

THERMAL INTEGRITY PROFILING AS A DRILLED SHAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE TOOL

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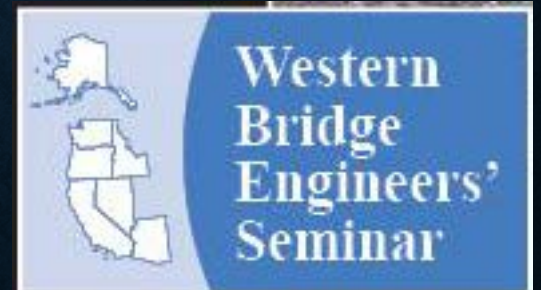
State Bridge Construction Engineer

Washington State Department of Transportation

September 10th, 2015



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- WSDOT's drilled shaft construction program
- Traditional shaft quality assurance at WSDOT
- Thermal Integrity Profiling Basics
- Implementation on Construction Contracts
- What we learned
- The way forward

WSDOT'S DRILLED SHAFT CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

- WSDOT's started drilled shaft construction in late 70's.
- For past 10 years, average exceeds 100 shafts per year.
- Range from 4-12 feet in diameter and 40-200 feet in length.
- Vast majority (95%) constructed as "wet" shafts.

TRADITIONAL SHAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE AT WSDOT

- Primary QA has been cross-hole sonic log (CSL) testing
- 100% of the “wet” shafts are CSL tested
- Backed up by:
 - Inspector observations
 - Monitoring of concrete and slurry levels
 - Concrete yield plots

TRADITIONAL SHAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE AT WSDOT



TRADITIONAL SHAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE AT WSDOT

Shaft Name :

Shaft Information

Max. Log Length : Feet

Stickup : Inches

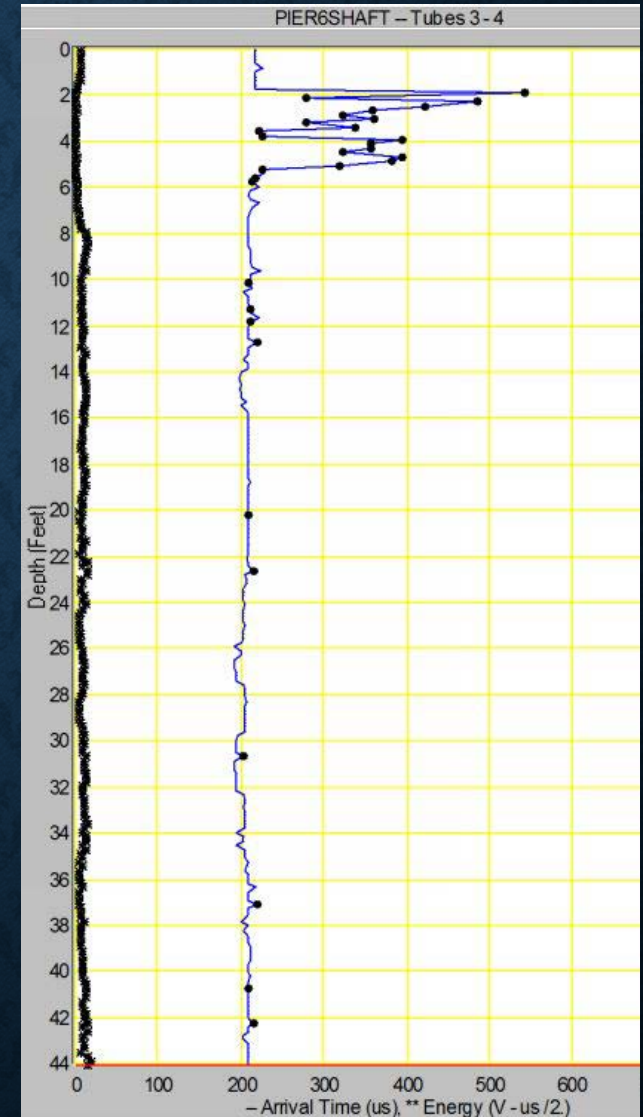
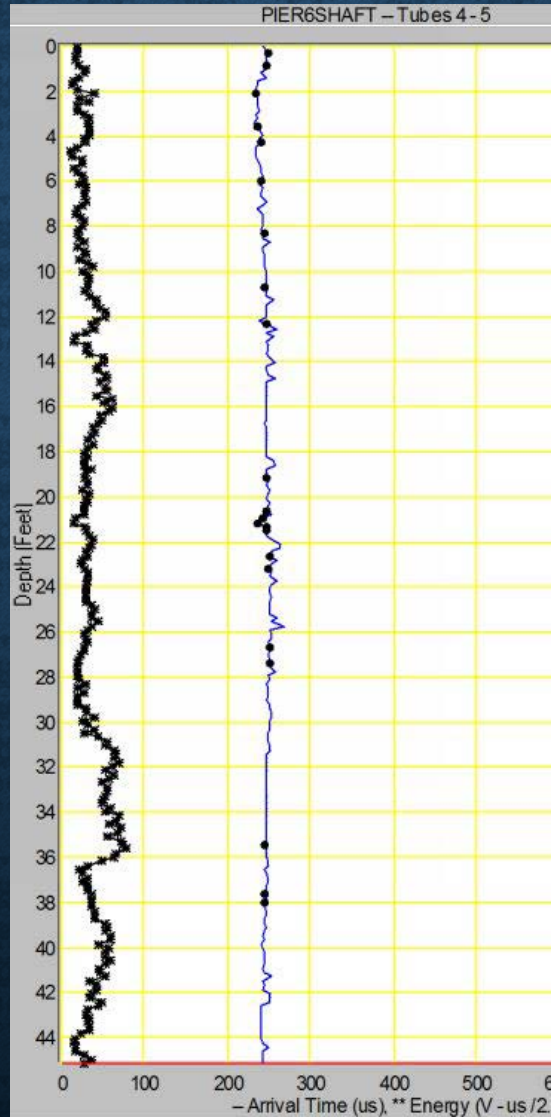
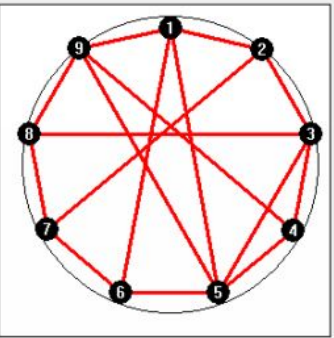
Placement Date :

Test Date :

Shaft Note

Number of Tubes :

Shaft Wall
 Matrix Wall



TRADITIONAL SHAFT QUALITY ASSURANCE AT WSDOT

- Limitations on CSL Testing:
 - Can be a “sensitive” test.
 - “False anomalies” aren’t uncommon.
 - **Only validates core of shaft.**



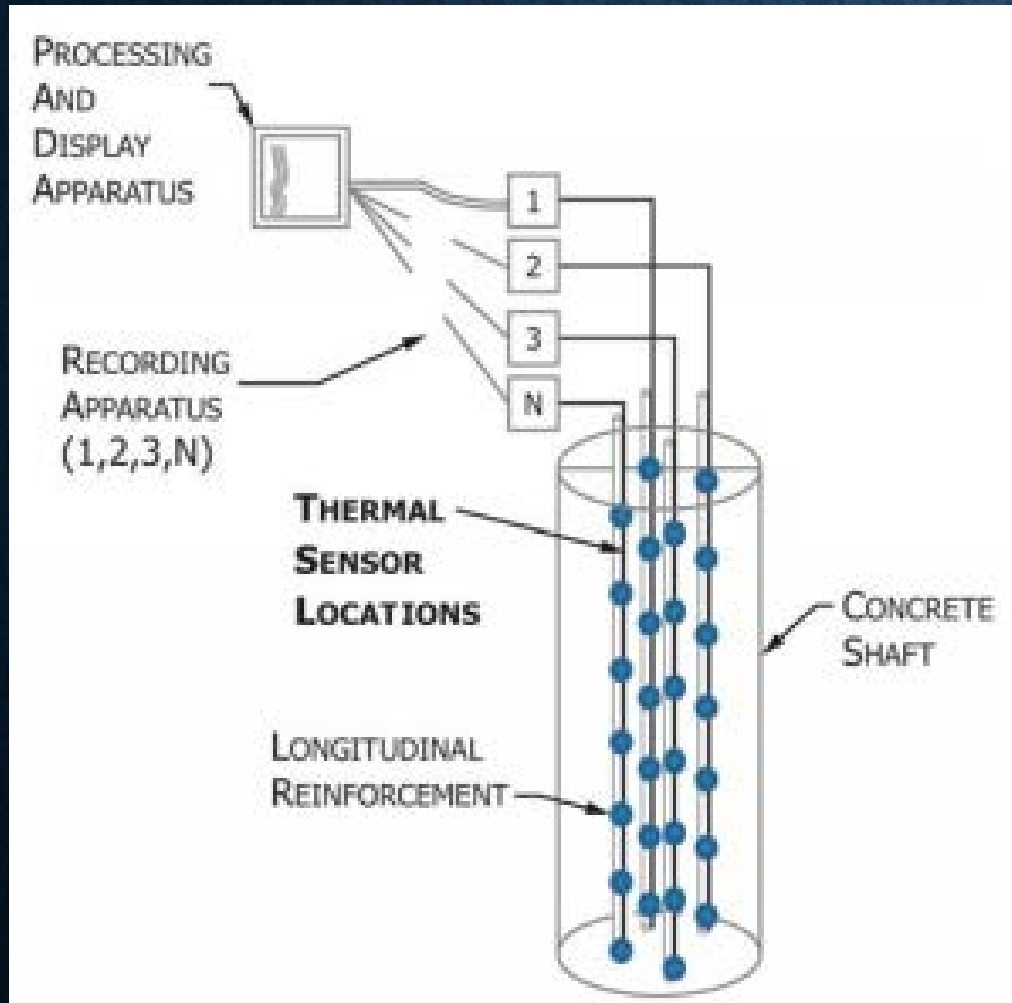
WSDOT has used Thermal Integrity Profiling on two recent projects.

THERMAL INTEGRITY PROFILING BASICS

- Uses heat generated by hydrating concrete to determine quality.
- Measurements taken near shaft perimeter and uniformly around and along shaft.
- Adjustments for shaft geometry, concrete properties, water table, type of soils, presence of casing, etc.

THERMAL INTEGRITY PROFILING BASICS

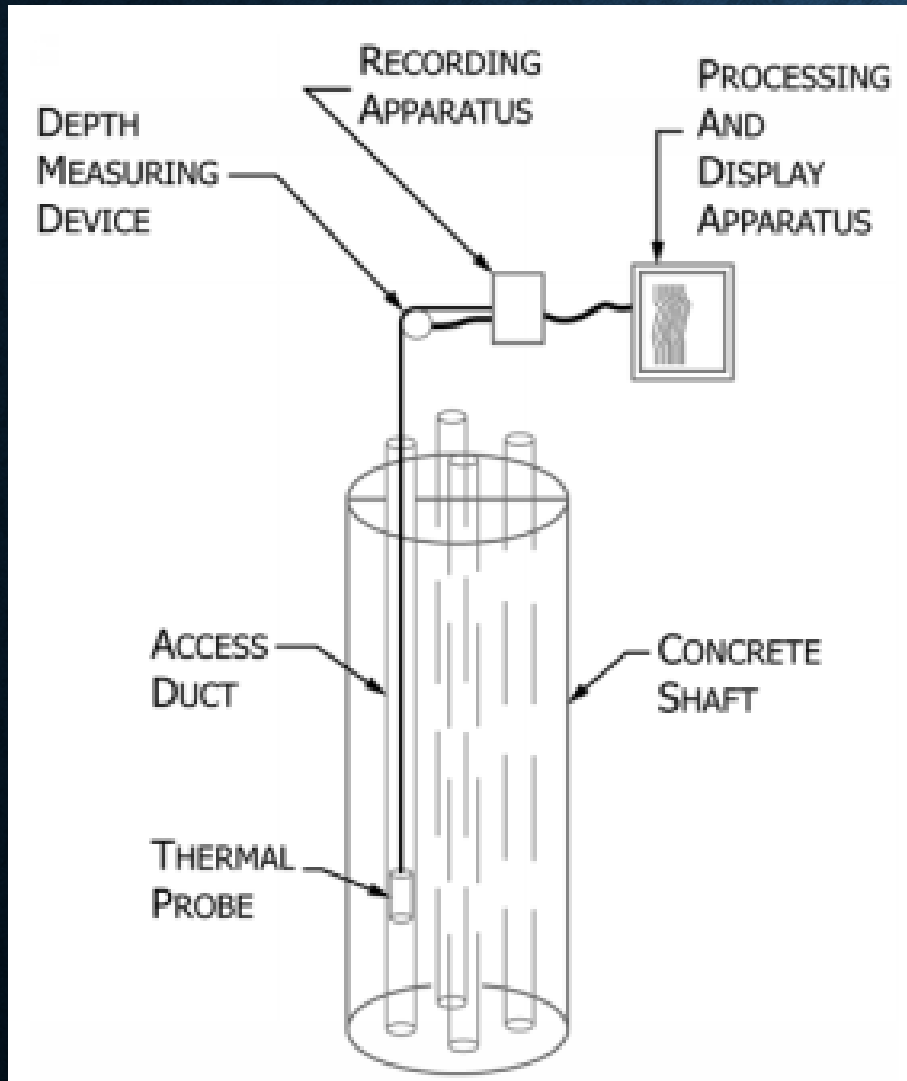
THERMAL WIRE METHOD



- One wire per foot diameter of shaft
- Sensors located every foot

THERMAL INTEGRITY PROFILING BASICS

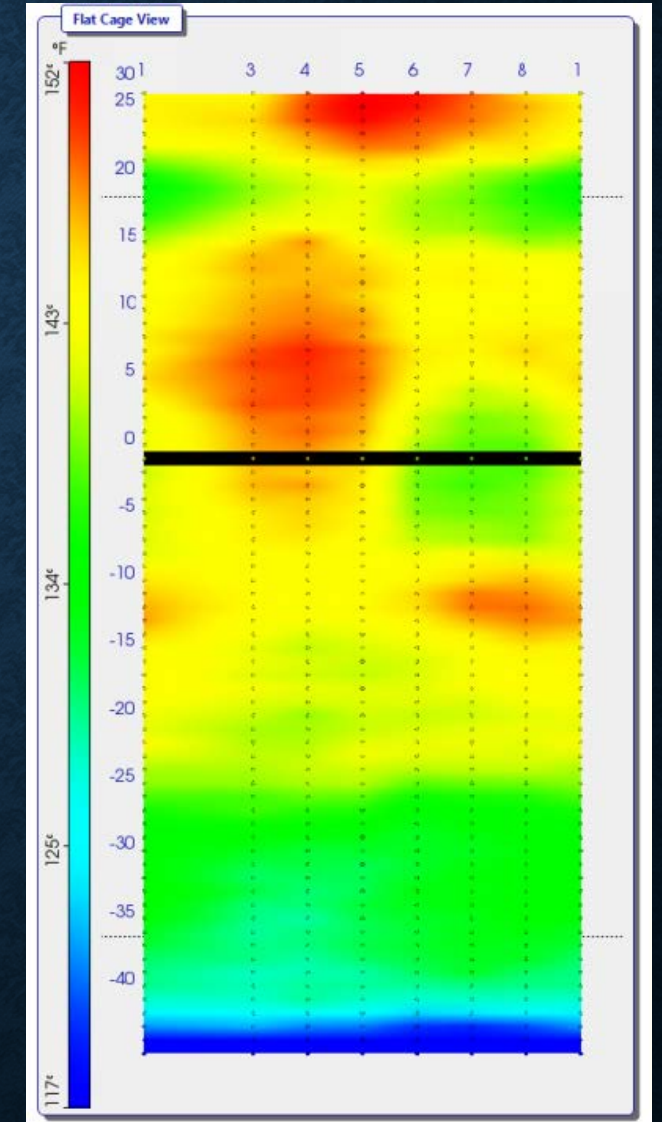
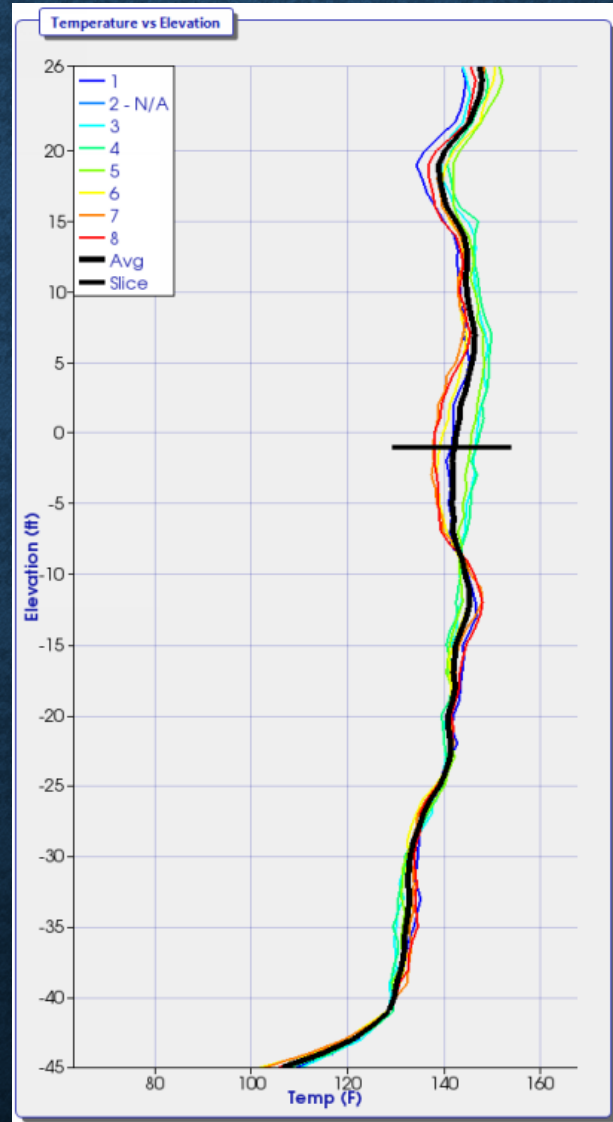
THERMAL PROBE METHOD



- One access duct per foot diameter of shaft
- Reusable thermal probe to get temperatures

THERMAL INTEGRITY PROFILING BASICS

- Basic output is temps at each node
- Data is further post-processed (discussed later)



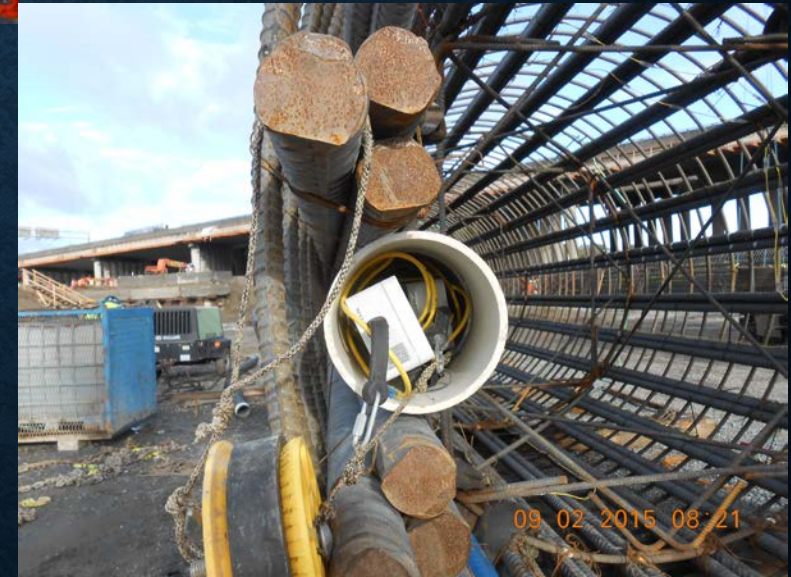
IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT

- Participated in research testing in 2010
 - Used the thermal probe method
- WSDOT purchased testing equipment and used for QA testing and shaft acceptance on two contracts
 - Selected the thermal wire method

IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT INSTALLING THE THERMAL WIRES

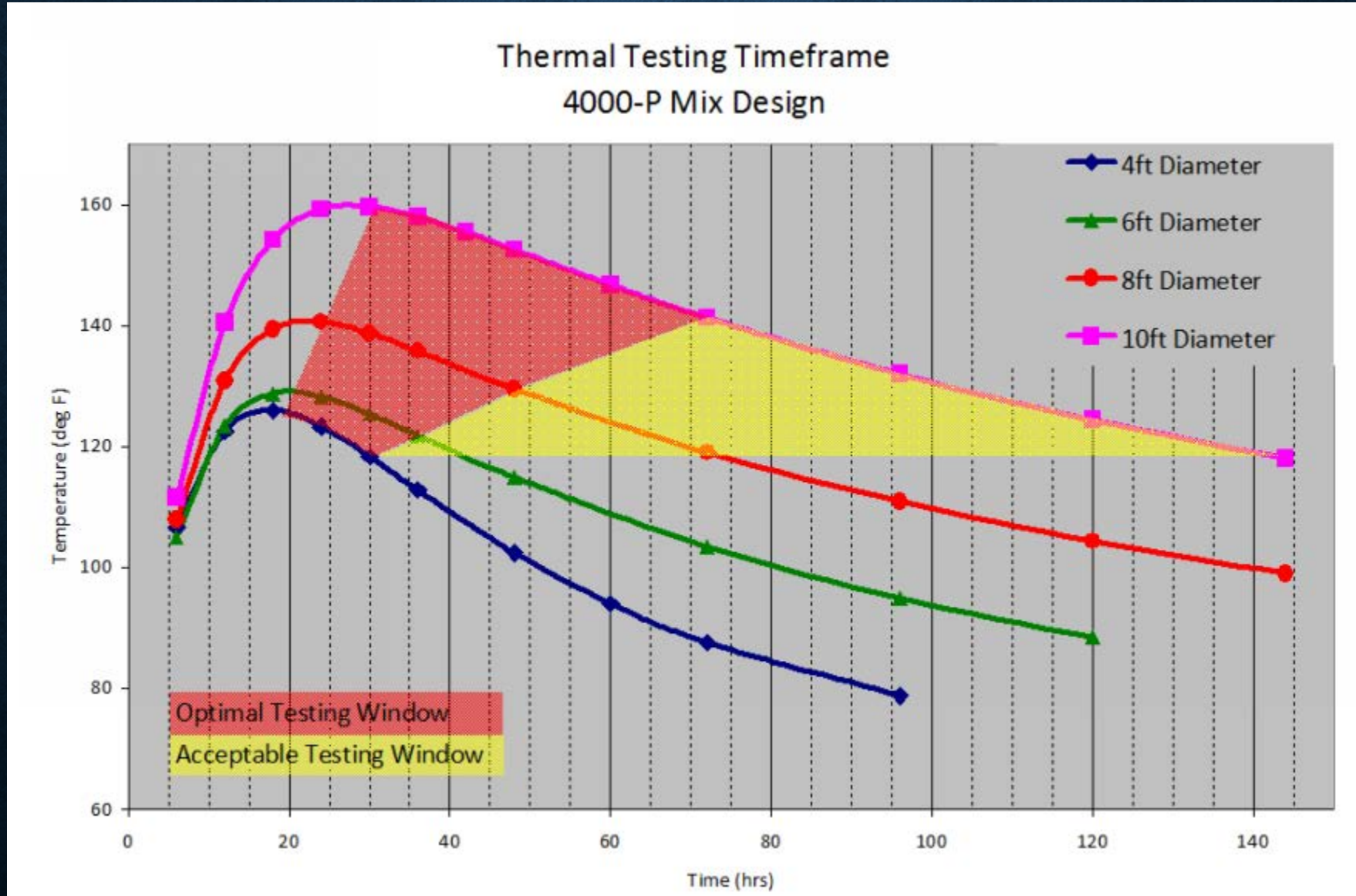


IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT PROTECTING THE TAPS



IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT

OBTAINING DATA READINGS



IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT

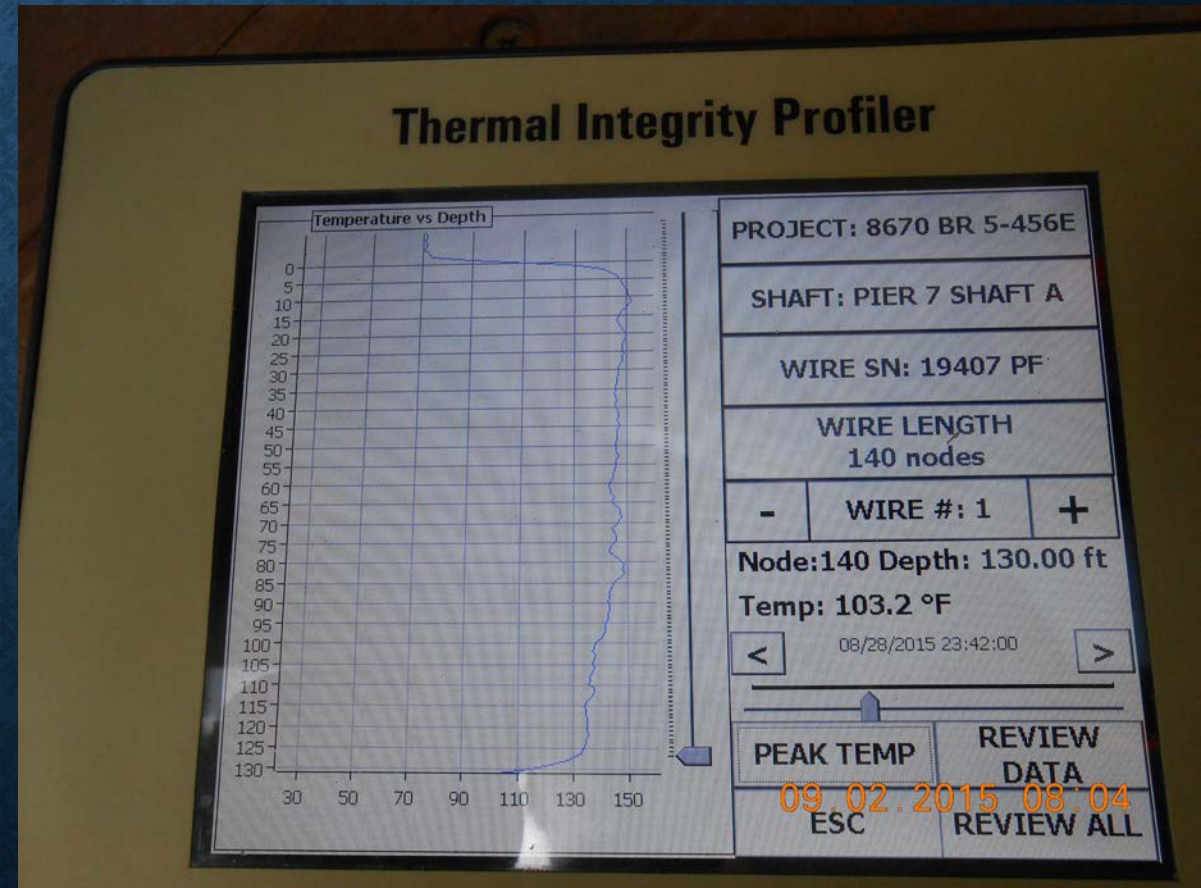
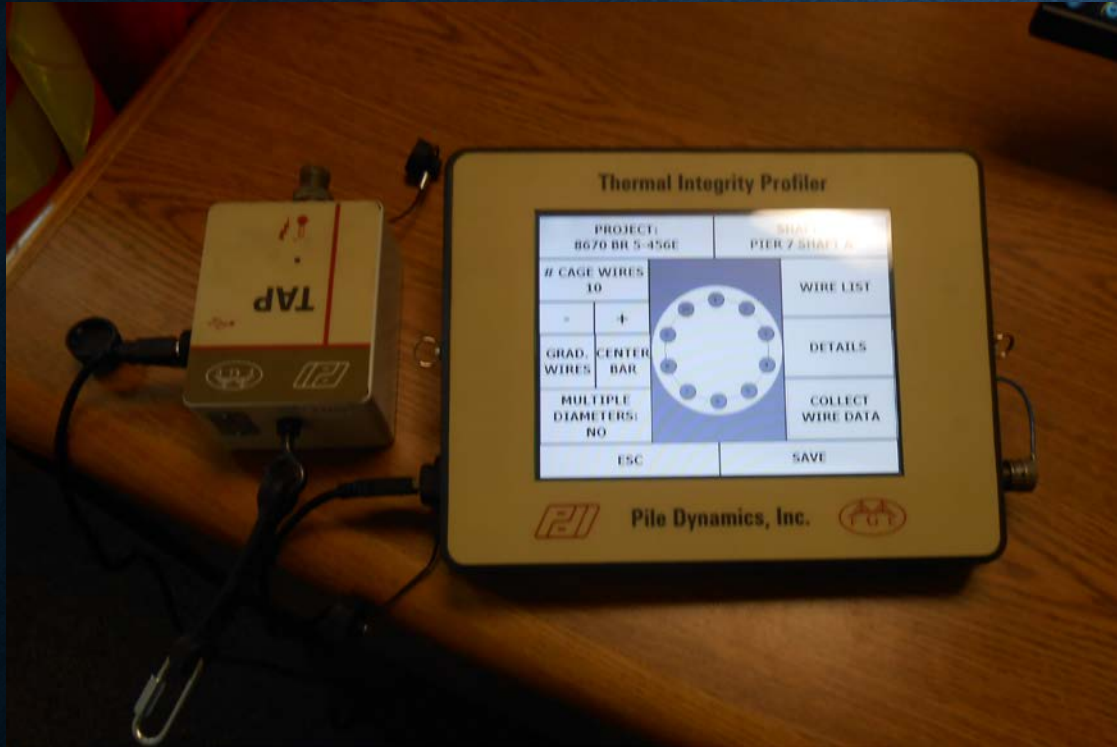
COLLECTING THE TAPS

- TAP's obtained:
 - Once slurry pumped down, and
 - Once sufficient time has elapsed
- If needed, TAP's can be reconnected.



IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT

DOWNLOADING THE THERMAL DATA



IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT

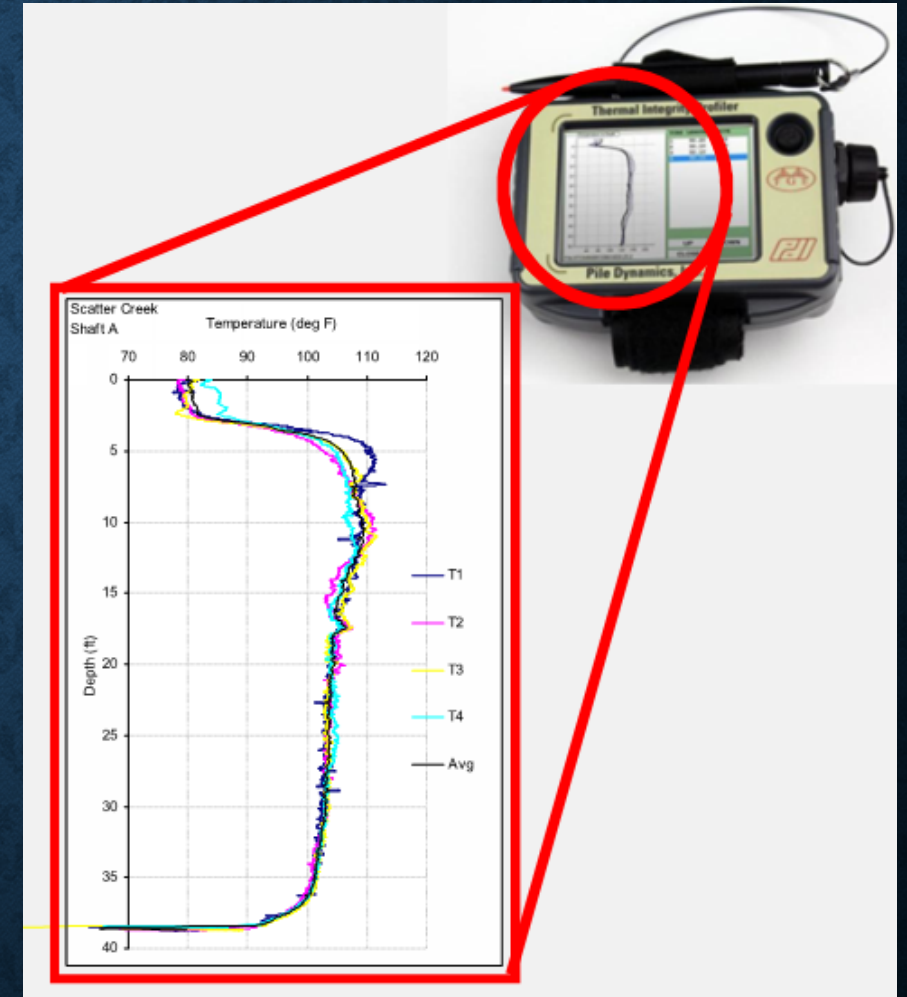
POST-PROCESSING AND RESULTS

LEVEL 1 – Performed in the field using TIP Main Unit

- Verify shaft length – Identify top and bottom
- **Locate immediate areas of concern**

LEVEL 2 – Added Element – Field Records

- Find relationship between concrete volume and measured temperature
- Predict as-built shaft radius, shape, and cover



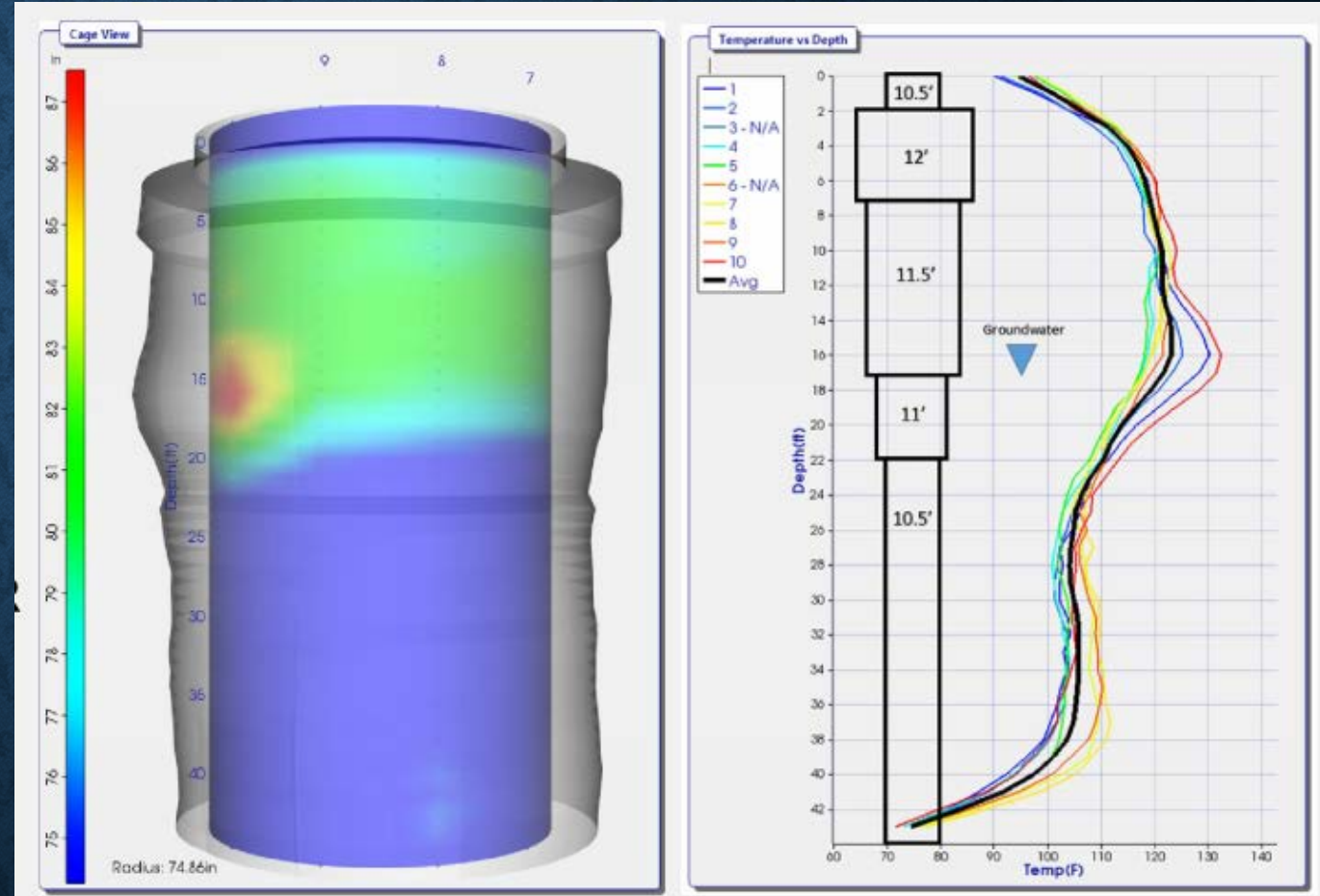
Level 1 Analysis

IMPLEMENTATION AT WSDOT

POST-PROCESSING AND RESULTS

LEVEL 3 – Thermal Modeling using TIP Reporter

- Completed with desktop software
- Top & Bottom Roll Off Corrections
- Analyze Radius vs. Depth



Level 3 Analysis

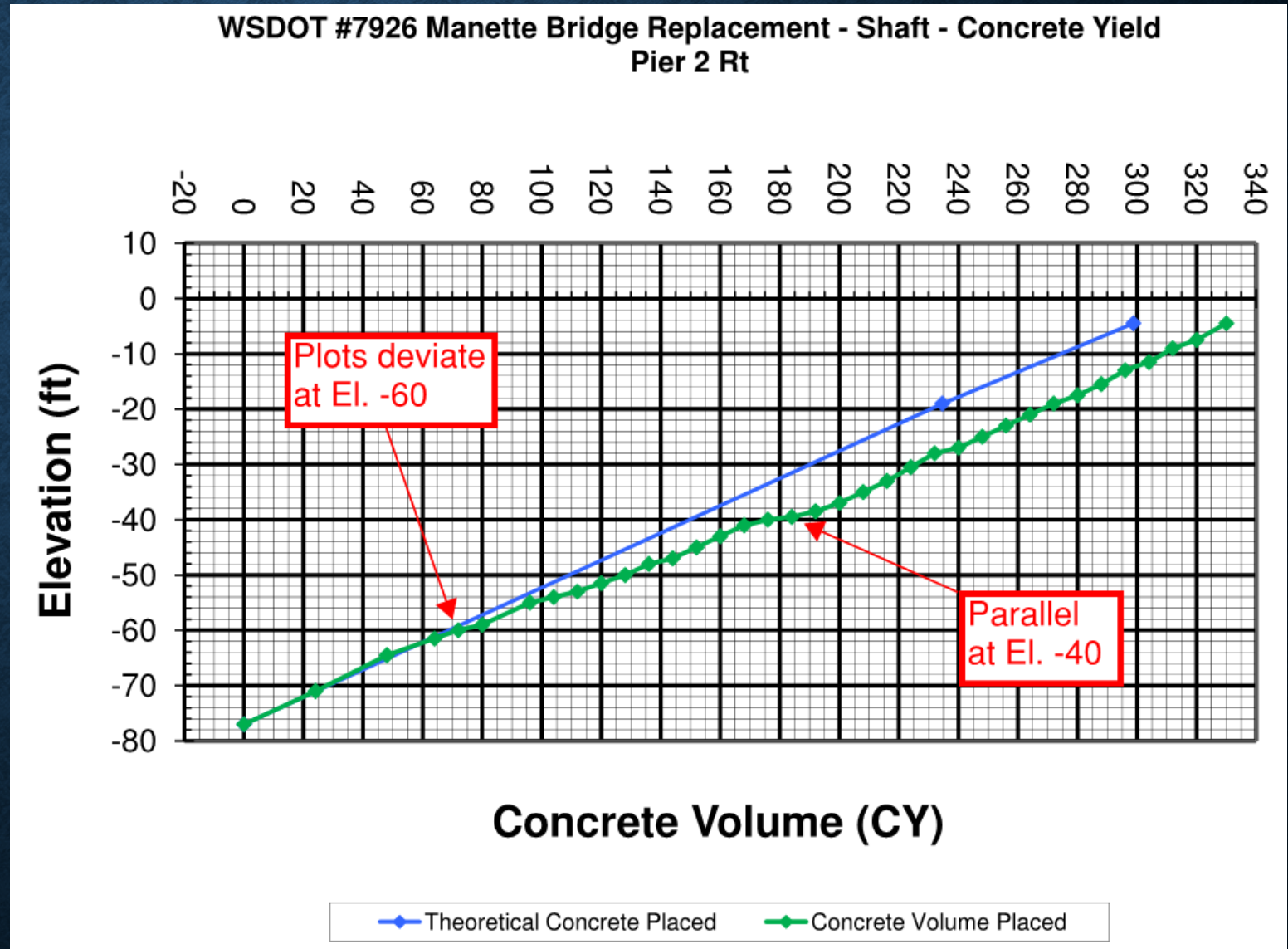
WHAT WE LEARNED

SOME EXAMPLES FROM WSDOT PROJECTS

WHAT WE LEARNED

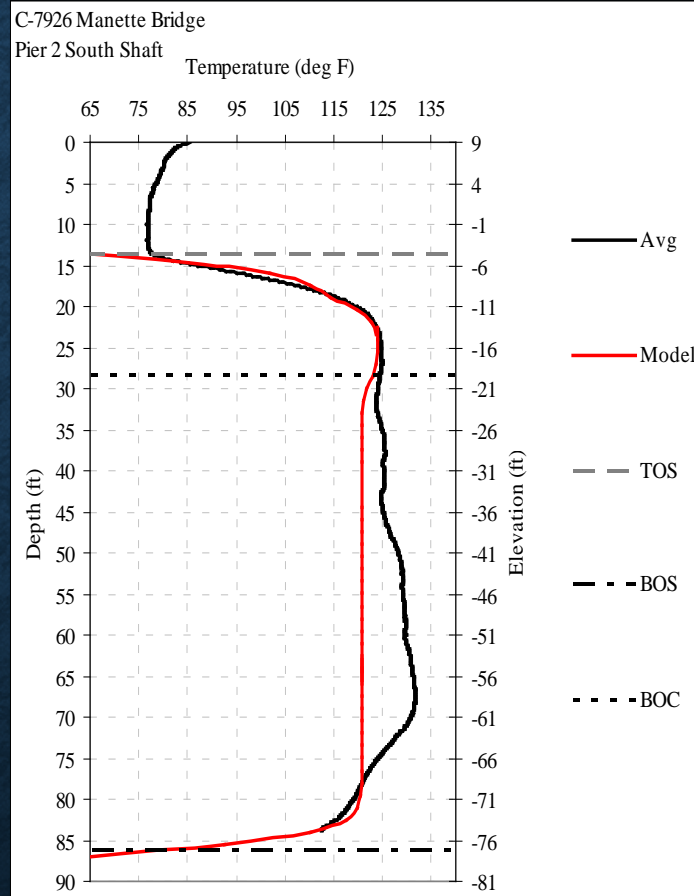
MANETTE BRIDGE SOIL CAVING

- After placing cage, 40 CY of material sluffed into shaft
- Cage was extracted and soils removed
- Used TIP to evaluate actual shaft geometry

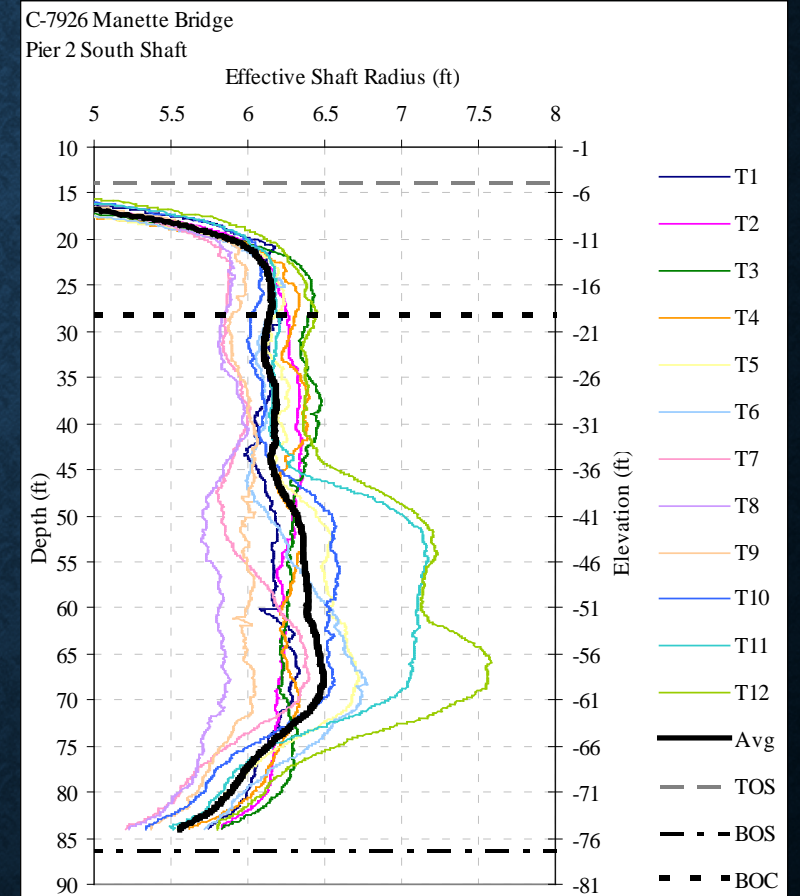


WHAT WE LEARNED MANETTE BRIDGE SOIL CAVING

- Results showed as-built geometry
 - Limits of voiding
 - Effective radius at all shaft locations
- Good correlation with concrete yield plot



Actual vs. Modeled Temps.

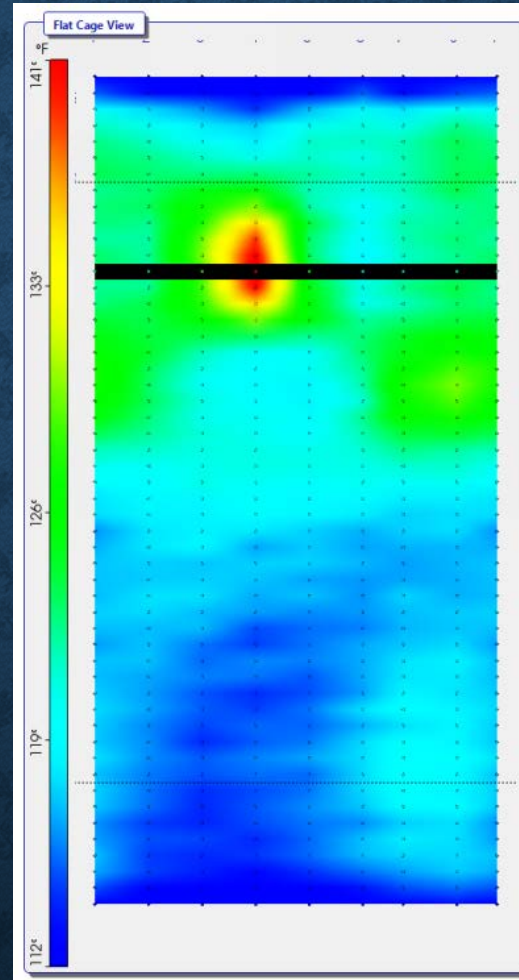
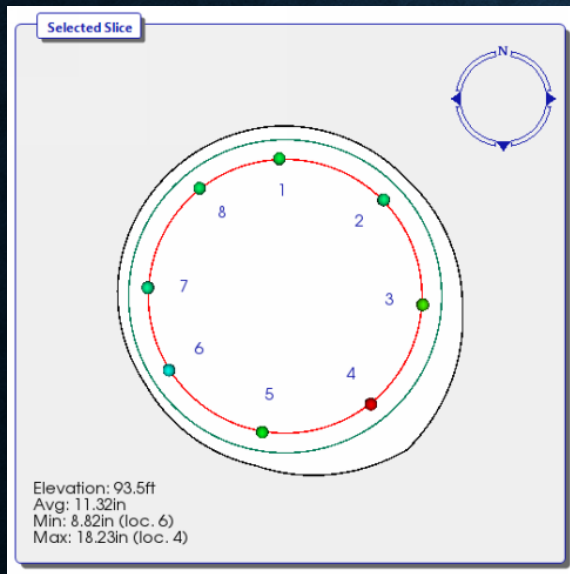


Predicted Shaft Radius

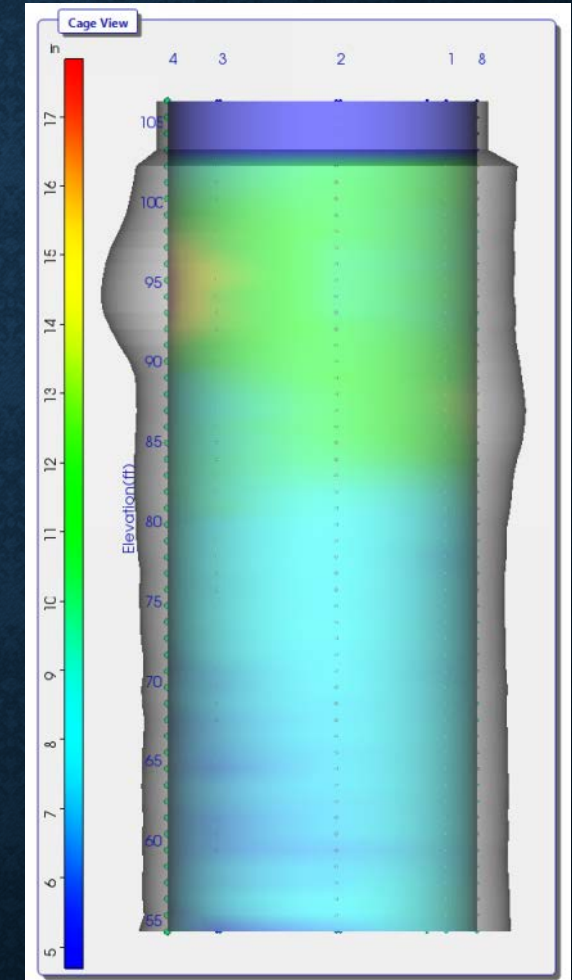
WHAT WE LEARNED

I-5 M-STREET TO PORTLAND "BULGE"

- "Bulge" of concrete identified.
- Potential for affecting seismic design.
- Allowed Engineer to review for structural acceptance.



Flat view of Temps.

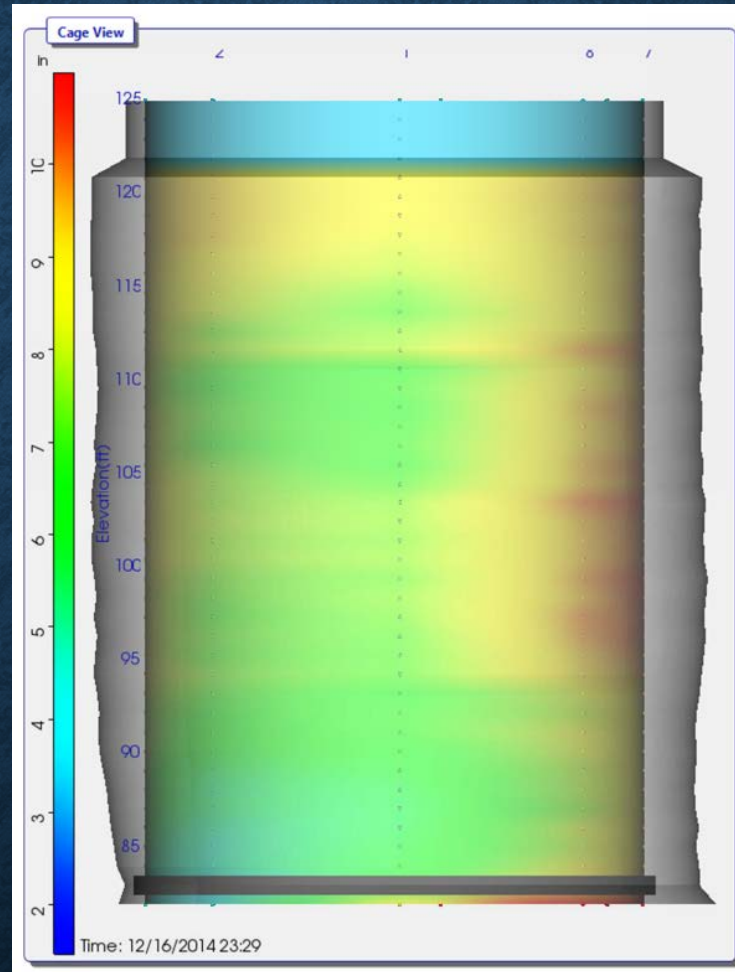


Estimated concrete cover

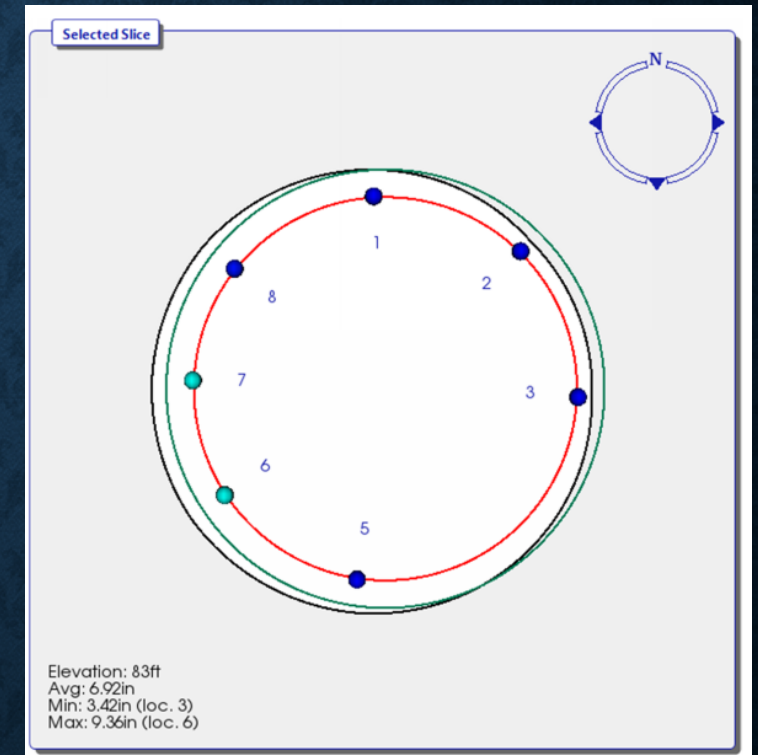
WHAT WE LEARNED

I-5 M-STREET TO PORTLAND CAGE RACKING

- Detailed for 6" cover
- Testing identified cage racking near shaft tip
- Min. cover approx. 3.5"
- Due to low corrosion potential at shaft tip, shaft was accepted.



Estimated concrete cover



Section near shaft tip

THE WAY FORWARD

PROS AND CONS OF THERMAL INTEGRITY PROFILING

Pros

- Indicates quality of shaft core and cover
- Testing as early as 24 hours after placement
- Builds a 3D model of shaft geometry

Cons

- A bit of a “black box”
- Thermal wires prone to damage/failure
- Thermal wires are a proprietary product

THE WAY FORWARD

OTHER OBSERVATIONS

- Cost-wise, comparable to CSL testing.
 - CSL tubes and thermal wires have similar costs
 - Equivalent labor for each method
- TIP methods/materials are improving!
 - New wire just released to reduce failures
- TIP data often leads to more acceptance evaluation
 - This is a good thing.

THE WAY FORWARD

FUTURE USE AT WSDOT

- WSDOT is generally pleased with the TIP methods
- Provides deeper review than CSL testing
- Currently reviewing/updating specifications
- Likely expand use to additional projects
 - Still want to keep CSL testing
 - May reserve TIP for larger, deeper shafts

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Comments/Thoughts?

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