

**VEHICLE AND CONTROL SYSTEMS DIVISION  
INTERNAL REVIEW  
12 MARCH 1991**

**BOND SURFACE EVALUATION BY OSEE INSTRUMENT  
TITAN IV PAYLOAD FAIRING**

**PRESENTED BY**

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**DESIGN ENGINEERING SUBDIVISION**

Manufacturing Engineering Department  
Vehicle and Control Systems Division  
**THE AEROSPACE CORPORATION**



## AGENDA

- o BACKGROUND
- o PLF MANUFACTURING AT MDSSC
- o SURFACE PREPARATION AND COATING AT LAUNCH SITE
- o TEST PROCEDURE
- o TEST RESULTS
- o OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS
- o CONCLUSIONS
- o RECOMMENDATIONS



## **BACKGROUND**

- **TITAN IV PAYLOAD FAIRINGS:  
MANUFACTURED BY MDSSC  
ASSEMBLED AT LAUNCH SITE (CCAFS & VAFB)**
- **BASE MATERIAL:  
7075-T73 ALUMINUM**
- **APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS:  
DIAMETER- 17 FT  
LENGTH: 56-86 FT.**
- **SECTIONS OF PLF:  
NOSE CONE SECTION  
CYLINDRICAL SECTION  
BOATTAIL SECTION**

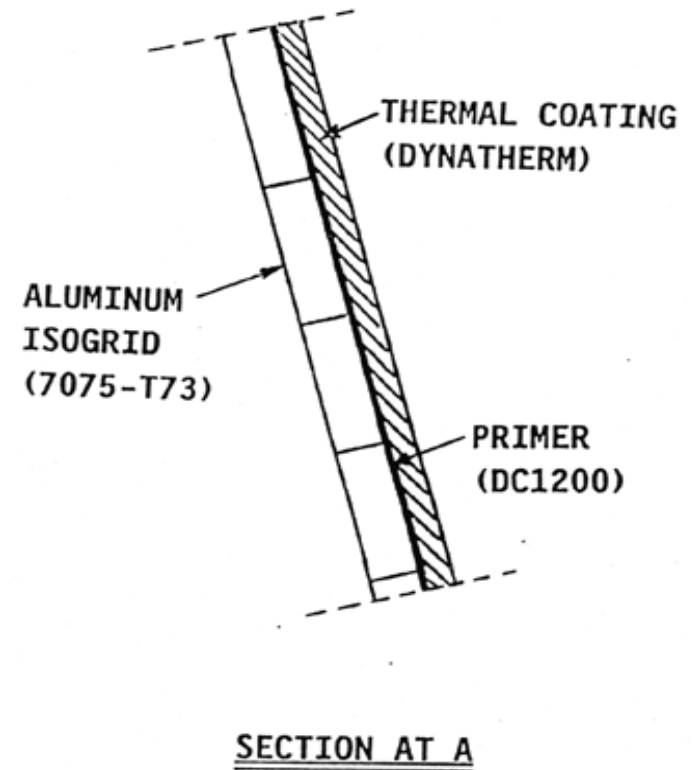
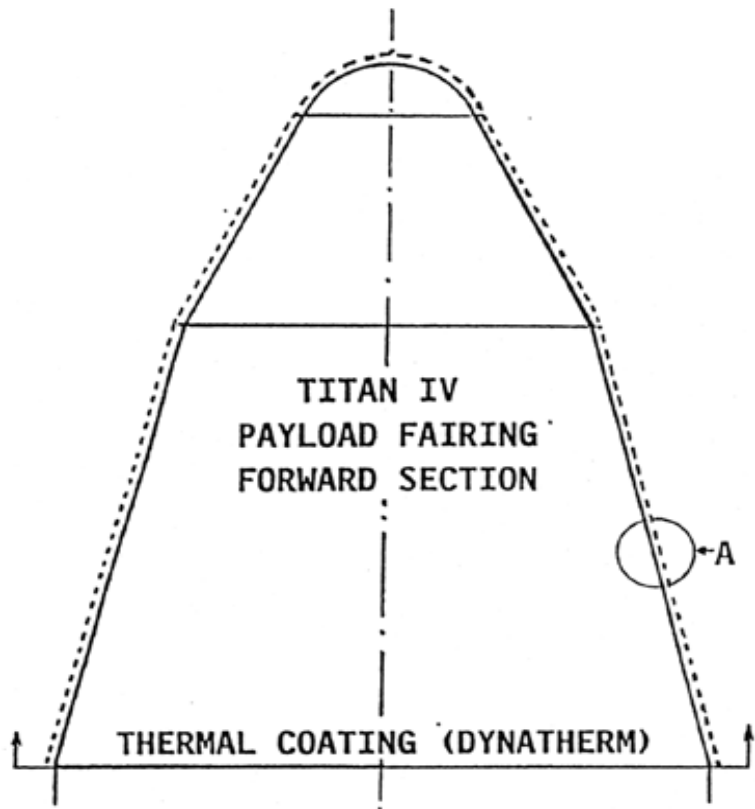


## **BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)**

- **THERMAL COATING:  
PRIMER (DC 1200)  
THERMAL COATING (DYNATHERM)**
- **FAILURE HISTORY:  
FEW COATING FAILURES DURING FLIGHT  
SEVERAL IN-PROCESS TEST FAILURES  
- DUE TO INABILITY TO MEET SPECIFIED BOND STRENGTH**
- **DESIGN REQUIREMENT:  
PLUG PULL ADHESION STRENGTH 40 PSI MINIMUM**



CROSS SECTIONAL VIEW OF THERMAL COATING



**PLF MANUFACTURING AT MDSSC**

**7075-T73 ALUMINUM PLATE**

**MILL ISOGRID POCKETS**

**BRAKE-FORM ISOGRID PANELS**

**CHEMICAL CONVERSION COAT**

**ASSEMBLE PLF TRISECTORS**

**PACKAGE AND SHIP TRISECTORS**

**STORAGE AT LAUNCH SITE**



**THERMAL COATING APPLICATION AT LAUNCH SITE**

**TRISECTORS IN STORAGE**

**SURFACE PREPERTION**

**APPLY PRIMER**

**APPLY THERMAL COATING**

**PLUG PULL TEST**

**PAINT**

**ASSEMBLE PAYLOAD FAIRING**



**PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT**

o **PRIMARY AREAS OF CONCERN:**

**CHEMICAL CONVERSION COATING  
SURFACE PREPARATION  
THERMAL COATING APPLICATION**

o **MOST PROBABLE CAUSE:**

**SURFACE CONTAMINATION  
SURFACE PREPARATION METHOD**

o **SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION:**

**GREASE  
OIL  
DIRT**

**OXIDATION  
CORROSION**

**MOISTURE  
FINGERPRINTS**

o **OSEE INSTRUMENT USED TO DETECT CONTAMINATION LEVELS**





## OSEE TECHNIQUE

- o **OSEE:**

**OPTICALLY STIMULATED ELECTRON EMISSION**

- o **OSEE PRINCIPLE:**

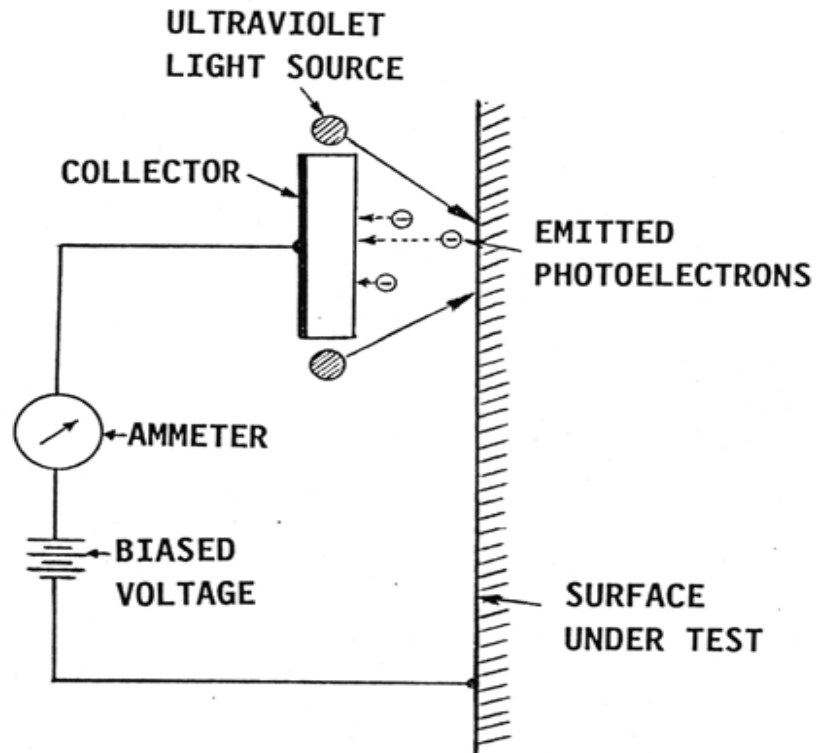
**SURFACE ILLUMINATED WITH ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT  
UV PROTONS REACT WITH SURFACE TO PRODUCE ELECTRONS  
EMITTED ELECTRONS ARE COLLECTED AND MEASURED  
CHANGE IN EMITTED ELECTRONS IS A MEASURE OF CONTAMINATION**

- o **ADVANTAGES OF OSEE:**

**NONCONTACT, NONDESTRUCTIVE METHOD  
DOES NOT NEED VACUUM OR CONTROLLED ATMOSPHERE  
CAN MEASURE VERY THIN FILMS (FEW A THICKNESS)  
CAN BE USED ON METALS AND NONMETALS AND WITH ORGANIC OR INORGANIC  
CONTAMINANTS**



SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM OF OSEE INSTRUMENT



**TEST PROCEDURE**

- o 3 IN. X 5 IN. SAMPLES FROM PLF PANEL
- o FOUR TYPES OF SURFACE CONDITION EVALUATED:

(1) SOLVENT CLEANED (MEK)	HEAVY WIPE, 2 LIGHT WIPES, 1 LIGHT WIPE
(2) ABRASIVE APPLIED (SCOTCHBRITE)	HEAVY , LIGHT
(3) CONTAMINANT APPLIED (BOELUBE)	10, 25, 20 & 100 MG/FT <sup>2</sup>
(4) CONTAMINANT APLIED ( RUSTLCIK OIL)	10, 25, 20 & 100 MG/FT <sup>2</sup>

- o CONTAMINANT LEVELS MEASURED WITH OSEE INSTRUMENT
- o ALL SAMPLES COATED WITH:

PRIMER (DC 1200)  
THERMAL COATING (DYNATHERM)

- o ALL SAMPLES PLUG PULL TESTED USING:

ALUMINUM PLUGS (0.798 IN. DIA)  
SEALENT (RTV)  
3 PLUGS FOR EACH SAMPLE



**TABLE I  
TEST RESULTS**

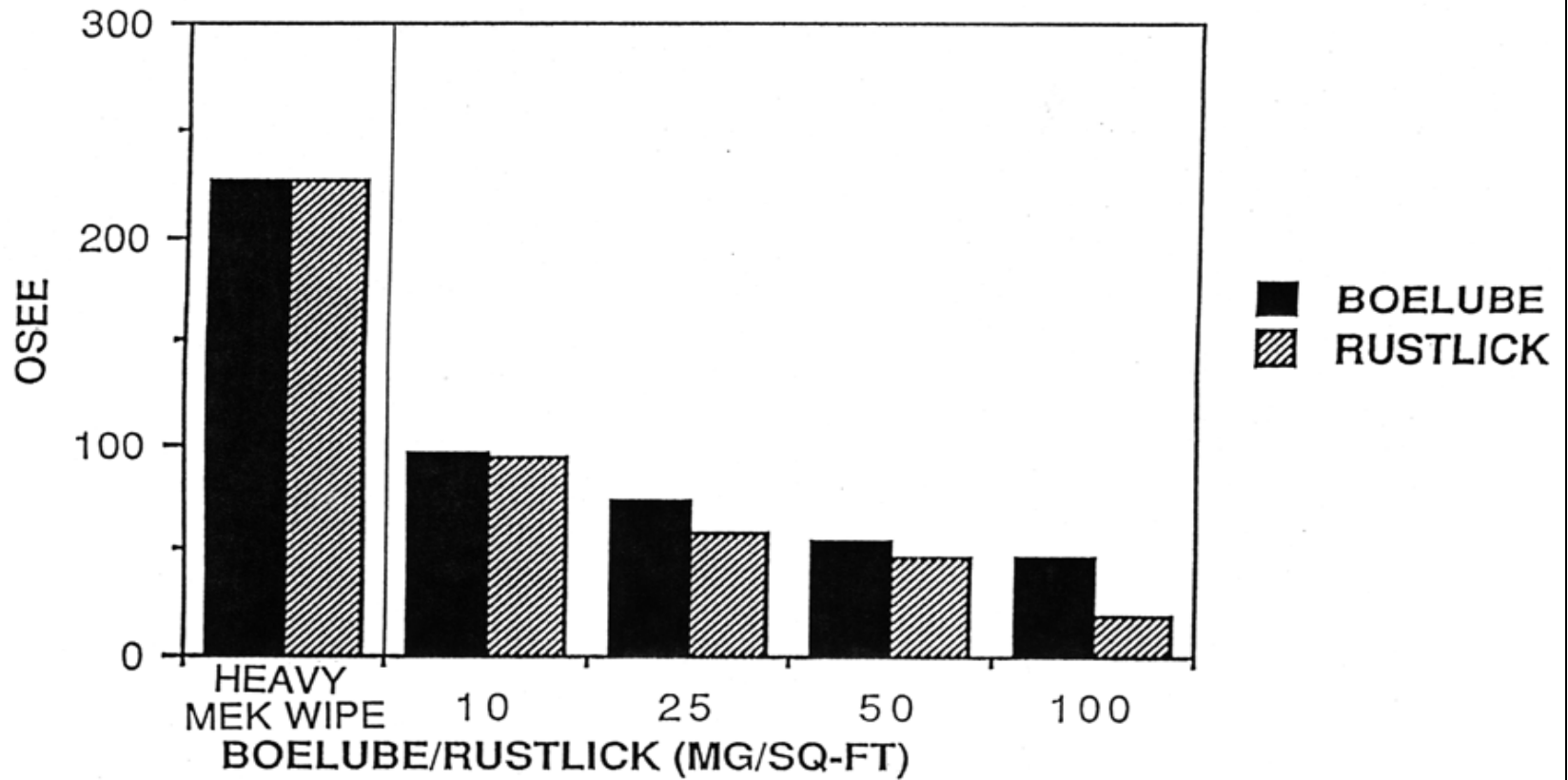
<b>SPECIMEN TYPE</b>	<b>OSEE READING</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PLUG PULL SAMPLES</b>	<b>LOAD (LBS.)</b>	<b>BOND STRENGTH (PSI)</b>	<b>MODE OF FAILURE **</b>
1) HEAVY MEK WIPE	227.0	6	85.2	170.4	2 ADHESION/ 4 TEST SET UP
2) 2 LIGHT MEK WIPES	122.3	3	56.0	112.0	3 ADHESION/ 4 TEST SET UP
3) 1 LIGHT MEK WIPE	46.3	3	48.0	96.0	3 ADHESION/ 4 TEST SET UP
4) BOELUBE, 10 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	97.0	3	62.3	124.6	1 ADHESION/ 2 TEST SET UP
5) BOELUBE, 25 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	73.0	3	30.0	60.0	2 ADHESION/ 1 TEST SET UP
6) BOELUBE, 50 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	54.8	3	18.3	36.6	3 ADHESION/ 1 TEST SET UP
7) BOELUBE, 100 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	45.6	3	21.0	42.0	3 ADHESION/ 1 TEST SET UP
8) RUSTLICK, 10 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	95.6	3	77.3	154.6	3 ADHESION/ 1 TEST SET UP
9) RUSTLICK, 25 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	57.4	3	76.7	153.4	3 ADHESION/ 1 TEST SET UP
10) RUSTLICK, 50 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	46.6	3	63.0	126.0	3 ADHESION/ 1 TEST SET UP
11) RUSTLICK, 100 MG /FT <sup>2</sup>	20.0	3	28.0	56.0	3 ADHESION/ 1 TEST SET UP
12) LIGHT SCOTCHBRITE	317.0	3	79.0	158.0	3 ADHESION/ 3 TEST SET UP
13) HEAVY SCOTCHBRITE	2620.0*	3	104.3	208.6	3 ADHESION/ 3 TEST SET UP

\* EXTRAPOLATED READING

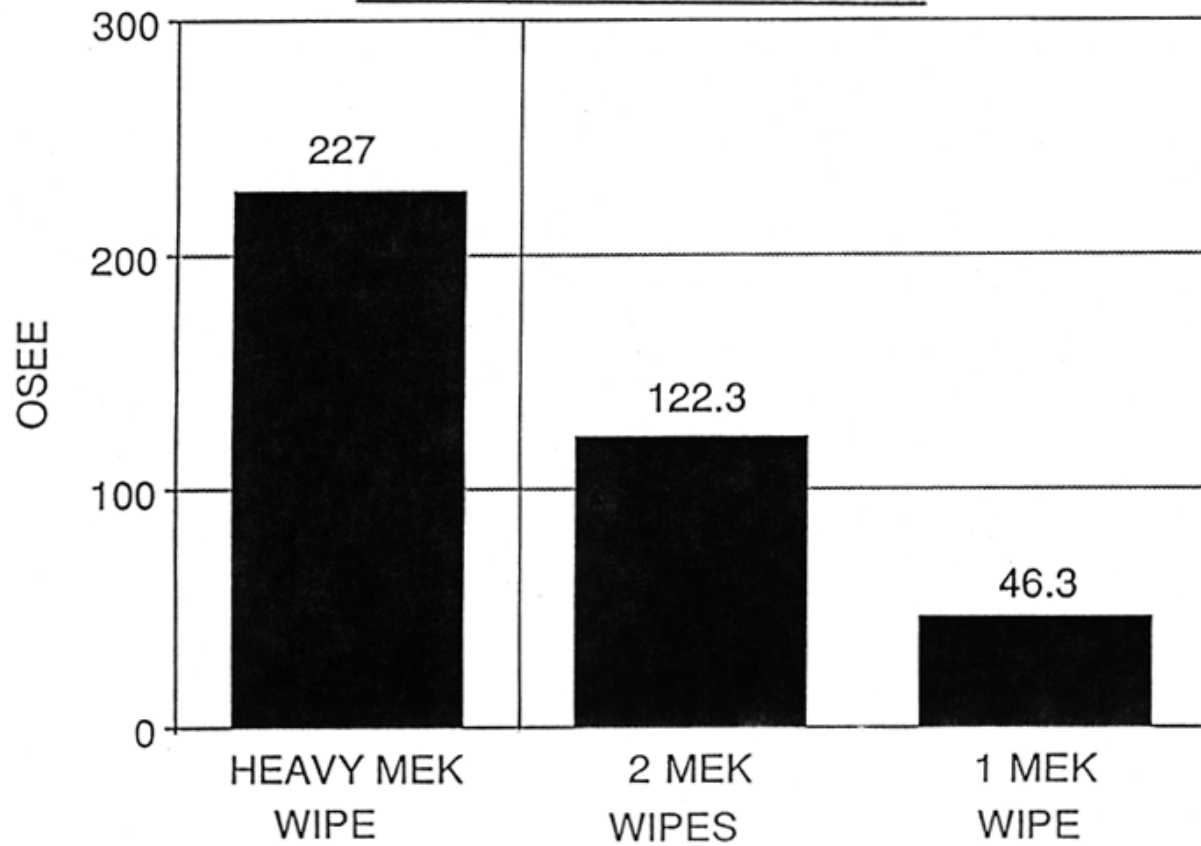
\*\* ADHESION FAILURES: FAILED AT ISOGRID-PRIMER INTERFACE  
TEST SET UP FAILURES: FAILED AT PLUG-SEALANT INTERFACE



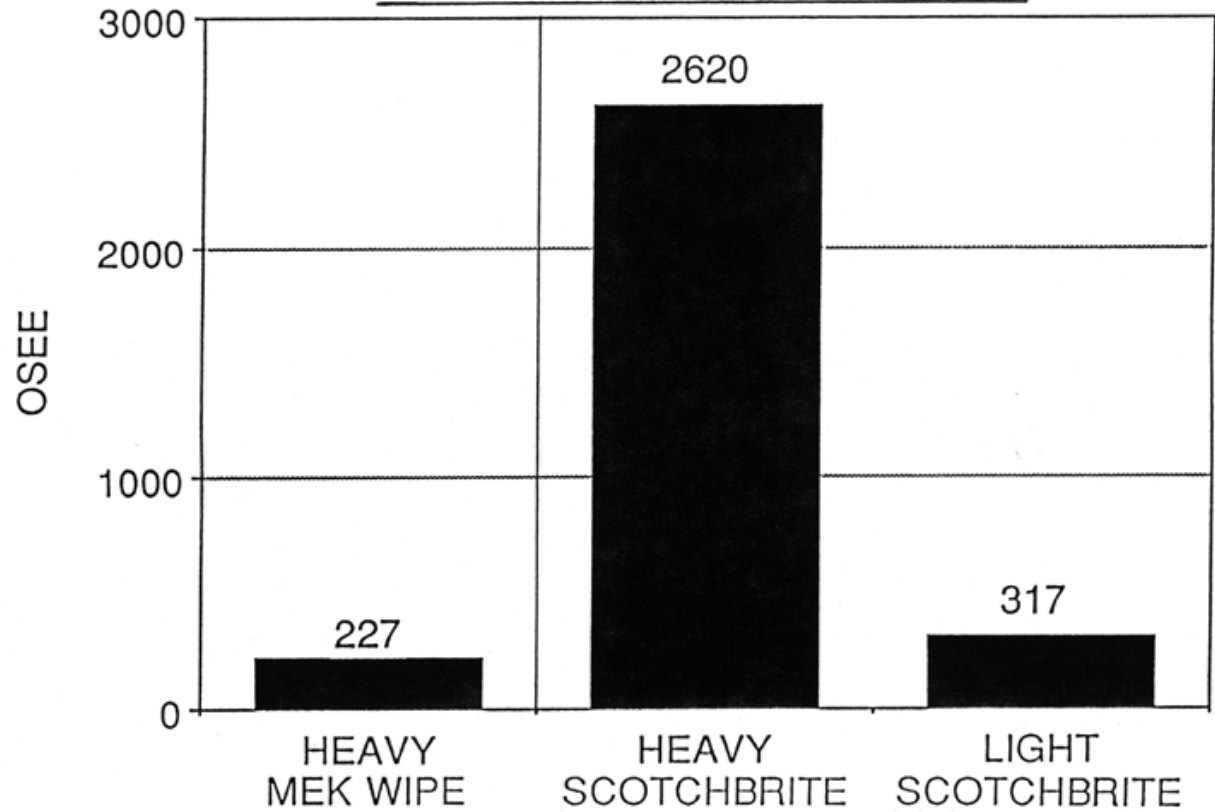
## OSEE READING VS CONTAMINATION



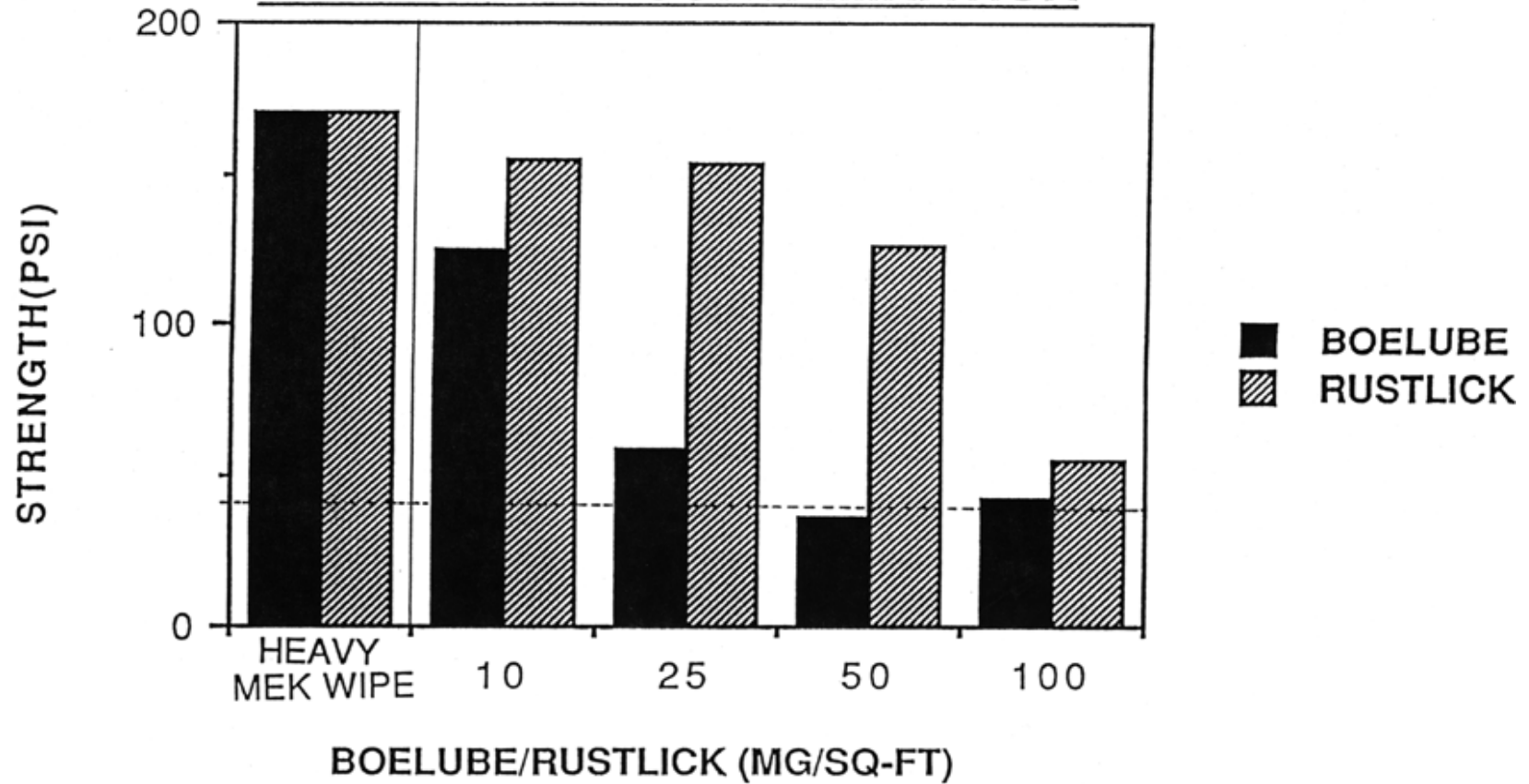
### OSEE VS MEK WIPE



OSEE VS SCOTCHBRITE

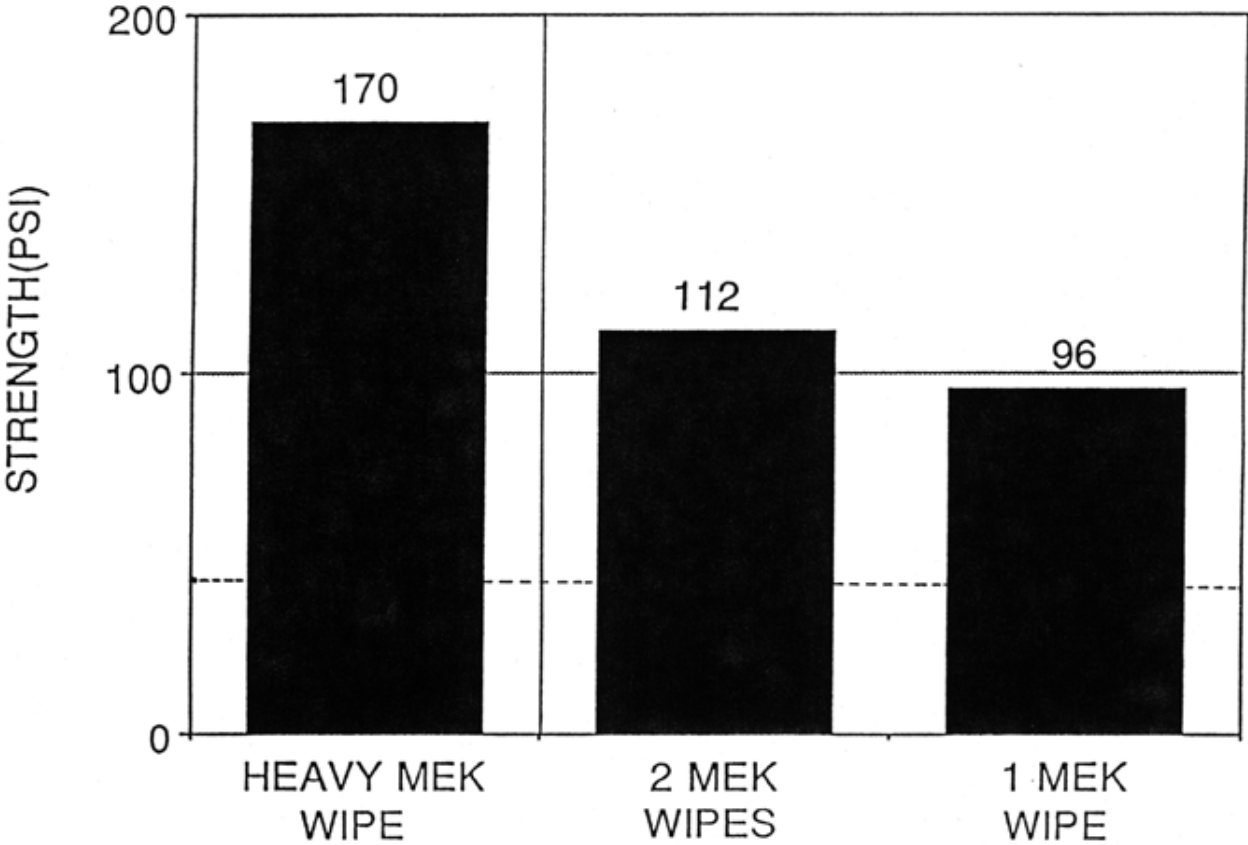


## STRENGTH VS CONTAMINATION

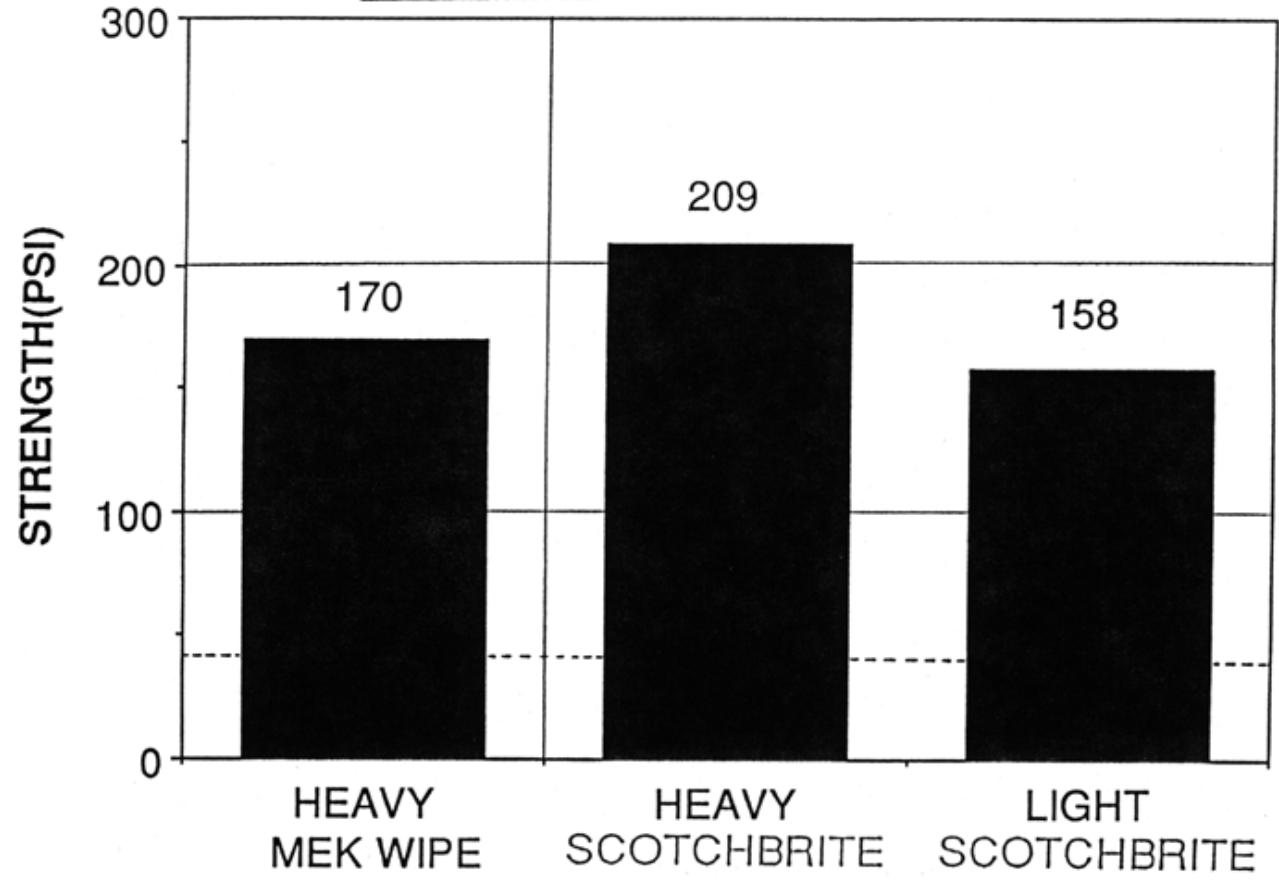




STRENGTH VS MEK WIPE



# STRENGTH VS SCOTCHBRITE



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**TABLE 2**  
**STRENGTH / OSEE VS. CONFIDENCE**  
**"B" LEVEL (90%)**

SPECIMEN NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	OSEE READING (AVERAGE)	STRENGTH (PSI)	"B" LEVEL (90%) *	
				OSEE	STRENGTH (PSI)
1	HEAVY MEK	227	170	179	65
2	2 X LIGHT MEK	122	112	14	-85
3	LIGHT MEK	46	96	21	23
4	BOELUBE - 10	97	125	80	-9
5	BOELUBE - 25	73	60	31	-81
6	BOELUBE - 50	55	37	27	-67
7	BOELUBE - 100	46	42	29	-119
8	RUSTLICK - 10	96	155	70	-66
9	RUSTLICK - 25	57	153	9	-73
10	RUSTLICK - 50	47	126	-18	-243
11	RUSTLICK - 100	20	56	-5	-55
12	LIGHT SCOTCHBRITE	317	158	-78	-129
13	HEAVY SCOTCHBRITE	2620	209	2487	122

\* REFERENCE MIL-HDBK-5



**STRENGTH / OSEE VS. CONFIDENCE**

**"A" LEVEL (99%)**

SPECIMEN NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	OSEE READING (AVERAGE)	STRENGTH (PSI)	"A" LEVEL (99%) *	
				OSEE	STRENGTH (PSI)
1	HEAVY MEK	227	170	145	-5
2	2 X LIGHT MEK	122	112	-62	-227
3	LIGHT MEK	46	96	3	-28
4	BOELUBE - 10	97	125	68	-104
5	BOELUBE - 25	73	60	2	-183
6	BOELUBE - 50	55	37	8	-142
7	BOELUBE - 100	46	42	17	-235
8	RUSTLICK - 10	96	155	53	-223
9	RUSTLICK - 25	57	153	-25	-235
10	RUSTLICK - 50	47	126	-63	-507
11	RUSTLICK - 100	20	56	-23	-135
12	LIGHT SCOTCHBRITE	317	158	-360	-335
13	HEAVY SCOTCHBRITE	2620	209	2392	60

\* REFERENCE MIL-HDBK-5



### **OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS**

- **BOND STRENGTHS MEASURED IN LABORATORY WERE CONSIDERABLY HIGHER THAN STRENGTHS OBSERVED AT LAUNCH SITE**
- **THE COATING PROCESS USED AT LAUNCH SITE IS NOT ROBUST**
- **NUMEROUS CONTAMINANTS MAY BE PRESENT AT THE POINT OF SURFACE PREPARATION**
- **TEST SET UP FAILURES GIVE SKEWED RESULTS**
- **TEST METHOD USED AT LAUNCH SITE SHOULD BE ENHANCED TO ELIMINATE TEST SET UP FAILURES**



## **CONCLUSIONS**

- **EXCELLENT CORRELATION OF OSEE READINGS AND CONTAMINATION LEVEL**
- **VERY GOOD CORRELATION OF CONTAMINATION LEVEL (OSEE READINGS) AND BOND STRENGTHS**
- **OSEE INSTRUMENT IS CAPABLE OF DETECTING VERY SMALL AMOUNTS OF CONTAMINATION**
- **LABORATORY TESTS APPEAR TO GIVE HIGHER BOND STRENGTHS**
- **MANUFACTURING MATERIALS AND PROCESSES USED FOR BONDING DYNATHERM ARE NOT ROBUST**
- **STATISTICAL ANALYSIS SHOWS THAT ONLY HEAVY SCOTCHBRITE IS A ROBUST METHOD OF SURFACE PREPARATION**



## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- **CONTROL TIME, TEMPERATURE, RELATIVE HUMIDITY, PRIMER THICKNESS ETC. TO MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS**
- **CONSIDER APPLICATION OF THERMAL INSULATION IN FACTORY**
- **CONSIDER PULL TEST ACCEPTABLE IF STRENGTH IS ABOVE 40 PSI. IF FAILURE OCCURS IN 40-79 PSI RANGE DO 4 MORE TESTS IN THE SAME AREA. ALL 4 TESTS MUST PASS 40 PSI MINIMUM.**
- **USE HEAVY SCOTCBRITE TO PREPARE SURFACE FOR BONDING**
- **USE OSEE INSTRUMENT AS A TRAINING AID TO MANUFACTURING PERSONNEL**

