Curlin Air





AIR-COUPLED COMPOSITE BOND TESTER





Carbon fiber skins with honeycomb core



Metal skins with foam core



Glass fiber skins with wood core



Plastic-to-foam welds



Multi- core sandwich



Foam

Introduction

The Curlin-Air is a non-contact, air-coupled and through transmission ultrasonic flaw detector. The very low transducer frequency of 50 kHz allows penetration and thus inspection of highly attenuative materials, which cannot be inspected with traditional ultrasonic equipment. Further, the instrument does not require any surface preparation and can penetrate up to 6 inches (150mm) of foam, honeycomb, wood or other materials with a high air/volume ratio and can detect potential anomalies.

Operating Principle

A transmitting and receiving probe are positioned on opposite sides of the material under test by means of a mechanical yoke which keeps the two probes both aligned and at constant distance from another at all times. This ensures that any signal fluctuation is caused by a change of the acoustic attenuation of the material under test, which in turn indicates a material anomaly. The instrument live display shows instantly is the sound path is interrupted by a defect in the material. Available flaw gates and alarms can be programmed and stored for each application.



NDT Systems Inc., a Nova Instruments company



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Applications			
Material Under Test	Industry	Application	Nature of Defect
Carbon-Fiber with honeycomb	Aerospace	Control surfaces, thrust	Skin-to-core disbonds, damaged
core sandwich		reversers, cargo doors	core
Metal skin with foam core	Construction	Building safety: Construction of	Voids in the foam core
sandwich		fire doors and walls	
Drywall	Construction	Drywall	Inspection for material integrity
Multi-core sandwich	Marine	Increased impact resistance and	Inspection for skin-to-core and
		safety	core-to-core disbonds
Carbon-Carbon bond	Space	Heat shields	Delaminations, disbonds
Fiberglass skin with foam core	Leisure	Surfboards	Inspection for cracks, voids,
			crushed cores





Technical Specifications			
General	Package	Curlin Air unit, NiMH batteries, AC charger (110-240V), User manual, COC, Pelican Case	
	Display	Sun readable VGA 60Hz 640 x 480 pixels 4.55in x 3.4in (116mm x 86mm)	
	Dimensions	10.20in x 5.75in x 4.50in, 6.3lbs 259mm x 146mm x 114mm, 2.9kg	
	Power source	Field-replaceable rechargeable NiMH batteries (autonomy of 8 hours) or AC power	
	Operating temp	32 F - 122 F (0 °C to 50 °C)	
	Storage temp	-4 F - 140 F (-20 °C to 60 °C)	
	Connector type	Dual BNC	
	Units	Inch/mm	
Transducer Transmitter type Receiver type Receiver type	Transmitter type	AT1 – Standard transmitter 1.5in (38mm) DIA	
	Receiver type	AT1 – Standard receiver 1.5in (38mm) DIA	
		AT2 – Special receiver 0.25in (6.4mm) DIA	
	Frequency	50 kHz	
	Display modes	RF, -HW, +HW, FW	
Performance Thickness range Velocity range Delay range Pulse length Gates	Thickness range	1in – 120in (0.025m to 3m) in air	
	Velocity range	0.005 in/μs – 0.750 in/μs (0.13 to 19.05mm/μs)	
	Delay range	0in to 199in (0m to 5.05m) in air	
	Pulse length	1 – 25 adjustable cycles in tone-burst	
	Gates	Fully adjustable amplitude or distance gates	
	Gain	0 to 115dB	
	PRF	6 – 125 Hz	
Bandwidth Alarm		Narrow or Wide	
		Visual and auditable alarm modes	
Storage	User setups	Up to 50 user setups or screen shots	

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