

**Public Page:**

Date of Report: February 4, 2006

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

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Quarterly period ending: January 31, 2006 {effective date: October 5, 2004}

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

- Task 1: Review of X80 and X100 Pipeline Welding
  - The report is currently being finalized and will be available for submission to PHMSA on or before February 4, 2006 (per schedule).
- Task 2: Development of Best Practice X80 Welding Guidelines
  - This task is complete and the task report has been uploaded to the PHMSA website.
- Task 3: Development of Optimized Welding Consumables and Procedures for X100 Pipelines
  - A list of eight filler wire compositions was finalized by the project team and provided to Miller/Hobart last quarter. The selections were based upon the YS Vs Cooling Time and the YS/UTS Vs Cooling Time predictions from the NN model. Miller/Hobart is planning to deliver the consumables in February 2006.
  - A detailed statement-of-work (SoW) for CRC-Evans has been prepared by EWI and reviewed by TransCanada, BP and CANMET to undertake the pipeline welding using aforementioned consumables. CRC-Evans is currently reviewing the SoW – a teleconference will be arranged between EWI, project team members and CRC-Evans for clarifying aspects of SoW.

- Business Status

- An abstract was submitted to the upcoming International Pipeline Conference to be held in Calgary, BC (Canada). The companion paper will be published in the conference proceedings. No changes to report this quarter.