

Standards & Related documents Committee

TECHNICAL BULLETIN - MAY 2006

309. ORBITOR RESTRAINT BAR CRACKING

We have been informed by an ADIPS Registered IB - Mick Barker - of defects or cracks that have been found in the restraint bars of two Orbitor devices.

On the first device, out of the 18 bars, 9 of them had visible defects or cracks, and after NDT was carried out it was found that 17 in total had defect indications. One of the original visible defects was some 65mm long.

The second device was also subjected to NDT and found to have similar problems with 16 out of the 18 bars showing defects, however he is not stating if on this device any of the defects were visible.

We would like to remind both Inspection Bodies and Controllers carrying out inspections that <u>all restraint bars should undergo regular thorough examination</u> using both visual and NDT methods.

It is also important to advise that a <u>careful visual inspection</u> of any such critical areas should be carried out as a <u>normal part of daily inspection</u>, and that this is the responsibility of the controller.