

Susquehanna Siphon and Vent Block Leak

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Division of Spent Fuel Management
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Susquehanna spent fuel loading campaign – Nov. 2014

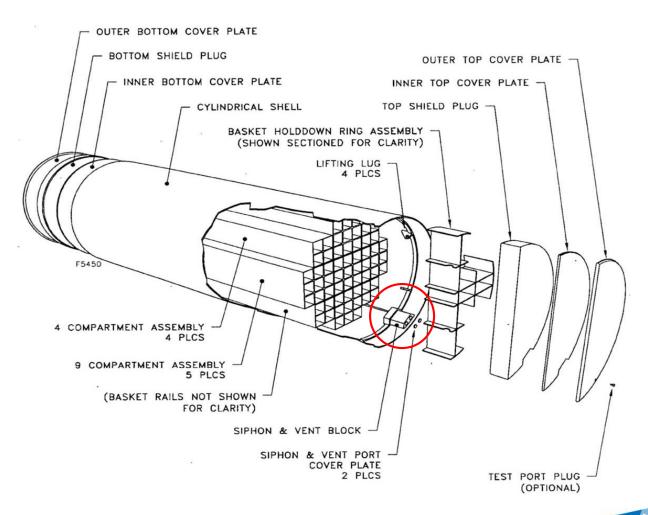


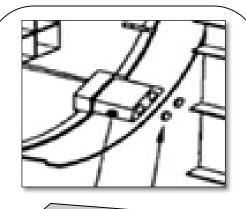
- NUHOMS 61BTH Type 1 dry shielded canisters (DSCs)
- During closure operations on one DSC, a liquid penetrant examination of a closure weld identified indications in the base metal of the syphon and vent block

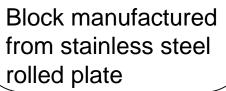


NUHOMS 61BTH Type 1 DSC









Indications after welding the port covers







PT examination identified six rejectable indications per the ASME Code – these areas were excavated to bring into Code compliance

Leak discovery and repair

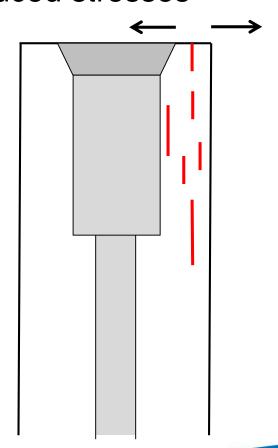


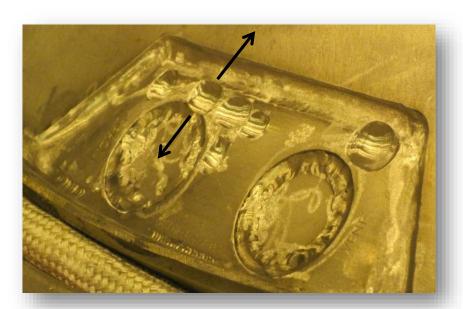
- Subsequent helium leak testing identified leaks in two of the excavations
- Base metal buildups were performed on the six excavations and a 1/8th inch weld overlay was deposited over the entire repaired region
- This area ultimately passed liquid penetrant and helium leak testing
- The DSC met all the Technical Specification requirements before being placed on the ISFSI pad

Identified root cause



 Material separation at plate inclusions due to weldinduced stresses

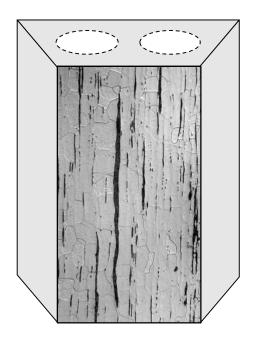




Rolled plate inclusions







Elongated in rolling direction

Extent of Condition



- Four other canisters had their siphon/vent blocks fabricated from the same lot of rolled plate as the subject DSC
 - Two previously had been successfully loaded, passing liquid penetrant and leak tests
 - For the two unused canisters, planned actions included:
 - Placing a weld overlay on the siphon/vent block of one canister
 - Returning the other canister to the manufacturer



Some considerations going forward



- Use of forged material rather than rolled plates
- Use of weld overlays
- Adjustments in welding practice to reduce stresses

More Information

 NRC ISFSI Inspection Report No. 07200028/2014002, June 24, 2015 (ML15175A212)

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