2002

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#### Spot Welded - Guide Tube 가

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## Evaluation of weldability of the spot-welded guide tube for advanced nuclear fuel

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SRA ZIRLO Guide Thimble (SW ZLO S), RXA Zircaloy - 4 Tube Sleeve Sleeve (SW Zry S) SRA Zircaloy - 4 Guide Thimble RXA Zircaloy - 4 가 Grid TIG (TW Zry G) (SW Zry G) Spot SW ZLO S (1800 kgf) TIG Zircaloy - 4 (1400 kgf) TIG spot martensite spot TIG Widmannstatten SW Zry S crack 가 crack

#### Abstract

The weldabilities of the spot-welded SRA Zirlo thimble/sleeve (SW ZLO S) and of the spotwelded RXA Zircaloy-4 tube/sleeve (SW Zry S) were evaluated. The welding performance of the SRA Zircaloy-4 guide thimble and RXA Zircaloy-4 grid welded by TIG- and spot-welding (TW Zry G and SW Zry G) methods were also evaluated. The SW ZLO S specimen showed higher welding strength than TW Zry G specimen. The spot-welded sample also showed a different corrosion behavior to the TIG-welded one. It would be attributed to the difference of microstructures in the both samples; the spot-welding provides very fine martensite structure whereas the TIG-welding reveals a little large Widmannstatten structure.

PLUS7 SRA ZIRLO Guide 가 Thimble SRA ZIRLO Sleeve (KSNP) SRA Zircaloy - 4 Tube RXA Zircaloy - 4 가 Sleeve , 가 . data base SRA Zircaloy - 4 Guide RXA Z Zircaloy - 4 Grid TIG Thimble 가 가 4가 , 가 . As-built , 700 ppm Li 18.9 Mpa, 360°C SEM 6 OM Ν Cu , , 가 ТЕМ . 2. . Sleeve Mandrel Grid grip , . DTU - 900MLCD10T 10ton 가 0.2% , Stress - Strain Curve UTM - 200F . static autoclave ASTM G2 - 81 360°C(18.9 MPa) 700 ppm LiOH 70 ppm LiOH 6 . 700 ppm LiOH 가 . 1200 HF 10% + HNO<sub>3</sub> 45% +  $H_2O$  45% (grinding) SEM swab etching .

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Fig. 1

As-built 700 ppm Li 6 Fig. 1 Spot Welding Thin Sleeve , for PLUS 7 Design (SW ZLO S ), TIG Welding for the KSNP Design (TW Zry G ) Spot Welding for the KSNP Design(SW Zry G ) TIG 가 spot 가 Spot Welding for 17X17 Design (SW Zry S . ) 700 ppm Li 6 가 35% 가 Fig. 2. SW Zry S

### . (hydride) (HAZ) stress가

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45° 200µm stress crack crack tube 1/2 가 sleeve tube . crevice 23 µm 가 가 hydride 가 3

. Metallurgical Test

(1) SEM 가 가 (2000) EDX Fig. 3 43.1 40 At% Zr 8%, Cu 가 3.9% Cu Cu Cu spectrum c) 2.6% Cu .

3%

Cu 4 atomic% Ν 3.3 at% (3) ZIRLO Guide Thimble ZIRLO Thin Sleeve Fig. 4 . (a) (c) SRA ZIRLO sleeve, weld 가 SRA ZIRLO tube 가 weld 가 . weld 가 가 weld 가 HAZ 가 . HAZ (d) (h) Martensite (b) (f) . 가 . 가 Martensite . (g) (e) (HAZ) SRA Zircaloy - 4 Guide Thimble RXA Zircaloy - 4 grid Fig.5 TIG . (a) grid RXA HAZ RXA( (b) ) . (c), (d), (e) (f) . 가 가 . (g) SRA guide thimble HAZ guide thimble . (i) grid 가 grid . (h) (j) guide SRA thimble SRA Zircaloy - 4 Guide Thimble RXA Zircaloy - 4 grid ΤIG grid TIG grid guide thimble . RXA Zircaloy - 4 Tube RXA Zircaloy - 4 sleeve Martensite 가 가 . crevice hydride 가 .

(4) Fig.6 360°C 700 ppm LiOH 6 ZIRLO Guide Thimble ZIRLO Thin Sleeve Spot Welding SEM (a) (b) SEM 7<sup>†</sup> 1.9 μm . (c) sleeve Guide Thimble crevice 1.6 μm.

(d) (e) crevice SEM .

 360°C 700 ppm LiOH
 6
 Zircaloy - 4

 Guide Thimble Zircaloy - 4 Grid
 TIG
 3

 SEM
 1.5 μm
 1.5 μm

 1.3 μm
 .
 TIG
 3

2 ~ 3 µm grain μm 가 grain . Crevice 가 Guide Thimble 1.1µm . Zircaloy - 4 Guide Thimble Zircaloy - 4 Grid spot welding SEM 4.2µm grid 3.7µm guide thimble crevice . Grid

Fig.7 360°C 700 ppm LiOH 6 Zircaloy - 4 Cladding Zircaloy - 4 Sleeve spot welding SEM . (a) (b) 1.3µm sleeve cladding . crevice 20 ~ 30 μm crevice 가 hydride 가 (c) . 200µm inner crevice 가 crevice 30 µm . inner crevice

			sleeve	inner	tube		
. (d)		crevice			가 200μm		
claddi	ng 1/2		sleeve		tube		
			250µm				
5	sleeve	tube					
	spo	t welding					
4.							
(*	1) As-built		TIG				
					SW Z	Zry S	
	tube	sleeve		가			stress가
	가	stress				가	
	1	/2				가	
, 360°C 700 ppm LiOH							
(2	2)	Cu N		TIG			,
		,			4	at%	
	. Cu				Cu		
(3	3) 360°C 700	ppm LiOH	6				
						. SW 2	ZLO S
TW Z	Zry G	2 μm	ו			, S <sup>v</sup>	W Zry G
	3 ~ 5	μm					SW
Zry S	5				2	μm	
		sle	eeve tube		crevice		
		가	10		20 ~ 3	30 µm	,
	hydri	de가					가

6

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Fig. 1. Comparison of maximum load at failure of asbuilt with that of corroded specimen in 700 ppm LiOH at 360°C for 6 days

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- \* SW ZLO S : Spot Welding Thin Sleeve for PLUS 7 Design
- \* TW Zry G : TIG Welding for KSNP Design
- \* SW Zry G : Spot Welding for KSNP Design
- \* SW Zry S : Spot Welding for 17X17 Design



Fig. 2. Cross-sectional microstructures of the the spot welding for 17x17 design after corrosion in 700 ppm LiOH at 360°C for 6 days, showing hydride distribution and cracks



Fig. 3. SEM micrograph and EDX spectra of spot welding surface



Fig. 4. Microstructures of spot welding parts of SRA ZIRLO guide thimble and thin sleeve spot weld



Fig. 5. Microstructures of TIG welding parts of the SRA Zircaloy - 4 guide thimble and RXA Zircaloy - 4 grid



# Fig. 6. Oxide morphologies of the ZIRLO guide thimble and thin sleeve spot welding specimen



Fig. 7. Oxide morphologies of the spot welded RXA Zircaloy-4 tube/RXA Zircaloy-4 sleeve for 17x17 design. (a) Oxide layer on the Weldment, (b) Oxide layer on the outer surface of sleeve(10,000X), (c) Left side of the welded crevice(300X), (d) Right side of the welded crevice(270X), (e) Cross-section of the spot weldment(25X)