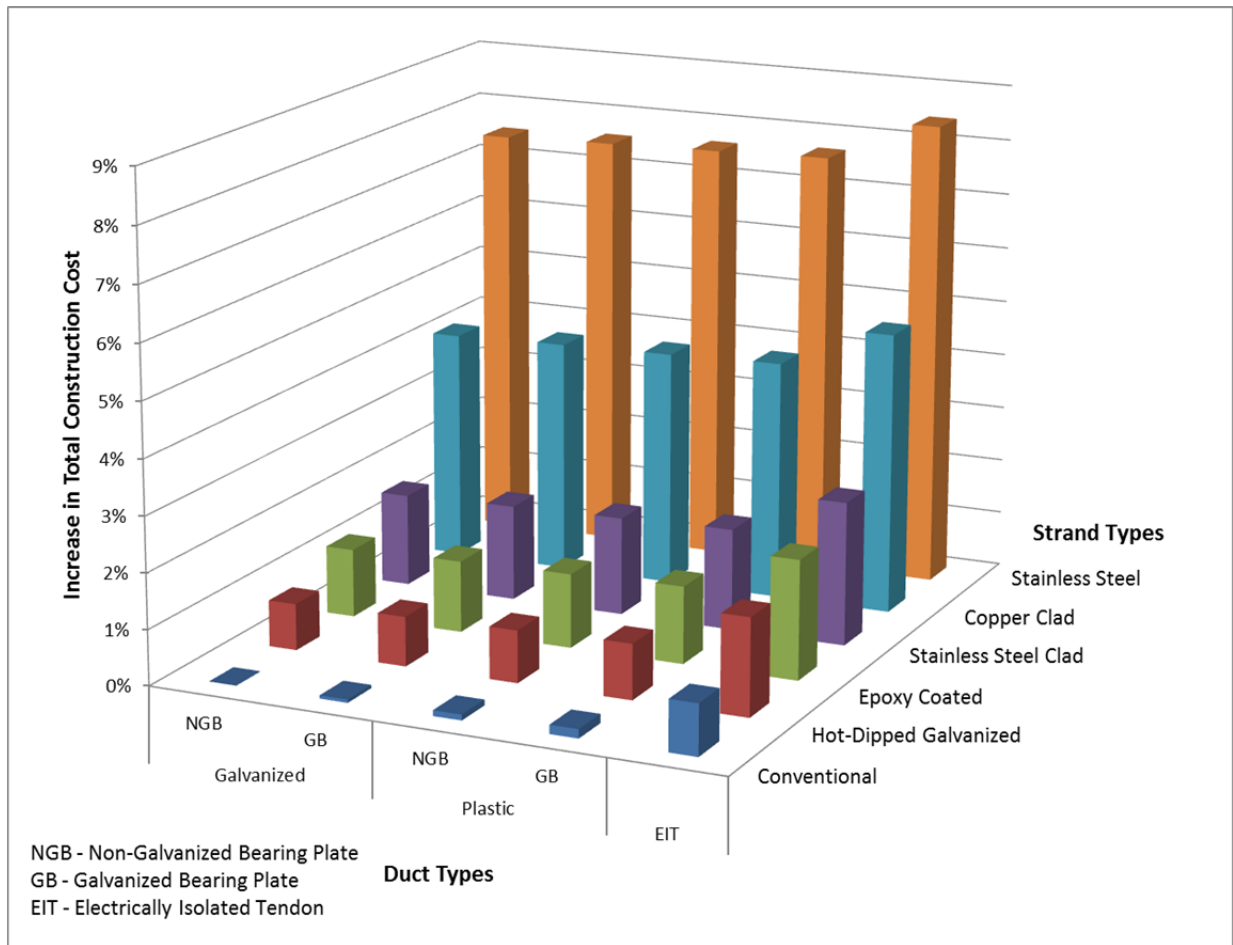


Figure 7.2: Percent Increase of Total Construction Cost for Each Project Variable

From Figure 7.2 (updated from reference 28) and Figure 7.3, it is clear that costs increase as more protection is provided. Galvanized bearing plates cost more than non-galvanized bearing plates. Systems with plastic ducts cost more than those with galvanized ducts. Electrically isolated systems are the most expensive. Strand costs increase with how “exotic” they are. The highest overall cost increase would occur if the Matagorda bridge were constructed with electrically isolated tendons and stainless steel strand. Regardless of materials, the total construction cost increases are all less than 10%. Strand type makes the biggest difference in construction cost, while duct and anchorage type have less of an effect.

Percent increase in construction costs are plotted in Figure 7.3 for each type of duct and bearing plate for conventional strand only. This better illustrates the cost increases associated with duct and bearing plate type. The incremental cost increases for plastic ducts and galvanized bearing plates are approximately 0.10% and 0.05%, respectively. The electrically isolated tendon costs are much greater, resulting in about 0.9% higher construction costs.

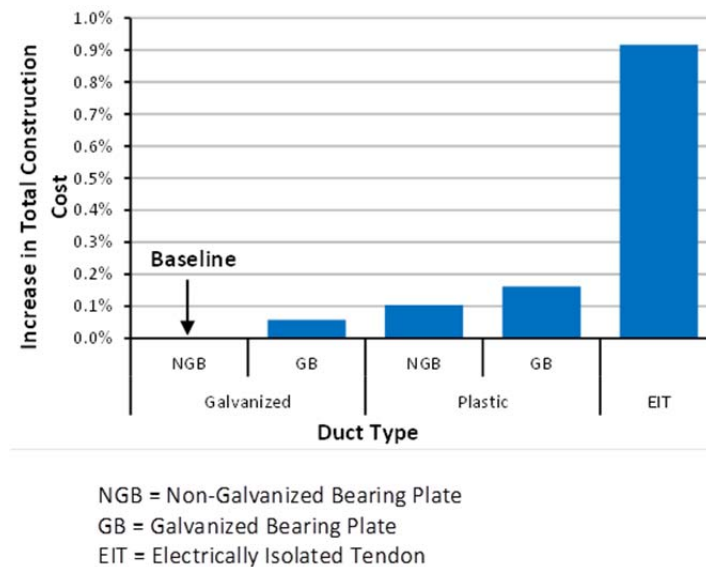


Figure 7.3: Percent Increase in Construction Costs for Conventional Strand

Using plastic ducts for all tendons, the cost increase over using conventional strand is only 1.2 percent for flow filled epoxy strand, 1.7 percent for stainless clad strands and 2.5 percent for stainless steel strands. Certainly the epoxy coated strand and the stainless clad strand (if available in Grade 270) represent very low premium for substantially improved corrosion resistance.

It is important to consider that total costs of a bridge include maintenance and repair over the life of the structure. Even if a durability upgrade results in slightly higher construction costs, it may reduce lifetime costs due to lower ongoing expenditures and a longer service life. Consider a simple numerical example. Assume that a bridge costs 7.5% more to construct with stainless steel strand than with conventional steel strand. Assume also that the service life of the structure would increase from 50 years to 100 years. According to Grau, 1% of construction cost is a reasonable estimate for the annual maintenance expenditures of a bridge<sup>27</sup>. Assume that this cost would remain the same for both conventional and stainless steel strand. Treating 100 as an arbitrary unitless construction cost, total costs for the bridge with conventional strand are:  $100 + 50 \text{ years} * 1 \text{ per year} = 150$ . Amortized over the service life of the structure, this is a cost of 3 per year. For the structure with stainless steel strand:  $107.5 + 100 * 1 \text{ per year} = 207.5$ . Cost per year of service in this case is 2.075. With stainless steel strand, lifetime cost decreases by 30%.

This is a simplified example. A true life cycle cost analysis must consider real costs and the effect of inflation. More importantly, it must be established to what extent different post-tensioning materials prolong the service life of a bridge. As part of Project 0-1405, Grau<sup>27</sup> performed life cycle cost analyses based on macrocell corrosion tests performed by West<sup>10</sup> and Salas<sup>8</sup>. By assuming that a decrease in corrosion rating corresponded to the same proportional decrease in maintenance costs, she was able to compute lifetime costs on an arbitrary structure for each project variable. This was not possible here because too few specimens were autopsied to obtain meaningful service life estimates for each project variable. Additionally, the corrosion rating system does not account for material type. For example, it would be meaningless to compare corrosion ratings among specimens with copper-clad strand because all copper-clad strand had the same corrosion rating regardless of duct type.

## **Chapter 8. Design Recommendations**

### **8.1 Crack Control**

Corrosion damage to the longitudinal bars, stirrups, and galvanized steel ducts was most severe at flexural crack locations. If a post-tensioned structure is uncracked, chlorides must travel through the concrete pore space in order to reach reinforcing elements. This would delay the onset and propagation of corrosion greatly. Therefore, it is recommended that post-tensioned structures in aggressive environments be designed as fully prestressed.

### **8.2 Epoxy-Coating of Mild Reinforcement**

The epoxy-coated mild steel reinforcement showed minimal corrosion that mostly occurred at the points where it had been handled or disturbed in some way. It is recommended that epoxy-coated rebar fulfill the applicable ASTM standard. The rebar must also be handled with care to avoid damaging the coating. Any defects that arise during handling or construction should be patched with the appropriate repair compound prior to casting. In many instances, coating damage was caused by the coated rebar ties that were used to construct the reinforcement cages of the autopsy specimens. It is therefore recommended that epoxy-coated rebar be tied with non-metallic plastic ties to minimize coating damage.

### **8.3 Duct Type**

Galvanized steel duct performed very poorly and should not be used in aggressive environments. The plastic ducts studied herein were robust enough to prevent significant damage during casting and post-tensioning. Their use is recommended in aggressive environments. However, chlorides were able to enter continuous plastic ducts through grout vent openings that had been drilled on-site and inadequately sealed. Therefore, it is recommended that all grout vents be installed at couplers equipped with integral grout vents and positively attached grout hoses for maximum watertightness.

### **8.4 Coupler Type**

In many cases, chlorides entered the plastic ducts through breaches in the seal between coupler and duct. It is recommended that any duct couplers be installed under the supervision of Post-Tensioning Institute certified inspectors or equivalent. Additionally, duct pressure testing should be conducted in accordance with the TxDOT Standard Specification. For the internal longitudinal ducts of segmental bridges, duct couplers should be installed at segment joints to protect the tendon from chloride intrusion. Alternatively, the segmental duct joints should be swabbed with epoxy to protect them from within.

### **8.5 Grout Type**

Because grout was injected with a hand pump, the grout in the autopsy specimens was not always well-consolidated and showed some large voids. It is recommended that anti-bleed and/or thixotropic grout be used for internal bonded post-tensioning tendons. Additionally, grout should be injected using the equipment, personnel, and procedures specified in the TxDOT Standard Specification.

## **8.6 Strand Type**

Damage to all strands was minimal. It is recommended that strand be chosen on the basis of cost, mechanical properties, availability, and contractor familiarity. All strands should be installed and tensioned according to TxDOT specifications. Comparison tests of strands reported in 4562-3<sup>29</sup> showed considerable improvement in corrosion resistance for both flow filled epoxy coated strands and stainless clad strands. These could be utilized in projects with extreme exposure conditions.

## **8.7 Anchorage Regions**

Galvanized bearing plates showed no substantial benefit over non-galvanized bearing plates. Anchorage pourbacks performed well on autopsy specimens, with most showing little shrinkage cracking and very good consolidation. On dripper specimens, this appears to have prevented chlorides from entering the tendons at the anchorages. Therefore, anchorage region pourbacks should be carefully placed with the proper epoxy and mortar materials. This will ensure low permeability and prevent chloride ingress.

## **8.8 Electrically Isolated Systems**

The strands and duct in the fully encapsulated specimen autopsied here performed similarly to those found in the non-encapsulated specimens. However, despite AC impedance data suggesting that the duct was not watertight, chloride concentrations were below the corrosion threshold throughout the entire tendon. This is a marked improvement over all other specimens, most of which showed chloride concentrations well above the corrosion threshold. When properly installed under the supervision of a certified inspector, this system may enable bridges to achieve a longer service life.

## **8.9 Half-Cell Potential Measurements**

Half-cell measurements were able to predict the presence of corrosion in the autopsy specimens. However, the method could not determine the particular components that were corroding. Further development in the area of non-destructive corrosion testing is necessary to accurately assess corrosion in post-tensioned structures.

## **8.10 AC Impedance Measurements**

This method is only applicable to fully encapsulated tendons. If the tendons are properly installed, this method may offer a simple means of establishing their soundness. However, further testing is necessary to establish its accuracy.

## **8.11 Chloride Content**

Concrete or grout chloride content above the corrosion threshold indicates that the probability of corrosion for an unprotected element is high at that location. For a structure with epoxy-coated reinforcement or plastic duct, chloride content is not an accurate predictor of corrosion if the protective layers are undamaged. In addition, chloride concentrations do not adequately predict the extent or severity of corrosion.

## **Chapter 9. Summary, Conclusions, and Recommendations for Future Testing**

### **9.1 Summary**

Ten full-scale post-tensioned beam specimens were subjected to 4 years of aggressive cyclic ponded saltwater exposure. Three of those specimens were additionally exposed to saltwater spray once per month on one anchorage face. Non-destructive monitoring was conducted during the exposure period. This consisted of half-cell potential measurements, AC impedance measurements (for specimens with fully encapsulated tendons), and regular visual inspections. Chloride samples were extracted from the specimens at the end of exposure. After 4 years, the specimens were autopsied, and all reinforcing elements from the middle of each specimen were examined for corrosion and damage. Anchorage regions were also autopsied and examined for corrosion.

### **9.2 Conclusions**

#### **9.2.1 Strand Type**

All strand types showed a low level of corrosion. Elevated grout chloride levels in many specimens suggest that chlorides were able to travel within strand interstices along the entire length of the tendons. Corrosion was more severe within the anchor heads than in the main autopsy regions of the specimens.

##### ***9.2.1.1 Conventional Strand***

Conventional strands showed discoloration or light surface corrosion spots on their outer wires and somewhat more severe corrosion on their inner wires. The spots were most frequent in the regions that had been in direct contact with the surrounding duct.

##### ***9.2.1.2 Hot Dip Galvanized Strand***

Damage to the hot-dip galvanized strand was similar to that of the conventional strand. On the outer wires of each strand, corrosion occurred in the zinc coating. However, corrosion on the inner wire occurred on the bare steel that was not covered with zinc during the galvanizing process. Galvanized strand had a very strong bond with the surrounding grout and was very difficult to remove. Small bubbles found in the interstices of some galvanized strand suggest that the zinc may have reacted with the grout chemically.

##### ***9.2.1.3 Copper-Clad Strand***

Copper-clad strand in the main autopsy region assumed a glossy black patina on all wires. The patina was darker and glossier on the inner wires than the outer wires. Dezincification may have occurred near the ends of some copper-clad strands. In the anchorage region, the wedges penetrated the copper coating and caused the underlying steel to corrode there.

##### ***9.2.1.4 Stainless Steel Strand***

The stainless steel strand in the main autopsy region showed very little corrosion. For the most part, the strand appeared to be brand new. Some light corrosion occurred in the anchorage

region strands. These strands had a very weak bond with the surrounding grout, which resulted in debonding during autopsy.

#### ***9.2.1.5 Other Strand Types***

Both Stainless clad strands and flow filled epoxy coated strands were included in the overall program. While strand specimen results of accelerated exposure testing was reported in 4562-3<sup>29</sup>, none of the beam specimens with these type strands were autopsied at this stage. Final recommendations must await the final autopsies in 2012.

### **9.2.2 Other Strand Types**

#### ***9.2.2.1 Galvanized Steel Duct***

The galvanized steel duct performed very poorly. Every duct autopsied showed area loss and pitting. These were most prevalent at the locations of grout voids within the tendon. Corrosion initiated at the locations where surface cracks intersected with the ducts and spread from there.

#### ***9.2.2.2 Plastic Duct***

Plastic ducts sustained some scratching and gouging during tensioning but were structurally intact. No substantial difference was observed among the three types of plastic duct examined in the autopsies. While no leaks were found in the ducts, chlorides entered the non-coupled plastic ducts through inadequately sealed grout vents at midspan. A major finding from this study is that all grout vents should be installed at couplers equipped with integral grout vents and positively attached grout hoses for maximum watertightness.

### **9.2.3 Coupler Type**

The two heat-shrink couplers examined here were very brittle at the time of autopsy and showed signs of breaches. Several of the mechanical snap-on couplers also showed signs of breaches. High chloride content in the coupled plastic ducts indicates that chlorides entered either through these breaches or through the grout vent that was attached to the top of each coupler.

### **9.2.4 Anchorage Type**

There was no appreciable difference between the galvanized and non-galvanized bearing plates, although only one specimen with the former was autopsied. Fine anchorage pourback quality appeared to play a greater role in anchorage protection than galvanization.

### **9.2.5 Fully Encapsulated System**

Strand corrosion in the fully-encapsulated tendon was comparable to the non-encapsulated tendons in other specimens. However, chloride concentrations were below the corrosion threshold along the entire tendon. It seemed that chlorides did not enter the tendon through the couplers, as was observed on other specimens. However, there was evidence suggesting that chlorides may have entered through the anchorages or even had been included in the original grout.



## **9.2.6 Accuracy of Non-Destructive and Destructive Materials**

### ***9.2.6.1 Half-Cell Potential Measurements***

The half-cell method was able to predict corrosion in the specimens. However, it could not be determined in which metallic element (reinforcement, duct, strand, ties) the corrosion was taking place.

### ***9.2.6.2 AC Impedance Measurements***

AC impedance measurements indicated that the electrically isolated tendon was barely monitorable and that chlorides may have entered the tendon during the exposure period. AC impedance readings can be used to detect duct defects, but this was not possible for the autopsy specimen due to its lack of monitorability.

### ***9.2.6.3 Concrete Chloride Samples***

Chloride levels were above the corrosion threshold at rebar level in the specimens, and all rebar showed some corrosion at that level. However, chloride content cannot adequately predict the presence of corrosion in epoxy-coated reinforcement. Additionally, chloride content cannot predict the extent of corrosion.

## **9.3 Recommendations for Future Testing**

It has already been determined that the remaining 14 beam specimens will be autopsied in 2012. The following recommendations concern the exposure and autopsy of those specimens.

- Take grout chloride samples at regular intervals along all tendons. This will better illustrate the transport of chlorides along the tendons.
- Take grout chloride samples at both anchorage regions of the dripper specimens.
- During the last one or two wet cycles prior to autopsy, tint the saltwater in the top depression of one specimen with a dye tracer. If the hypotheses of this thesis are true, the saltwater will infiltrate the tendon and travel along its length inside the strand interstices. Upon autopsy, the dye will be visible inside the specimen to illustrate the path of chloride intrusion.
- Conduct a full life cycle cost analysis for each material using all autopsy data.
- Test the accuracy of the AC impedance method using DC impedance. Dr. Markus Büchler of SGK in Switzerland has suggested a method to accomplish this.
- Determine the exact chloride content threshold for corrosion based on the cement content of the concrete and grout used in the test specimens.

For future corrosion studies:

- Focus on workmanship and ease of installation of post-tensioning systems. Small breaches in improperly installed couplers and grout vents caused severe chloride ingress in the specimens studied here. Future work should focus on how to minimize or eliminate installation problems such as these.
- Continue developing better grout mixes. Grout voids provide an easy avenue for chloride travel in a tendon, so minimizing grout voids should remain a priority.

Ensure that grout chloride content specifications are followed so that chlorides are not introduced to the tendon through the grout itself.

- Concrete and plastic have different coefficients of thermal expansion. As such, temperature variation may result in gaps between embedded grout vents and the surrounding concrete, providing easy access for chlorides. Study the effect of applying a flexible, waterproof membrane around grout vents at the concrete surface to prevent chloride ingress there.
- As improved post-tensioning systems continue to be installed in new bridges, conduct field inspections to determine their effectiveness in-situ. With time, this will also provide estimates for service life increases associated with various materials.
- Develop and refine new and existing non-destructive monitoring methods for post-tensioned structures.

## Appendix A: Material and Specimen Information

### A.1. Material Suppliers

Suppliers for all materials used in the Project 0-4562 beam specimens are listed below. Shaded entries indicate that contact information has been updated since specimen construction. The grout used for the tendons was Sika Prebagged Grout 300 PT.

Material	Supplier	Contact
Bearing Plates	VSL USA	Jordan Stephenson jstephenson@vsl.net 817-545-4807
Galvanized Steel Duct		
PT Plus Plastic Duct and Couplers		
Hot Dip Galvanized Strand*		
0.6" Strand Anchor Heads		
Wedges		
EIT Systems*	VSL Switzerland	Hans-Rudolf Ganz hansrudolf.ganz@vsl.com
76mm One-Way Ribbed Plastic Duct*	GTI	Joe Harrison joe.harrison@gti-usa.com 281.240.0550
76mm Couplers*		
85mm Two-Way Ribbed Plastic Duct*		
85mm Coupler*		
Stainless Strand*	Techalloy	Jim Beitz jbeitz@techalloy.com 815.923.2131
Stainless Clad Strand*	DSI	Ron Bonomo ron.bonomo@dsiamerica.com
Copper Clad Strand*	Copperweld	Milton Lamb mlamb@copperweld.com info@copperweld.com
Epoxy Coated Strand*	Sumiden Wire	Steve Yoshida stevey@sumiden.com
Type V Epoxy*	Unitex	Susan Wintz 816.231.7700
Epoxy Coated Rebar	ABC Coating	Mary Boyette 972.937.9841 orders@abccoatingtx.com
Concrete	Capitol Aggregates	Ron Taff

\* - Material Donated to Research Project

## A.2. List of Specimens

All Project 0-4562 beam specimens are listed below. Specimen identification is made according to the naming system in Chapter 2.

Casting Group	Specimen Name	Specimen ID
T	T.1	TEST-GA-CON-CS-CG-T
	T.2	TEST-NGA-CON-CS-CG-T
1	1.1	NGA-CON-CS-CG-1
	1.2	NGA-CU-CS-CG-1
	1.3	NGA-SC-CS-CG-1
	1.4	GA-CON-CS-CG-1
2	2.1	NGA-FF-CS-CG-2
	2.2	NGA-HDG-CS-CG-2
	2.3	NGA-CON-1P-CG-2
	2.4	NGA-CU-1P-CG-2
3	3.1	NGA-CON-2P-CG-3
	3.2	NGA-HDG-2P-CG-2
	3.3	NGA-CU-2P-CG-3
	3.4	NGA-HDG-1P-CG-3
4	4.1	NGA-SS-CS-CG-4
	4.2	NGA-SS-1P-CG-4
	4.3	Comparison-Epoxy-4
	4.4	Comparison-Uncoated-4
5	5.1	GA-CON-2P-CG-5
	5.2	NGA-SC-2P-CG-5
	5.3	NGA-SS-2P-CG-5
6	6.1	NGA-EG-CS-CG-6
	6.2	NGA-EG-1P-CG-6
	6.3	NGA-EG-2P-CG-6
7	7.1	EIT-CON-CG-7
	7.2	EIT-CON-CG-7
	7.3	EIT-HDG-CG-7
	7.4	EIT-FF-CG-7

 = Autopsy Specimens

### A.3. Corrosion Ratings

Corrosion ratings for all autopsy specimens are listed below.

Specimen	Main Autopsy Region Corrosion/Damage Ratings											
	Longitudinal Bars		Stirrups		North Duct		South Duct		North Tendon Strands		South Tendon Strands	
	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized
T.1	19	3	169	12	1680	480	3800	1086	130	12	288	27
T.2	50	7	120	9	38318	10948	2256	645	286	27	395	38
1.2	60	9	128	9	9813	2804	6190	1769	441	42	441	42
2.2	144	21	193	14	11350	3243	9017	2576	159	15	154	15
2.4	101	14	690	49	3100	886	475	136	441	42	441	42
3.1	54	8	110	8	120	34	40	11	185	18	166	16
3.2	42	6	126	9	80	23	180	51	140	13	182	17
3.4	46	7	89	6	180	51	210	60	150	14	194	18
4.2	26	4	78	6	4740	1354	2640	754	6	1	8	1
7.1	63/360	9/51	128	9	80	23			296	28		

Specimen	Dead End Anchorage Corrosion/Damage Ratings							
	North Duct		South Duct		North Tendon Strands		South Tendon Strands	
	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized
T.1	35	52	17	25	107	36	94	31
T.2	27	40	19	28	127	42	107	36
1.2	15	30	16	32	135	45	127	42
2.2	16	32	13	26	86	29	52	17
2.4	0	0	0	0	156	52	153	51
3.1	0	0	30	60	130	37	139	46
3.2	10	20	0	0	128	37	121	35
3.4	240	480	0	0	77	26	84	28
4.2	240	721	0	0	55	18	51	17
7.1	0	0			163	36		

Specimen	Live End Anchorage Corrosion/Damage Ratings							
	North Duct		South Duct		North Tendon Strands		South Tendon Strands	
	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized	Total	Generalized
3.1	30	60	0	0	126	36	117	33
3.2	10	20	60	120	128	37	105	30
7.1	0	0			140	31		



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