Revision 1

## **APPENDIX O**

### **CRITICAL AND CORROSION POTENTIALS FOR ALLOY 22 (RESPONSE TO CLST 1.10 AND CLST 1.11)**

#### **Note Regarding the Status of Supporting Technical Information**

This document was prepared using the most current information available at the time of its development. This Technical Basis Document and its appendices providing Key Technical Issue Agreement responses that were prepared using preliminary or draft information reflect the status of the Yucca Mountain Project's scientific and design bases at the time of submittal. In some cases this involved the use of draft Analysis and Model Reports (AMRs) and other draft references whose contents may change with time. Information that evolves through subsequent revisions of the AMRs and other references will be reflected in the License Application (LA) as the approved analyses of record at the time of LA submittal. Consequently, the Project will not routinely update either this Technical Basis Document or its Key Technical Issue Agreement appendices to reflect changes in the supporting references prior to submittal of the LA.

### **APPENDIX O**

## **CRITICAL AND CORROSION POTENTIALS FOR ALLOY 22 (RESPONSE TO CLST 1.10 AND CLST 1.11)**

This appendix provides a response to Key Technical Issue (KTI) agreements Container Life and Source Term (CLST) 1.10 and CLST 1.11. These KTI agreements are related to the influence of different variables, such as temperature, electrolyte composition, and metallurgical conditions of the alloys, on the corrosion potential and critical potentials for localized corrosion.

## **O.1 KEY TECHNICAL ISSUE AGREEMENTS**

### **O.1.1 CLST 1.10 and CLST 1.11**

Agreement CLST 1.10 and CLST 1.11 were reached during the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)/U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) technical exchange and management meeting on CLST held September 12 to 13, 2000, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Subissues 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 were discussed at the meeting (Schlueter 2000).

Wording of the agreements is as follows:

## **CLST 1.10<sup>1</sup>**

Provide the documentation for Alloy 22 and titanium for the path forward items listed on slide 21 and 22. DOE will provide the documentation in a revision to AMRs (ANL-EBS-MD-000003 and ANL-EBS-MD-000004) prior to LA.

### **CLST 1.11**

 $\overline{a}$ 

Provide the technical basis for the selection of the critical potentials as bounding parameters for localized corrosion, taking into account MIC. DOE will provide the documentation in a revision to the AMRs (ANL-EBS-MD-000003 and ANL-EBS-MD-000004) prior to LA.

### **O.1.2 Related Key Technical Issues**

Related KTI agreements include CLST 1.01, CLST 1.02 (Appendix I), CLST 1.08 (Appendix N), and CLST 6.01 (Appendix P).

<sup>1</sup> The path forward items in slides 21 and 22 are as follows: (1) measure corrosion potentials on the Long Term Corrosion Test Facility (LTCTF) to determine any shift of the potential with time toward the critical potentials for localized corrosion; (2) determine critical potentials on welded and welded and aged coupons of Alloy 22 (UNS N06022) versus those for base metal, which is particularly important if precipitation of severe segregation of alloying elements occurs in the welds; (3) separate effects or ionic mix of species in Yucca Mountain waters on critical potential–damaging species (chloride, fluoride, possibly sulfate) from the potentially beneficial species (nitrate, carbonate, silicate) because pore water, perched water, and groundwater have somewhat different ionic ratios; and (4) determine critical potentials in environments containing heavy metal concentrations (e.g., lead, arsenic, and mercury).

There has been no submittal related to these KTI agreements to the NRC.

CLST 1.10 and CLST 1.11 are related to the characterization of localized corrosion that may nucleate and grow on the corrosion-resistant layer of the waste package and the drip shield under normal repository operating conditions. The current degradation model includes localized corrosion if the free corrosion potential  $(E_{corr})$  is equal to or higher than the critical potential for localized corrosion (*E<sub>crit</sub>*) (BSC 2003a; BSC 2003b).

## **O.2 RELEVANCE TO REPOSITORY PERFORMANCE**

The model for the prediction of the lifetime of the waste package in Yucca Mountain includes three modes of degradation. Two of these modes are general corrosion and localized corrosion (crevice corrosion). The occurrence of these modes of corrosion depends not only on the electrolyte composition and temperature of the environment in contact with the waste package but also on the *Ecorr* of the metal surface. The conditions that cause localized corrosion in Alloy 22 and Titanium Grade 7 (R52400) determine the lifetime of both the waste package outer shell and the drip shield. The third degradation mode is stress corrosion cracking, which is discussed in Section 9 of this technical basis document.

The values of *Ecorr* and *Ecrit* that are associated with Alloy 22 and Titanium Grade 7 in a series of electrolyte solutions determine the margin of safety against localized corrosion. If *Ecrit* less *Ecorr* (∆E ) is greater than 0, only passive corrosion is expected to occur. The larger the value of ∆E, the larger the margin of safety against the onset of localized corrosion. The values of *Ecorr* and *Ecrit* are measured independently of each other. The values of *Ecorr* and *Ecrit* depend on metallurgical variables, as well as on environmental variables, such as the electrolyte composition and the temperature. Together with the temperature, the electrolyte composition is one of the most important factors that may control the performance of the container regarding localized corrosion. It is important to characterize the opposing roles of aggressive species, such as chloride, and beneficial species, such as nitrate, to determine in which region of composition the alloys are expected to undergo localized corrosion (crevice corrosion).

This response addresses issues related to the performance of Alloy 22. The performance of Titanium Grade 7 is addressed in the response to CLST 6.01 (Appendix P).

## **O.3 RESPONSE**

The localized corrosion susceptibility of Alloy 22 is explained using two parameters or properties of the alloy:  $E_{corr}$  and  $E_{crit}$ .  $E_{corr}$  is the potential that a metal adopts when it is immersed in an electrolyte solution. *E<sub>crit</sub>* is a potential above which the metal suffers localized corrosion. If ∆E is greater than 0, the alloy is expected to undergo slow passive dissolution. However, if ∆E is 0 or less, it is possible that localized corrosion (mainly crevice corrosion) may develop if tight, occluded regions (crevices) are present on the surface of the alloy. The values of *Ecorr* and *Ecrit* are dependent on environmental variables, such as electrolyte composition, pH, temperature, and redox potential.

The values of *Ecorr* and *Ecrit* that Alloy 22 adopts when environmental and metallurgical variables, such as temperature, chloride concentration, presence of nitrate, weld seams, and thermally aged microstructures, are changed are summarized as follows:

- ΔE is positive for the behavior of Alloy 22 in simulated concentrated groundwater, such as simulated acidified water (SAW) and simulated concentrated water (SCW). Crevice corrosion was not observed in these solutions, even at temperatures near the boiling point.
- For pure 5 mol/L CaCl<sub>2</sub> brine at 120 $\degree$ C, Alloy 22 suffers both pitting and crevice corrosion at the *Ecorr* in aerated conditions. These consequences are predicted by the value of ∆E and are shown experimentally using potentiostatic tests and immersion tests at the free corrosion potential.
- Nitrate is a strong crevice corrosion inhibitor. The addition of nitrate to pure chloride brines increases the *Ecrit* of Alloy 22.
- Sulfate is an inhibitor for crevice corrosion but to a lesser degree than nitrate. Silicate is also an inhibitor, but to a lesser degree than sulfate. Alloy 22 is not susceptible to crevice corrosion in SCW solution, which contains nitrate, sulfate, carbonate, and silicate ions.
- Fluoride ions in pure form do not affect the resistance of Alloy 22 to localized corrosion. However, fluoride may cause chloride to become more aggressive for localized corrosion.
- Current studies in aggressive solutions show that welded Alloy 22 is not more susceptible to localized corrosion than the base wrought metal. Thermally aged material did not show an increased susceptibility to localized corrosion.
- The effect of heavy metals and microbially influenced corrosion (MIC) is small compared to other variables, such as chloride and temperature.

The information in this report is responsive to agreements CLST 1.10 and CLST 1.11 made between the DOE and NRC. The report contains the information that DOE considers necessary for NRC review for closure of these agreements.

## **O.4 BASIS FOR THE RESPONSE**

## **O.4.1 Corrosion Potential of Alloy 22**

When a metallic component is immersed in an electrolyte, it adopts a characteristic potential called the corrosion potential  $(E_{corr})$ . The value of  $E_{corr}$  depends on the type of electrolyte solution, temperature, the type of alloy, and its surface characteristics. The first item of CLST 1.10 specified that the *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 was going to be measured in the Long Term Corrosion Test Facility (LTCTF). To avoid disturbing the testing conditions of the other specimens housed in the LTCTF vessels, representative specimens, along with approximately 2 L of the initial solutions, were removed from the large vessels and transported to bench-top experiments. These were the initial six bench-top cells containing SAW, SCW, and simulated dilute water (SDW) at 60°C and 90°C. Later, these cells were expanded to include more than 30 different conditions of electrolyte composition, temperature, and metallurgical compositions. The electrolyte solutions include multi-ionic solutions simulating concentrated groundwater, such as SAW, SCW, SDW, and basic saturated water (BSW), as well as simpler solutions, such as oxalic acid, sodium fluoride, and several variations of chloride and nitrate brines. Testing temperatures range from ambient to 120°C. Metallurgical compositions of the specimens include: (1) mill-annealed rods and multiple crevice assemblies, (2) as-welded rods and multiple crevice assemblies, (3) welded plus aged rods, and (4) welded, welded plus aged, and blackannealed prism crevice assemblies. Tables O-1 and O-2 list some of the *Ecorr* values for Alloy 22, which were measured in aerated conditions for times of 1 year or longer. The *Ecorr* data in Tables O-1 and O-2 and Figure O-1 are qualitative for comparative or illustrative purposes only. These are not actual average values but trends that describe the *Ecorr* as low (active state or negative; e.g.,  $-200$  mV) or high (passive state of positive; e.g.,  $+400$  mV). The project has a larger set of data on *Ecorr* contained in DTNs: LL040402212251.084 and LL040402112251.083. DTN: LL040402112251.083 contains the evolution of each individual exposed electrode as a function of time for more than 100 electrodes for times as long as 3 years. This larger set of *Ecorr* data at various environments and temperatures is shown in Table O-3.





Source: DTNs: LL040402212251.084, LL040402112251.083.





Source: DTNs: LL040402212251.084, LL040402112251.083.

NOTE: Welded plus aged rods were heat treated for 173 hours at 700°C.



Source: DTN: LL040402212251.084.

Figure O-1. *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 and Platinum in Chloride and Chloride plus Nitrate Brines



# Table O-3. Long-Term Corrosion Potential Measurements



Table O-3. Long-Term Corrosion Potential Measurements (Continued)





# Table O-3. Long-Term Corrosion Potential Measurements (Continued)



#### Table O-3. Long-Term Corrosion Potential Measurements (Continued)

Source: Calculated compositions: DTN: LL030703723121.031; Measured compositions: DTN: LL031001023121.035; *Ecorr*, pH, and temperature from DTN: LL040402112251.083.

NOTE: Some values are rounded for the table.

Table O-1 shows that the steady-state *Ecorr* for Alloy 22 in the acidic SAW at 90°C was on the order of 400 mV versus Ag/AgCl and closer to the platinum electrode. The *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 in SAW increased slowly with time, and in approximately 3 months it reached the reported value and then remained steady for more than three years. Some of the cells in Table O-1 were tested for more than 1,000 days. The high anodic value of *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 in SAW indicates that the alloy is covered with a protective passive oxide film. In the alkaline solutions, such as SCW and BSW, the *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 rods is negative and approximately −200 mV (Table O-1). In the alkaline solutions, the values of *Ecorr* for Alloy 22 are lower than the values of *Ecorr* for platinum.

Table O-2 shows the *Ecorr* values for Alloy 22 and platinum in pure chloride solutions and in chloride solutions containing different amounts of nitrate additions. In the pure chloride solutions, *Ecorr* for mill-annealed Alloy 22 rods is negative, and it is assumed that the alloy remains active and free from passivation. The value of *Ecorr* for 4 mol/L NaCl solution at 90°C (Cell 18, Table O-2) is –160 mV versus Ag/AgCl, which is similar to the value of –150 mV versus saturated calomel electrode (SCE) reported for creviced Alloy 22 in 4 mol/L NaCl at 95°C (Dunn, Yang et al. 2003). When nitrate is added to the solutions, the *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 increases to anodic values (Table O-2, Figure O-1). In general, the higher the nitrate-to-chloride ratio, the higher the *Ecorr* (Figure O-1) values are. While as-welded and welded plus aged rods seem to reach the steady-state *Ecorr* values in less than 1 month, the *Ecorr* values for some millannealed Alloy 22 electrodes may take more than 1 year to stabilize. Table O-2 also shows that the *Ecorr* of welded plus aged rods had a higher *Ecorr* even in pure chloride solutions, indicating partial passivation.

The shift of *Ecorr* in time depends on the environmental conditions (including electrolyte composition and temperature). In most systems, *Ecorr* seems to be stable at testing times of 100 days (3 months). In some systems, the stabilization of *Ecorr* occurs in 1 week and in others (as in Cell 14 in Table O-2), it may take nearly a year. In some systems, the *Ecorr* value eventually reaches the laboratory-measured value of  $E<sub>crit</sub>$ . In the drift, this occurrence may indicate that the conditions for the onset of localized corrosion are present. However,  $\Delta E = 0$  is a necessary but not a sufficient condition. Some of the additional conditions are the presence of tight crevices and a strong cathodic reaction that would consume the electrons generated by the localized corrosion process. As discussed in Section O.4.3, even in a laboratory test (with an unlimited sink for electrons), crevice corrosion can be initiated but cannot be sustained.

## **O.4.2 Critical Potential of Alloy 22**

*Ecrit* is defined as a potential above which localized corrosion occurs. In general terms, localized corrosion could be crevice corrosion or pitting corrosion. The following three variables control the occurrence of localized corrosion: chloride concentration, temperature, and applied potential. The higher the values of these variables, the more susceptible the alloy is to localized corrosion. Alloy 22 is resistant to pitting corrosion but is susceptible to crevice corrosion under conditions of high temperature, high chloride concentration, and high applied potentials. The susceptibility of Alloy 22 to crevice corrosion also depends on the geometry (tightness) of the crevice and the crevicing material. At different chloride concentrations and temperatures, Alloy 22 has different values of *Ecrit*. The value of *Ecrit* can be measured using cyclic potentiodynamic polarization, according to ASTM G 61-86, *Standard Test Method for Conducting Cyclic Potentiodynamic Polarization Measurements for Localized Corrosion Susceptibility of Iron-, Nickel-, and Cobalt-* *Based Alloys*, or other methods, such as potentiostatic tests or the Tsujikawa Hisamatsu electrochemical method (Akashi et al. 1998). In the cyclic potentiodynamic polarization test, the potential starts in the vicinity of the open circuit potential and increases at a constant rate until a predetermined current density is attained. Then, the potential is decreased at the same rate until repassivation of the test specimen occurs. In the potentiostatic test, a fixed potential is applied and the output current density is monitored as a function of time. In the Tsujikawa Hisamatsu electrochemical test, a combination between potentiodynamic, galvanostatic, and potentiostatic treatments is applied to the test specimen. Figure O-2 shows a cyclic potentiodynamic polarization test for creviced Alloy 22 in a hot chloride solution showing several characteristic potentials from the curve. A popular method to assess  $E<sub>crit</sub>$  is to equate it to the repassivation potential in a cyclic potentiodynamic polarization curve (Figure O-2). The repassivation potential can be defined as ERCO (the potential at which the forward and reverse scan are intersected) or ER1 (the potential at which the reverse scan reaches a current density of 1 µA/cm²). Figure O-2 shows that the values of ER1 (−162 mV) and ERCO (−164 mV) are similar.



Source: DTN: LL040402212251.084.

Figure O-2. Cyclic Potentiodynamic Polarization of As-Welded Alloy 22 Multiple Crevice Assembly in 5 mol/L CaCl<sub>2</sub> at 90°C

Table O-4 shows that the repassivation potential (ER1) of creviced Alloy 22 in 5 mol/L CaCl<sub>2</sub> at 90°C for welded and base metal are about the same at approximately −180 mV. Table O-4 also shows that the repassivation potential measured using cyclic potentiodynamic polarization (ERCO) and Tsujikawa Hisamatsu electrochemical tests (ERCREV) are similar (−164 and −130 mV, respectively). The values of *Ecrit* obtained using cyclic potentiodynamic polarization

tests are slightly lower (more conservative) than the values obtained using Tsujikawa Hisamatsu electrochemical tests. In Table O-4, E20 and E200 are breakdown potentials and ER10, ER1, ERCO and ER,CREV are repassivation potentials. The potential used as *Ecrit* is ERCO. A larger set of critical potential data is shown in Table O-5.

<b>Specimen</b> ID	Type of Specimen and <b>Material</b>	$E_{corr,}$ 24 hours (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	E20 CPP (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	(mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	E200 CPP ER10 CPP (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	<b>ER1 CPP</b> (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	<b>ERCO</b> <b>CPP</b> (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	<b>ER,CREV</b> <b>THE</b> (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)
JE1607	MCA, Welded	$-345$	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	NA.	NA.	$-129$
JE1608	MCA, Welded	$-310$	<b>NA</b>	NA.	<b>NA</b>	NA.	NA.	$-127$
JE1628	MCA, Welded	$-344$	<b>NA</b>	NA.	<b>NA</b>	NA.	NA.	$-131$
JE1629	MCA, Welded	$-339$	<b>NA</b>	NA	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	$-125$
JE1630	MCA, Welded	$-340$	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	NA.	$-133$
JE1632	MCA, Welded	$-337$	<b>NA</b>	NA.	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	NA.	$-133$
<b>DEA3216</b>	MCA, Base	$-349$	105	128	$-136$	$-182$	$-200$	<b>NA</b>
<b>DEA3217</b>	MCA, Base	$-312$	47	130	$-115$	$-174$	$-129$	NA.
<b>DEA3218</b>	MCA, Base	$-368$	$-49$	151	$-147$	$-193$	$-141$	<b>NA</b>
DEA3219	MCA, Base	$-342$	146	175	$-113$	$-180$	$-148$	NA.
JE0037	MCA, Welded	$-253$	152	160	$-140$	$-184$	$-195$	NA.
JE0038	MCA, Welded	$-313$	129	175	$-138$	$-175$	$-163$	NA.
JE0039	MCA, Welded	$-286$	114	139	$-131$	$-181$	$-175$	NA.
JE1635	MCA, Welded	-335	71	88	$-142$	$-162$	$-164$	NA.
Avg. $\pm \sigma$	NA	$-327 + 28$	$89 + 62$	143 ±27	$-133 \pm 12$	$-179±8$	$-164 + 23$	$-130 \pm 3$

Table O-4. Repassivation Potential for Alloy 22 Measured Using Cyclic Potentiodynamic Polarization and Tsujikawa Hisamatu Electrochemical Methods

Source: DTN: LL040402212251.084.

NOTE: THE = Tsujikawa Hisamatsu electrochemical method; CPP = cyclic potentiodynamic polarization method; MCA = multiple crevice assembly.









<b>Specimen</b> ID	<b>Data</b> <b>File</b> <b>Prefix</b>	Electrolyte	pH <b>Initial</b>	<b>Test</b> Temp. $(^{\circ}C)$	$E_{corr}$ 24 hr (mV)	ER <sub>1</sub> (V vs. Ag/AgCl) at $10^{-6}$ Acm <sup>-2</sup>	<b>ERCO</b> (V vs. Ag/AgCl)
JE3279	SKG84	12 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 6 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	130	274	N/A	N/A
JE3280	SKG85	18 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 2.7 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	160	51	0.174	0.239
JE3281	SKG86	18 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 9 mol/kg Ca( $NO3$ ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	160	441	0.698	N/A
JE3282	SKG87	18 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 0.9 mol/kg Ca( $NO3$ ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	160	$-1$	0.007	0.007
JE3283	SKG88	18 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 2.7 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	160	36	0.067	0.064
JE3284	SKG89	10 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 0.5 mol/kg Ca( $NO3$ ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	100	$-238$	$-0.042$	$-0.041$
JE3285	SKG90	10 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 1.5 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	100	$-198$	0.009	0.018
JE3287	SKG92	10 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub> + 5 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	N/A	100	$-89$	0.691	N/A
JE3288	SKG93	0.01 mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.78	80	$-555$	0.069	0.044
JE3289	SKG94	0.01 mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NAHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.78	80	$-611$	0.328	N/A
JE3290	SKG95	0.1 mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NAHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.62	80	$-271$	$-0.040$	$-0.092$
JE3291	SKG96	$0.1$ mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.62	80	$-637$	0.032	0.014
JE3292		SKG101 22.5 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> + 0.225 mol/kg MgCl <sub>2</sub>	N/A	145	243	0.593	N/A
JE3293	SKG97	0.01 mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.78	95	$-710$	$-0.021$	$-0.023$
JE3294	SKG98	0.01 mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.78	95	$-238$	0.041	0.028
JE3295	SKG99	$0.1$ mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NAHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.62	95	$-441$	$-0.097$	$-0.132$
JE3296		SKG100 0.1 mol/kg NaCl + 0.001 mol/kg NAHCO <sub>3</sub>	7.62	95	$-223$	$-0.077$	$-0.133$
JE3297		SKG102 22.5 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> + 0.225 mol/kg MgCl <sub>2</sub>	N/A	145	624	0.791	0.781
JE3298		SKG104 15 mol/kg $Ca(NO3)2 + 1.5$ mol/kg $CaCl2$	N/A	125	348	N/A	N/A
JE3299		SKG105 15 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> + 1.5 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub>	N/A	125	357	0.709	0.740
JE3300		SKG103 5 mol/kg Ca(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> + 5 mol/kg CaCl <sub>2</sub>	$2.37$ <sup>*</sup>	100	116	0.558	N/A

Table O-5. Critical Potential Measurements (24 hours) (Continued)

Source: DTNs: LL040307212251.080 (pH and temperature data); LL040402212251.084 (all other data).

NOTE: Tests were run on welded samples, with multiple crevice assembly specimen geometry, and SiC 600 grit surface preparation. Open-circuit potential measured at 24th hour of exposure.

## **O.4.3 Margin of Safety for Alloy 22**

Table O-6 shows the 24-hour and the long-term  $E_{corr}$  for Alloy 22 in pure NaCl and CaCl<sub>2</sub> solutions and in solutions containing oxyanions, such as sulfate, silicate, and nitrate. Table O-6 also shows the *Ecrit* potential for localized corrosion (ERCO) and the ∆E values. Table O-6 shows that when tests were carried out in hot concentrated and pure chloride solutions, the margin against localized corrosion is small. When Alloy 22 mill-annealed rods were removed from Cell 8 (Table O-2) after more than 600 days of testing, all five specimens showed pitting corrosion. The *Ecorr* of these rods was steady at −130 mV versus Ag/AgCl (Tables O-2 and O-6). The pits were covered with a glassy black oxide and appeared to be nonactive. Studies are underway to determine the extent of this pitting corrosion. In another test (Cell 20, Table O-2), mill-annealed and as-welded multiple crevice assembly specimens were removed from testing after 200 days. Both specimens exhibited crevice corrosion. The *Ecorr* of both specimens was

−100 mV. These tests show that localized corrosion can be initiated in bulk-aerated concentrated  $CaCl<sub>2</sub>$  brines at high temperature (120 $^{\circ}$ C). Rod specimens (mill-annealed, as-welded, and welded plus aged) were removed from Cell 18 (aerated 4 mol/L NaCl at 90°C, Table O-2) after more than 300 days of testing. None of these noncreviced rods showed any type of localized corrosion, in spite of the fact that Table O-6 shows that ∆E could be near 0 for mill-annealed creviced specimens. Table O-6 also shows that when nitrate is added to hot concentrated brines (NaCl and CaCl<sub>2</sub>), the  $\Delta E$  becomes positive, which is a condition that inhibits localized corrosion.





Source: DTN: LL040402212251.084.

NOTE: All the specimens were creviced except for the rods.

Constant potential tests of creviced specimens in 5 mol/L CaCl<sub>2</sub> solution at 120 $\degree$ C for 1 week (168 hours) showed that Alloy 22 was susceptible to crevice corrosion at −100 mV versus Ag/AgCl but did not suffer localized attack at −200 mV, confirming the results from the long-term *Ecorr* tests in Table O-6.

## **O.4.4 Inhibitive Effect of Nitrate for Alloy 22**

Nitrate is a strong inhibitor of localized corrosion in hot chloride solutions (Kehler et al. 2001; Dunn and Brossia 2002; Evans and Rebak 2002; Evans et al. 2003). Figure O-3 shows the cyclic potentiodynamic polarization curves for mill-annealed Alloy 22 in concentrated CaCl<sub>2</sub> solution at 130°C and the effect of adding nitrate (Evans et al. 2003). The passive current density of Alloy 22 in the nitrate-containing solution was lower than in the pure  $CaCl<sub>2</sub>$  solution (Figure O-3). The presence of nitrate also raised the breakdown potential and the repassivation potential. Figure O-4 shows the average 24-hour *Ecorr* and the repassivation potentials (ER1) for Alloy 22 in 5 mol/L CaCl<sub>2</sub> and 5 mol/L CaCl<sub>2</sub> + 0.5 mol/L Ca(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> as a function of the temperature (Evans et al. 2003). For the temperature range 60°C to 120°C, ER1 for nitratecontaining solutions was higher than for pure chloride solutions (Figure O-4). The difference of ER1 less the *Ecorr* (∆E) was positive for all temperatures, both for pure chloride solutions and solutions containing nitrate, even though this difference was larger for those containing nitrate

(Figure O-4). For example, at 90°C, ∆E was approximately 800 mV for the nitrate-containing brine and approximately 200 mV for the pure chloride solution.



Source: Evans et al. 2003, Figure 10.

Figure O-3. Effect of Nitrate on the Anodic Polarization of Alloy 22



Source: Evans et al. 2003, Figure 13.

Figure O-4. Effect of Nitrate on the Repassivation Potential of Alloy 22

Tests were conducted to study the effect of nitrate in Cl<sup>−</sup> electrolytes on the critical potential for localized corrosion of Alloy 22 in several solutions containing different amounts of NaCl and KNO<sub>3</sub> (Table O-7). The salts were mixed with  $NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/Cl<sup>-</sup>$  ratios of 0.05, 0.15, and 0.5. The testing temperatures were 60°C, 80°C, and 100°C (Table O-7). Results show the beneficial effect of nitrate on inhibiting localized corrosion in Alloy 22. It was also shown that the ratio of NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/Cl<sup>−</sup> and temperature have the dominant effect on the repassivation potential of Alloy 22. The absolute Cl<sup>−</sup> concentration has a lower effect on the repassivation potential compared with temperature and the  $NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>/Cl<sup>-</sup>$  ratio (Table O-7 and Figure O-5). Figure O-5 contains both the average repassivation potential data (lines) and the actual values (symbols). On the other hand, Table O-7 shows only the average values.



Table O-7. Testing Matrix for the Effect of Chloride, Nitrate, and Temperature on the Repassivation Potential for As-Welded Multiple Crevice Assembly Alloy 22 Specimens Measured Using the Cyclic Potentiodynamic Polarization Method

Source: DTN: LL040402212251.084.



Source: DTN: LL040402212251.084.

- NOTE: The higher the relative amount of nitrate, the higher the ER1. There is little effect of the total amount of chloride.
- Figure O-5. Repassivation Potential (ER1) for Alloy 22 as a Function of [NO<sub>3</sub>]/[Cl<sup>-</sup>] Ratio at 1.0, 3.5, and 6.0 molal  $\overline{\text{[CI]}}$  at 100 $^{\circ} \text{C}$

Potentiostatic tests were conducted in creviced specimens of Alloy 22 exposed to concentrated brines containing chloride and nitrate. For example, a constant potential of +100 mV versus Ag/AgCl was applied to a specimen immersed in 6 mol/kg NaCl + 0.9 mol/kg KNO<sub>3</sub> at 100<sup>o</sup>C. The specimen suffered crevice corrosion, but the current emanating from the crevice peaked early in the test and then decreased because the crevice corrosion propagation slowed down or stifled. More detailed studies are underway to determine crevice corrosion susceptibility using potentiostatic tests. Results from another test conducted in  $3.5 \text{ mol/kg}$  NaCl + 0.525 mol/kg KNO<sub>3</sub> at 100 $\degree$ C and at +100 mV versus Ag/AgCl also showed crevice corrosion. These two tests confirm that crevice corrosion will initiate when the applied constant potential is above the repassivation potential (ER1) in Table O-7 and Figure O-5. The presence of nitrate in the drift is highly beneficial because it counteracts the aggressive nature of chloride in hot solutions.

### **O.4.5 Inhibitive Effect of Sulfate for Alloy 22**

The effect of sulfate  $(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2</sup>)$  ions on localized corrosion (crevice corrosion) of Alloy 22 was studied for the wrought (base or mill-annealed) condition in 4 mol/L NaCl, 4 mol/L NaCl + 0.4 mol/L Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and 4 mol/L NaCl + 0.04 mol/L Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> between 45<sup>o</sup>C and 105<sup>o</sup>C using multiple crevice assembly specimens in cyclic potentiodynamic polarization tests. Alloy 22 was susceptible to localized corrosion in 4 mol/L NaCl, 4 mol/L NaCl +  $0.04$  mol/L Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and 4 mol/L NaCl + 0.4 mol/L Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> between 45°C and 105°C under anodic polarization conditions. The presence of sulfate slightly increased the resistance of Alloy 22 to crevice corrosion. A higher beneficial effect of sulfate was observed for the higher concentration (0.4 mol/L). The presence of sulfate increased the breakdown potentials at all the tested temperatures and increased the repassivation potentials (ERCO) at 60°C (Figure O-6). There was no improvement in the repassivation potentials at 75°C and higher temperatures (Figure O-6). It is likely that the aggressive effect of the higher temperature overshadowed the beneficial effect of adding sulfate. Localized damage under the crevice former was initiated as small pits, and these pits later coalesced to form shallow trenches. When sulfate was present, crevice corrosion produced smaller pits in the areas of local damage (under the crevice former). As the level of aggressiveness of the environment increased, crevice corrosion tended to proceed away from the crevice formers toward the noncreviced area. The presence of sulfate in the drift may be of no consequence for the lifetime of the waste package in the drift.



Source: DTNs: LL040402212251.084; LL040500312251.087.

NOTE: The inhibitive effect of sulfate is more evident at the intermediate temperature.

Figure O-6. Repassivation Potential for Alloy 22 in Pure NaCl Solution in NaCl + Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> Solutions as a Function of the Temperature

#### **O.4.6 Effect of Carbonate for Alloy 22**

Many studies have been conducted on the anodic behavior of Alloy 22 in SCW solution, which is approximately 1,000 times more concentrated than J-13 well water from a well near Yucca Mountain. SCW is rich in carbonate oxyanions (as well as nitrate, sulfate, and silicate) but also contains chloride and fluoride anions. Cyclic potentiodynamic polarization and Tsujikawa Hisamatsu electrochemical tests of creviced Alloy 22 specimens did not show any evidence of

crevice corrosion, even at 100°C. Table O-1 shows that *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 in SCW is approximately −200 mV versus Ag/AgCl. When polarized anodically, Alloy 22 shows an intermediate anodic peak in SCW at 90°C at approximately +350 mV versus Ag/AgCl (i.e., the margin of safety ∆E is on the order of 500 mV), which is significant.

### **O.4.7 Effect of Fluoride for Alloy 22**

Initial data have been collected to investigate the effect of fluoride on the breakdown and repassivation potentials for localized corrosion. The localized corrosion behavior of Alloy 22 was studied by using multiple crevice assembly specimens using cyclic potentiodynamic polarization in 1 mol/L NaCl, 1 mol/L NaF, and 0.5 mol/L NaCl + 0.5 mol/L NaF solutions at 60°C and 90°C (Meck et al. 2003; Day et al. 2003). Figure O-7 shows the cyclic potentiodynamic polarization curves for multiple crevice assembly Alloy 22 in the three electrolytes at 90°C. The lowest passive current density corresponded to the 1 mol/L NaF solution. Observations from the tested specimens in 1 mol/L NaCl showed that, at 90°C, they suffered crevice corrosion, while at 60°C, they suffered only transpassive dissolution due to the high applied potentials. None of the multiple crevice assembly specimens tested in 1 mol/L NaF at 60°C and 90°C suffered crevice corrosion. The only mode of corrosion was border corrosion (outside the crevice formers) and transpassive dissolution. For the Alloy 22 tested in the halide mixture  $(0.5 \text{ mol/L NaCl} + 0.5 \text{ mol/L NaF})$ , most of the specimens suffered crevice corrosion, both at 60°C and 90°C, besides border corrosion and transpassive dissolution. The presence of crevice corrosion in the samples tested in halide mixtures is noteworthy, considering the cyclic potentiodynamic polarization curves at both temperatures showed little or no hysteresis (Meck et al. 2003). The depth of attack at 90°C was more severe in 0.5 mol/L NaF + 0.5 mol/L NaCl than in 1 mol/L NaC1, even though there was less surface per unit area damaged by crevice corrosion. The data available are limited to fully quantify the effect of fluoride, not only in the presence of chloride but of oxyanions, such as nitrate, sulfate, and carbonate. However, as discussed in Section O.4.6, no localized corrosion was observed for Alloy 22 in SCW for temperatures up to 100°C. SCW solution contains 1,400 ppm fluoride and 6,700 ppm chloride. Fluoride is not an influencing anion that impacts the performance of the waste package outer shell. Fluoride forms insoluble salts (e.g., with calcium); therefore, its availability in the drift is limited. The most important anions are chloride (aggressive) and nitrate (inhibitor).



Source: Day et al. 2003, Figure 8.

Figure O-7. Cyclic Potentiodynamic Polarization of Alloy 22 Multiple Crevice Assembly in Deaerated 1 mol/L NaF, 1 mol/L NaCl and 0.5 mol/L NaF + 0.5 mol/L NaCl at 90°C

### **O.4.8 Effect of Metallurgical Condition on the Critical Potentials for Localized Corrosion of Alloy 22**

Comprehensive studies have been carried out in  $5 \text{ mol/L}$  CaCl<sub>2</sub> to investigate the effect of welding on the susceptibility of Alloy 22 to localized corrosion. Figure O-8 shows that the characteristic potentials for both as-welded and mill-annealed specimens are practically the same. The welded and nonwelded specimens were prepared from thick (greater than 1 in.) plates. After the tests, the specimens showed similar localized corrosion in the base metal and in the welded seam. In many cases, the corrosion attack was more pronounced in the base metal than in the weld seam. Evaluation of the susceptibility of welded and mill-annealed Alloy 22 to crevice corrosion in less concentrated chloride solutions (below 0.1 mol/L chloride) also showed that both welded and base metal materials seem to have the same resistance to attack. Similar behavior was also reported at 95°C for NaCl solutions (Dunn, Cragnolino et al. 2004, Figure 5).



Source: DTNs: LL040402212251.084; LL030400112251.043; LL030406212251.044.

NOTE: E<sub>rp2</sub> in the figure is ERCO.

Figure O-8. Average Critical Potentials for Breakdown of the Repassivation Potential and the Corrosion Potential as a Function of Temperature for Wrought (Mill-Annealed) and As-Welded Multiple Crevice Assembly Alloy 22 in 5 mol/L CaCl<sub>2</sub>

Table O-8 shows a few data on the effects of welding and thermal aging. The thermal aging was carried out at 700°C for 173 hours. In this aged condition, the microstructure of Alloy 22 will have grain boundaries fully decorated with topologically closed packed precipitates. Table O-8 shows very little difference in the anodic behavior between as-welded and welded plus aged materials. As-welded and welded plus aged materials have similar *Ecorr* in both solutions (Table O-8). The welded plus aged material seems to have a slightly lower breakdown (E200) and repassivation (ER1) potential than the as-welded material, especially in the solution that contains nitrate. Corroborative tests on the effect of thermal aging in conditions less aggressive than those listed in Table O-8 are planned. Current studies are also underway to study the effect of black annealing and water quenching (after welding) on the localized corrosion resistance of Alloy 22. It has been reported that solution annealing of the welds at 1,125°C for 15 minutes reduces the repassivation potential of Alloy 22 as compared to the as-welded material (Dunn, Cragnolino et al. 2004, Figure 5). The fact that it was reported that solution heat-treated welds may be more susceptible to crevice corrosion than as welded material needs to be corroborated. Nevertheless, solution annealing does not decrease the repassivation potential to an extent limiting the lifetime of the waste package.

It is apparent from the current results that the welded material is not more susceptible to crevice corrosion than the base metal. That is, the fact that the waste package outer shell will be welded is not a limiting factor for the performance of the waste package.

Electrolyte	<b>Metallurgical</b> <b>Condition</b>	24-hour $E_{corr}$ (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	E200 (mV vs. Ag/AgCl)	ER <sub>1</sub> (mV vs. Ag/AgCI)
5 mol/L CaCl <sub>2</sub> , $120^{\circ}$ C	As-welded	$-353, -376$	$21, -112$	-192, -253
	Welded plus aged	$-329. -333$	$-134, -134$	$-251, -223$
mol/L $CaCl2 + 1$ mol/L	As-welded	$-310, -225$	585, 620	351, 359
$Ca(NO3)2$ , 105°C	Welded plus aged	$-296, -276$	583, 576	193, 208

Table O-8. Effects of Thermal Aging of Alloy 22 on Characteristic Potentials from Cyclic Potentiodynamic **Polarization** 

## **O.4.9 Heavy Metals Effects**

Trace amount of elements, such as lead, arsenic, and mercury, may be present in underground water. The amount of these elements is expected to be negligible since most of them develop insoluble salts with many of the anions available in groundwater.

The effect of lead on the corrosion behavior of Alloy 22 has been studied, both with respect to its effect on localized corrosion and in regard to its influence on environmentally assisted cracking (Estill et al. 2002; Pan et al. 2003; Andresen et al. 2004). Lead had no influence on environmentally assisted cracking (Andresen et al. 2004). Lead only produced increased passive corrosion of Alloy 22 at high concentrations of lead chloride (PbCl<sub>2</sub>) and at a pH level of  $0.5$ (Pan et al. 2003). Andresen et al. (2004) found that the addition of 100 ppm lead as  $Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>$  to 95°C dilute BSW solution decreased the *Ecorr* of Alloy 22 after 341 days of exposure from –195 mV (SCE) to –263 mV (SCE). Therefore, the lifetime of the waste package will not be limited by the presence of lead.

The presence of arsenic may promote hydrogen uptake by the metal by poisoning the atomic hydrogen recombination reaction. However, nickel alloys are not very susceptible to hydrogen embrittlement. Therefore, the lifetime of the waste package will not be limited by the presence of arsenic.

The effect of mercury was not studied, due to the absence of mercury in Yucca Mountain environments and because mercury salts are rather insoluble.

## **O.4.10 Effect of Microbially Influenced Corrosion**

One of the many environmental factors that may affect the corrosion performance of an alloy for repository application is microbial activity, which is generally referred to as MIC. MIC is discussed in detail separately in the response to CLST 1.02 (Appendix I). The effect of microorganism activity could be detrimental (as a promoter) to the resistance of the alloy to corrosion. Nickel and titanium alloys, in general, are not highly influenced by MIC (BSC 2003a; BSC 2003b). There are three possible ways by which MIC could affect the corrosion performance of Alloy 22: (1) increasing the general corrosion rate at *Ecorr*, (2) increasing the *E<sub>corr</sub>* by producing oxidizing species or by promoting the formation of a passivating oxide film

on the alloy, and (3) decreasing the critical potential for localized corrosion (e.g., the breakdown potential, E200, or the repassivation potential, ER1). Currently, there is no published evidence that MIC significantly changes corrosion potentials of Alloy 22 in repository relevant environments. This is also corroborated by the LTCTF data described in response to CLST 1.02 (Appendix I, Section 1.4.3) and discussed below.

Corrosion testing of Alloy 22 and titanium specimens has been ongoing for more than 5 years at the LTCTF at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. The tests are being conducted in concentrated brines. While the solutions were not initially sterilized, they were intermittently exposed to ambient air. As a result, there was a potential for the establishment of a microbial community in the test solutions. Indeed, characterization of the solutions showed the presence of heat-tolerant and desiccation-tolerant organisms in the 60°C SDW (pH  $\sim$  10) and SAW (pH  $\sim$  3) which is brine concentrated  $100 \times$  more than SDW. No active microorganisms were detected in the tanks at 90°C. Heat- and desiccation-tolerant microorganisms were also found in the repository rock samples. It is therefore possible to apply the results of the LTCTF results in a microbe-containing environment to that expected in the repository.

Results of corrosion rate measurements on the 5-year exposed specimens showed that the rates were very low (10 nm/yr and lower) for all specimen configurations (creviced versus uncreviced), exposure environments and material conditions (welded versus base metal). Effects of temperature difference between 90°C (without microbes) and 60°C (with microbes) were also not discernible. These results indicate that the effects of the presence of microbes in the test solutions had no deleterious effects on general corrosion rates. Therefore, the lifetime of the waste package will not be limited by the presence of microbial activity.

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## **O.5.2 Codes, Standards, and Regulations**

ASTM G 61-86. *Standard Test Method for Conducting Cyclic Potentiodynamic Polarization Measurements for Localized Corrosion Susceptibility of Iron-, Nickel- and Cobalt-Based Alloys.* West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania: American Society for Testing and Materials. TIC: 256008.

### **O.5.3 Data, Listed by Data Tracking Number**

LL030400112251.043. Electrochemical Behavior of Multiple Crevice Assembly (MCA) Alloy 22 Specimens in 5M CaCl<sub>2</sub>. Submittal date: 04/07/2003.

LL030406212251.044. Alloy 22 in 5M CaCl<sub>2</sub> at  $75C$ —Supplemental. Submittal date: 04/08/2003.

LL030703723121.031. Conversion of Corrosion Testing Solutions from Molar to Molal Concentration Units. Submittal date: 07/10/2003.

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