

## **Hand strand cable Inspection.**

Following submitted reports from Advitam of a high quantity of acoustic activity on the hand strand Bridge cable at specific locations, a decision was taken to carry out an inspection of all components which make up this element to try and identify possible reasons as to the cause of overloading of the acoustic monitoring at certain periods.

On completion of the inspection my findings were as follows : All specified locations as per acoustic monitoring report for downtime of the system during the period from 01/11/006 to 30/11/06 showed that the at locations PPs 48N & 50N ( A 26 ) on the East cable & PP.s 28N & 32 N ( A11 ) on the West cable the handstrand cable casting clamp post / connections showed that excessive wear down of the phosphor bronze washers ( Item 1 as drawing enlarged detail B ) was evident. This appears to be causing unnecessary / unwanted horizontal movement of the hand strand cable casting.

At specified locations PP.s 62 S To 64 S ( A 5 ) on the West cable & PP.s 62 S To 64 S ( A 21 ) on the East cable the handstand cable casting clamp post / connections showed that excessive wear down of the phosphor bronze washers ( Item 1 as drawing enlarged detail B ) & excessive wear down of the phosphor bronze sleeve ( Item 2 as drawing enlarged detail B ) was evident. This appears to be causing unnecessary / unwanted horizontal & vertical movement of the hand strand cable casting. ( It should be noted that all the specified locations are acoustic monitoring sensor stations.

On descent to these locations it was apparent through observation & inspection that other locations appeared to be showing unnecessary / unwanted horizontal & vertical movement of the hand strand cable casting.

Bridge Inspector. :