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Contract Number: DTRS56-04-T-0011

Prepared for: U.S. Department of Transportation OPS Research and Development

Project Title: Optimizing Weld Integrity for X80 and X100 Linepipe

Prepared by: Edison Welding Institute, Inc., Columbus, OH 43221

Quarterly period ending: January 5, 2005 {effective date: October 5, 2005}

Objectives: The major objectives of this program are as follows: (1) To provide a better understanding of the factors that control strength and toughness in high strength girth welds. (2) To develop optimized welding consumables and welding procedures for high strength pipelines. (3) To develop best practice guidelines for the welding of high strength pipelines. (4) To disseminate best practice information to the pipeline industry. (5) To enable high integrity girth welds to be more reliably and economically achieved in high strength pipelines.

- Technical Status

- Initiated technical work under Tasks 1 and 2.
- (Tasks 1, 2 & 3) -- A detailed overall work scope for the three organizations performing the technical work, namely EWI, EWI Microalloying and Cranfield University, has been prepared. This will form the basis of two subcontracts that will be issued by EWI to EWI Microalloying and Steve Blackman (See Comments section). This scope of work will be discussed in the next teleconference to ensure that the anticipated results will be in line with ongoing work at partner organizations like El Paso Pipeline Group, and TransCanada Pipelines.