



INSPECTION DEPARTMENT
Main cable inspection.
DATE. 21 st – 30 th October.2013.

Following the completion of the cable band bolt replacement contract in September 2013, an inspection of the main cable was carried out by bridge inspectors. Inclement weather conditions delayed inspection time. General findings were as follows. :

Cable bands. : All cable bands throughout the structures main cable remain in a satisfactory condition.

Cable bands bolts. : As introduction, all cable band bolts & nuts were replaced during 2012 & 2013 by contractors C. Spencer Ltd. No evidence or reason to find any defects this inspection. New paint protective coating applied to nut faces during bolt replacement contract on certain bolts throughout the structure will make it difficult to detect any defects.



Cable bands sealant. : All the cable band sealant which is located on top & bottom half of the collars is in situ & remains in a satisfactory condition, however there are 7 locations where there are slight air leaks evident.

South west side span. : - PP 18. (north side)

South east side span. : - PP 34. 9 (north side)

South east main span. : - PP 62, 66, 70 & 100 (all south side)

North east main span. : PP 68. (north side)

Main cable wrapping. : Al the main cable wrapping throughout the main cable remains in – situ and in a satisfactory condition.



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Main/ Side tower sleeves. : . All sleeves remain in a satisfactory condition. Cable bands immediately below all main tower sleeves, bolts have slight to medium corrosion evident , protective paint covering broken down.



Handstrand stanchions. : All hand-strands & bolt fixings throughout the main cable remain in a satisfactory condition. At PP 92 on the south east main span & north east main span the internal locking nuts on the east & west face in the underside of the hand-strand stanchion (which is box section) are not on the threaded bolt. (could this been when handstrand stanchions were removed to allow main cable gantry access and not been put back in place) . Outer nuts remain in place and secure.



Locking nut position for
hand-strand internal face



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Handstrand cable casting clamp / post connections. : All remain in situ. All welds to hand-strand stanchions remain satisfactory, no defects found.

Following survey carried out in 2007 with regards to movement / noise levels on the above, no work has been carried out. Approx 50% of wedges installed following survey remain in position . A program of works will be implemented to remove & replace existing wedges and to install new where required.

Paintwork. : As part of the cable band bolt replacement contract, it was agreed between both parties that following the completion of the bolts at every location , a protective paint coating would be applied by FRB painters. There were four types of paint used . On the high levels (carried out from the gantry) which was uncovered , three different types of Acothane were used. This was supplied by Spencer coatings Ltd. On the low level (carried out from staging) which was covered, a 3 coat system was applied . This was supplied by PPG. (please refer to, File-path E3.1, Main cables / cable band drawings/ drawing no 04. 01. 02. Full detailed report with regards to paint condition , application , protective covering thicknesses.(over/under) missing paint and impact damaged areas Will be supplied by D. Gill.

All information has been recorded and entered onto the structural report program. Photographs taken can be viewed in relevant file.

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