

AUTOMATED ULTRASONIC INSPECTION

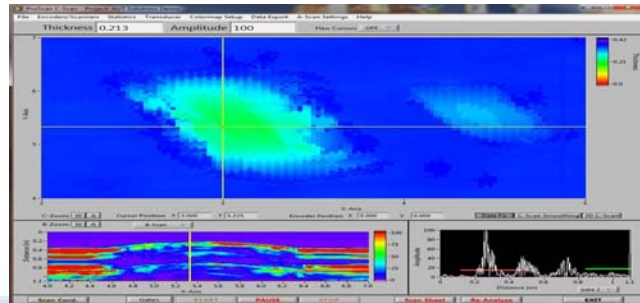
AUT (automated ultrasonic testing) uses mechanized scanners that are computer controlled to move transducers over the surface of the material being inspected. As the transducer moves, the computerized system acquires ultrasonic inspection data on a predefined grid, often acquiring data from a number of different transducers at one time. The data is then displayed within the computerized interface, allowing the operator to manipulate it to provide the data displays that show the areas of interest within the inspection volume. AUT can utilize any ultrasonic transducer or technique that is in operation, examples of which are conventional ultrasonic transducers, TOFD, phased array transducers, or any combination of these. AUT inspection can be used for inspection of newly fabricated welds in lieu of radiography, and also for in-service inspection to detect and trend flaws.

APPLICABLE SUBJECT MATERIALS

- All ferrous metals and all grades of carbon steel.
- Non-ferrous materials capable of supporting ultrasound.
- HDPE (high density polyethylene) and other plastic materials capable of supporting ultrasound.
- Certain layered materials, plastics and ceramics.

APPLICATIONS

- Corrosion Mapping
 - Inspect large areas with mechanized scanners
 - Accurate information on amount and location of corrosion
 - Capable of detecting large and small diameter pitting, corrosion, erosion in piping, pressure vessels, tanks and flange raised faces.
- Weld Inspection(In-service and New pressure Vessels)
 - Perform rastering shear wave weld inspection
 - TOFD weld inspection
 - Phased Array weld inspection
 - Able to inspect long weld seams with multiple files
 - Short range inspection on Butt-Welded Annular plates
- HIC and SOHIC Inspection
 - Detection and sizing of hydrogen damage
 - Accurately map out laminar cracking over large areas
 - Detection of step wise cracking
 - Detection and sizing of SOHIC cracking in the HAZ
- Cladding Inspection
 - Perform inspection from the OD surface
 - Detect cladding disbondments
 - Inspection for cladding failures and associated base metal degradation
- High Temperature Inspection
 - Able to perform techniques at higher temperatures
 - Mount scanners on specialized tracks
 - Possible to inspect materials in the 300 °C range

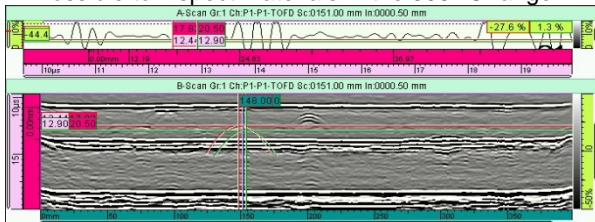


ADVANTAGES

- Highly reproducible technique
 - Computer controlled data acquisition
 - Data is stored for future comparison or audit
 - Data is gathered with weld positional information
 - 3D image presentation of all defects
- Rapid large area inspection using automated scanners
- Better ability than manual ultrasonic testing to distinguish flaw signals from geometric signals
- Good ability to trend flaws for growth by comparing to previous inspection results

LIMITATIONS

- Scan areas on test material must be accessible to scanner(s) with no immediate obstructions to scan areas.
- The scan surface must be in a clean condition; thin wall paints and other coatings are acceptable if no disbonding, flaking or other anomalies are present.
- Coarse grained materials can present problems for ultrasonic techniques.
- Non-ferrous materials need to have alternative methods of securing the scanner to the material surface



REPORTING

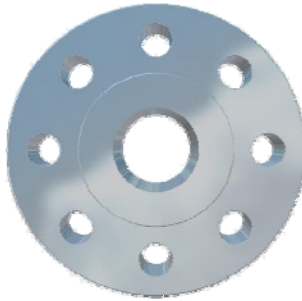
The reports are prepared from standard laptops after the data has been transferred from the field unit. The data and reports are then CD archived for future reference or inspection comparison. The reports are presented to the customer at the end of the shift before the crew has left site; the formal report is issued later after peer review. Reporting formats vary by customer request.

FOCUSNDT ADVANTAGE

Services are provided 24 hours per day every day of the year, on-site, in the field, and at FOCUSNDT facilities. FOCUSNDT personnel are certified and experienced to perform our services, and are dedicated to providing quality service. FOCUSNDT is committed to the objective of helping our clients to be as efficient and profitable as possible. FOCUSNDT is 100% owned by its management team.

RAISED FACE (RF) FLANGE

- RF flange seal with a flat gasket, formerly made of asbestos but now made of more environmentally friendly material, designed for installation between the raised faces of two mating flanges (both flanges will have raised faces). The raised faces have a prescribed texture to increase their gripping and retaining force on the flat gasket. Some users of raised face flanges specify the use of spiral wound gaskets.

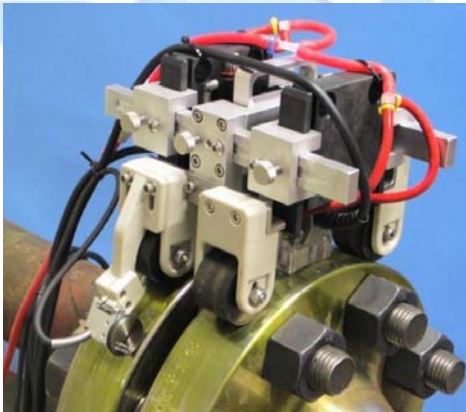


The incursion of corrosion / erosion can have a wide range of attack, from bore activity to migration under the seal

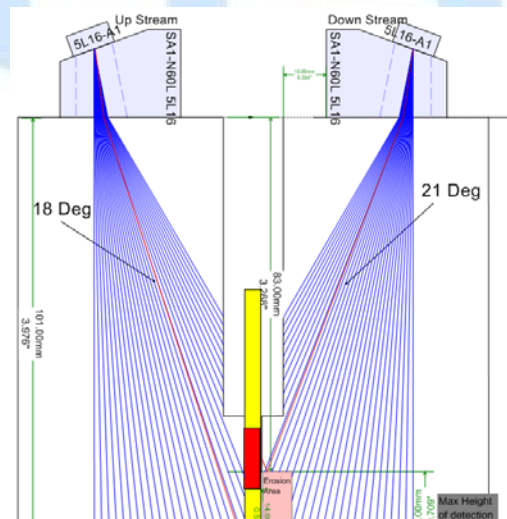


Calibration / Demonstration Block

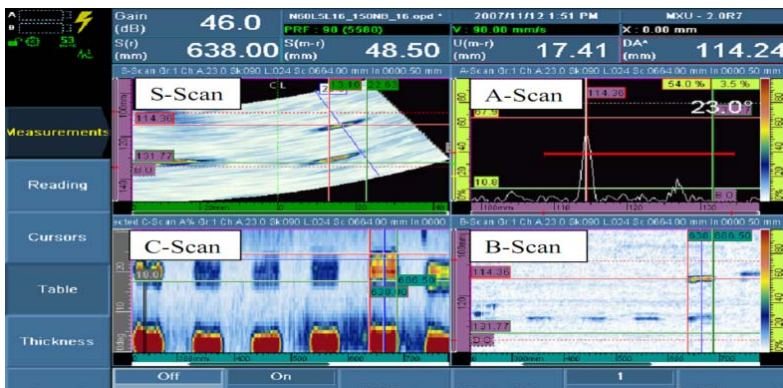
This corrosion pattern is typical and varies in some cases with clock position, general or uniform corrosion patterns or in some cases the pattern can be seen more predominant at the 6 o'clock position.



Flange Scanner



Scan Plan



Scan Image of an eroded flange raised face