



INSPECTION DEPARTMENT
Main Cable General Report No 370.
DATE. 09.08.12

(BC 07)
REPORT No 370.
MAIN CABLE.

DATE: 07.08.12 to 09.08.12.

The main cable was visually inspected between the above dates, general findings were as follows:

Cable Bands: The cable bands are in a satisfactory condition with no apparent defects. The paintwork on the suspender ropes bitumastic protective covering on the cable bands is showing signs of breakdown throughout. The main cable dehumidification cable wrapping at the connection to the cable bands have air pockets evident at some locations.

Cable Band Bolts: Cable band bolts throughout the suspended structure remain satisfactory with the exception of **11 bolt locations which carry 12 defective nuts**. Since the last report some of the defective bolts from the previous report have been replaced; these being at PP20 NW, PP54NE and PP24SW. There remains 1 bolt to change at PP24SW, but this bolt has defective nuts at both the live and dead sides. A contract to replace all the remaining defective cable band bolts has been awarded and has now commenced. There is evidence of the cadmium plating breaking down on some of the nuts and the protective end caps of the bolts. Also areas of pitting and corrosion remain evident.

Handstrand/Stanchions: All these remain in a satisfactory condition.

Handstrand Cable Casting Clamp/Post Connections: These remain as the inspection which was carried out in 2007 with temporary hardwood wedges being installed at various locations throughout the structure to help reduce noise levels being transmitted to the acoustic monitoring sensors. The wedges are now starting to breakdown and some cases have disappeared due to corrosion or the plastic ties which are used to hold them have become brittle, a programme of works still needs to be implemented.

Bridge Inspectors:



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