

# **REINHOLD ENVIRONMENTAL Ltd.**



## **2012 APC Round Table & Expo Presentation**

July 16-17, 2012, in Baltimore, MD / Hosted by Duke Energy, Entergy,  
FirstEnergy, Southern Company & TVA

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## ***Scrubber Material ORP Update***

*July 17, 2012*

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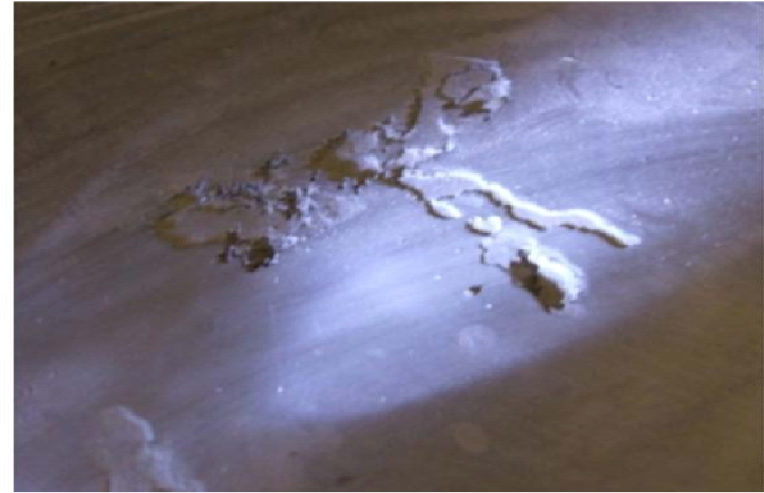
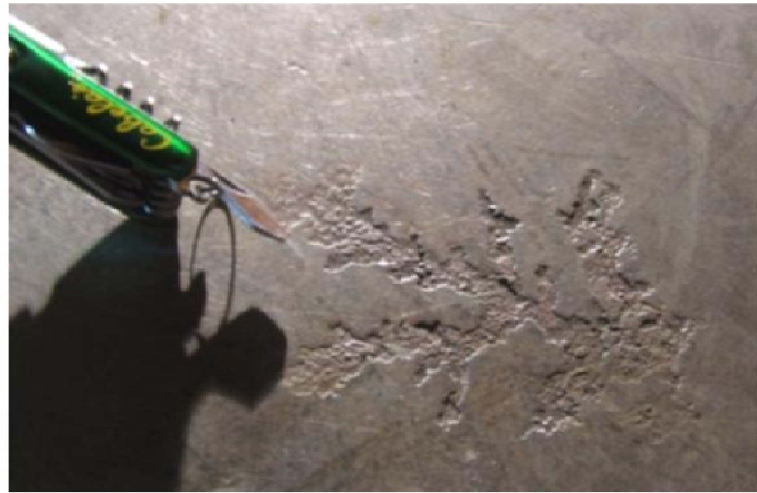
Shannon Brown  
B&W Power Generation Group

# Overview

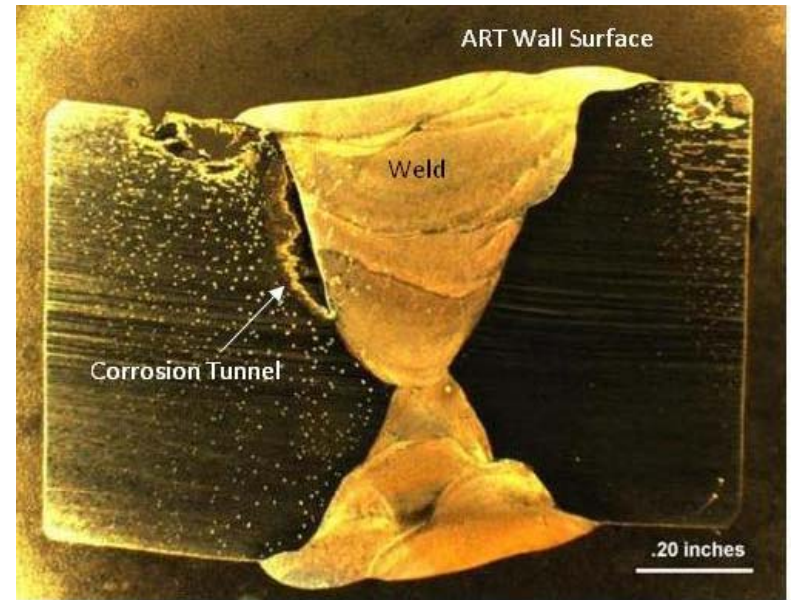
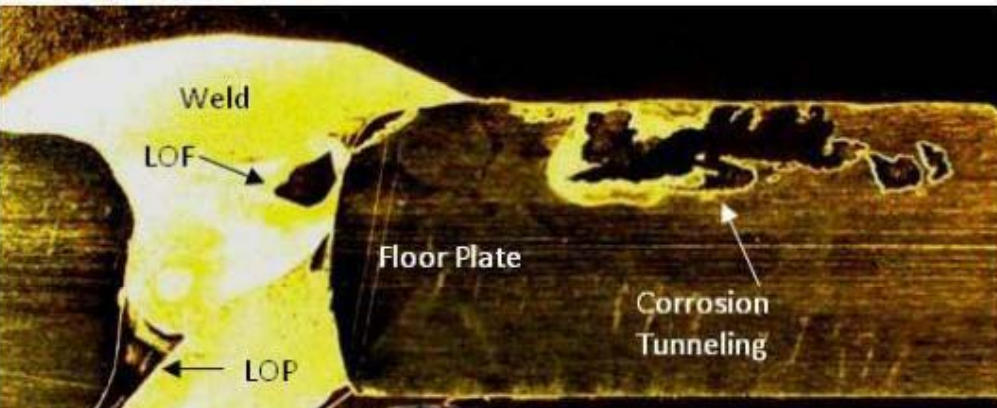
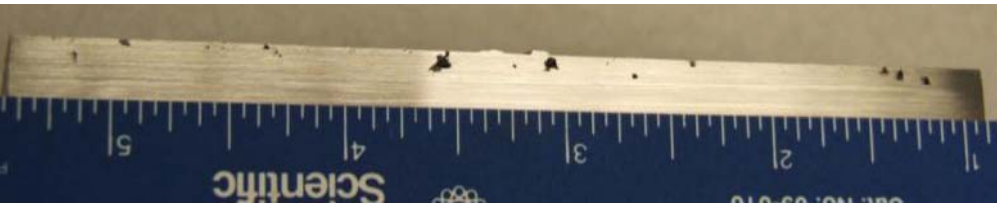
- Less Aggressive Fluoride-Induced Under-Deposit Corrosion (FIUDC)
  - Surface pitting
  - Sub-surface attack
- High Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP) Aggressive Corrosion Mechanism
- Process Chemistry Effects
  - Open Circuit Potential (OCP) versus ORP
  - Phase partitioning in absorber slurries
  - Effects of strong oxidizers and kinetics
  - Process control of ORP

# ***Less Aggressive Fluoride-Induced Under-Deposit Corrosion (FIUDC)***

# *Less Aggressive Corrosion*



# Less Aggressive Corrosion



# Less Aggressive Corrosion



Scale-Slurry  
Interface

- ▶ Crystalline scale is predominantly gypsum
- ▶ Much higher fluoride concentration at scale-alloy interface than elsewhere in the scale
- ▶ Variable attack severity, morphology and locations

Scale-Alloy  
Interface

## ***Detailed SEM/EDS Examination Results for Alloy 2205 Base Metal ; Alloy 625 Weld Metal Specimens***

### **Solution 1**

- 10,000 ppm Cl (as NaCl)
- 500 ppm F (as NaF)
- Initial pH 5.5 (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)
- Specimens fully immersed in deposit
  - CaF<sub>2</sub> (≈ 150 grams)

### **Solution 2**

- 10,000 ppm Cl (as NaCl)
- 500 ppm F (as NaF)
- Initial pH 5.5 (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)
- Specimens fully immersed in deposit
  - CaF<sub>2</sub> (≈ 100 grams)
  - MnO<sub>2</sub> (≈ 300 grams)

- ▶ Base Metal Specimens Immersed & Polarized
- ▶ Weld/HAZ/Base Metal Specimens Immersed (No Polarization)
- ▶ Localized HF Generation Suspected in Solution C Test
- ▶ pH Elevation/ORP Reduction during Polarization
- ▶ 34 Days Total Exposure
- ▶ Chemistry under deposit apparently is different from bulk chemistry

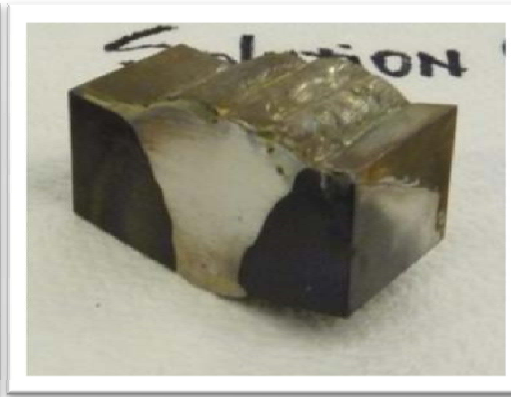
## Overall Post Test Specimen Appearance - Solutions C and D



Base Solution C



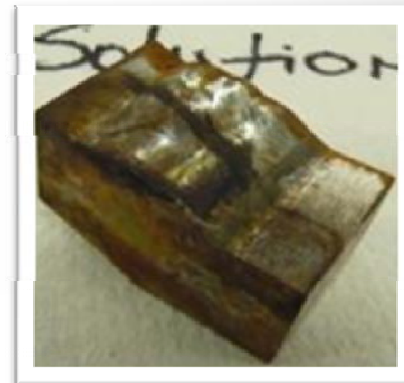
Weld/HAZ Solution C



Weld/HAZ Solution C



Base Solution D



Weld/HAZ Solution D

- ▶ Polarization results in severe corrosion
- ▶ Noticeable pitting of weld/HAZ/base metal specimen (non-polarized) in Solution D
- ▶ Different coloration on weld/HAZ/base metal specimen (non-polarized) in Solution C indicates that different sides of the specimen experienced different micro-environments

## ***Observations from EDS Analyses Weld/HAZ/Base - Solutions C & D***

- ▶ 34 Days exposure in Solution C immersed in  $\text{CaF}_2$  resulted in localized breakdown of the protective oxide on the base metal.
- ▶ 34 Days exposure in Solution D immersed in  $\text{CaF}_2 + \text{MnO}_2$  resulted in pitting of the base metal.
- ▶ No Mn found in the pits. It appears that the Mn acts as an accelerant to the pitting mechanism but not a reactant in the pit itself.
- ▶ All pits contained some level of F inside of the pit, but not necessarily associated with Ca.
- ▶ No Mn in the pits, along with F in the pits not associated with Ca, indicates that the F in the pits is a result of chemical reactions and not the original  $\text{CaF}_2$  added.
- ▶ F played a significant role in the breakdown of the oxide and pitting on these specimens.

# Less Aggressive FIUDC Mechanism

## **Evaluations** Electrochemical Immersion

### Base Solution

- 10,000 ppm Cl (as NaCl)
- 500 ppm F (as NaF)
- Initial pH 5.5 (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)
- Sparging
  - Air
  - Nitrogen

### Incremental Additions

- Tests 1 & 2 (Mn<sup>+2</sup> as MnSO<sub>4</sub>)
- Tests 3 & 4 (Fe<sup>+3</sup> as Fe<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)
- Tests 5 & 6 (Fe<sup>+2</sup> as FeSO<sub>4</sub>)
- Tests 7 & 8 (Ca<sup>+2</sup> as CaCl<sub>2</sub>)
- Tests 9 & 10 (Mg<sup>+2</sup> as MgSO<sub>4</sub>)
  - Odd Number - Air
  - Even Number - Nitrogen

- Better understanding of ionic additions on OCP and ORP
- Input into solutions for the corrosion tests
- Monitor ORP and pH
- Monitor OCP of alloy 2205

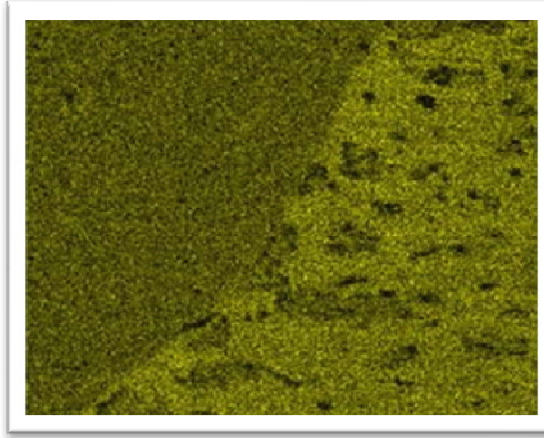
## ***Observations from Bench Scale Immersion Solution Tests***

- ▶ Tests indicate that Mn while it is maintained in solution plays a small role in the corrosion process. Same can be said for the Ca and Mg ions in solution.
- ▶  $\text{Fe}^{+3}$  plays a role in crevice corrosion of the 2205 in a Cl + F environment.
- ▶ The  $\text{Fe}^{+3}/\text{Fe}^{+2}$  ratio plays a role in the crevice corrosion of the 2205 in a Cl + F environment.

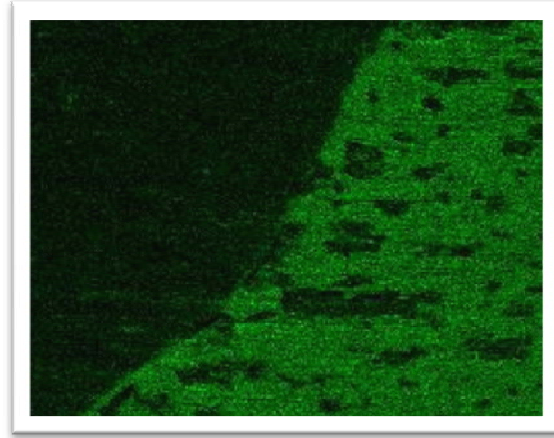
## EDS Maps Solution C Weld/Base Interface (Darker Base Metal Oxide)



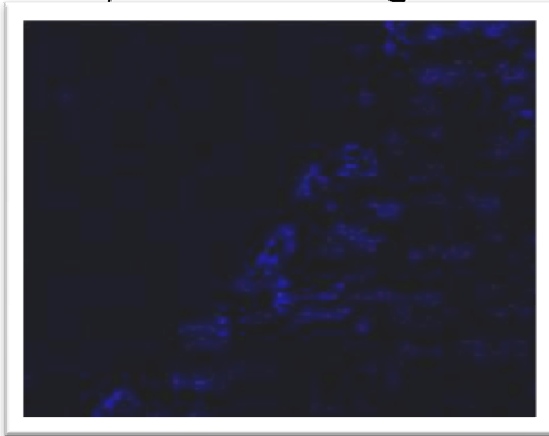
Weld/Base Interface @ 100X



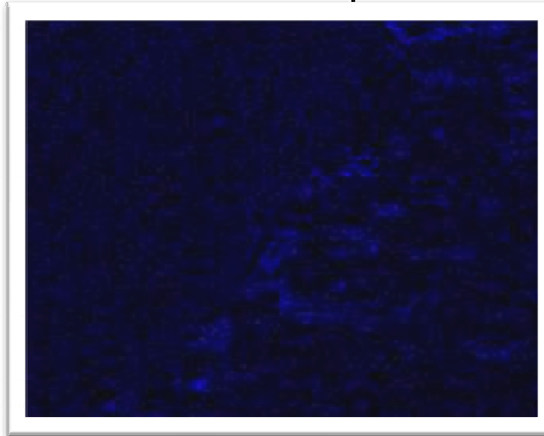
EDS Cr Map



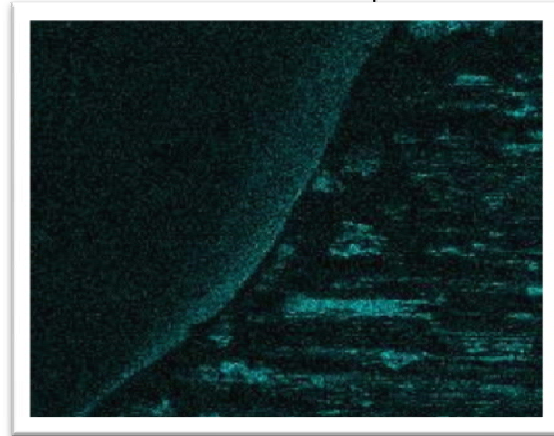
EDS O Map



EDS Ca Map



EDS F Map

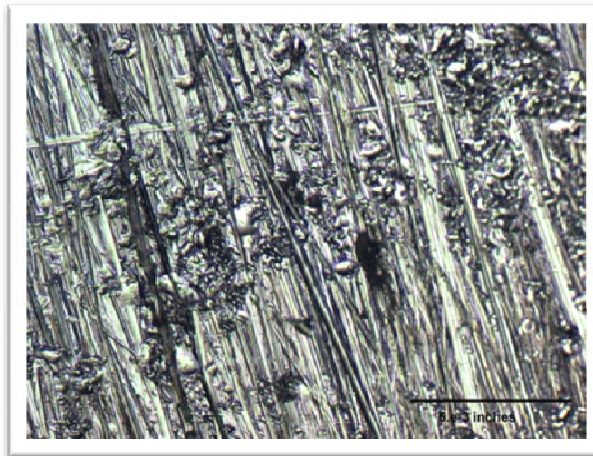


EDS Fe Map

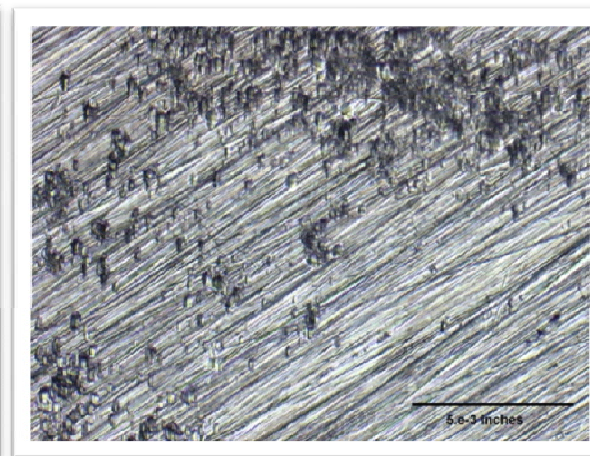
- EDS maps confirm breaks in base metal oxide
- $\text{CaF}_2$  appears to be associated with the oxide breaks
- Areas of oxide breaks show enrichment in Fe

# ***Effect of F Concentration and Alloy Composition on Crevice Corrosion Behavior***

- ▶ Minor crevice attack observed on all specimens
- ▶ Additional specimens were removed after 2 months of exposure
- ▶ Fluoride attack under inert ceramic crevice washers was not as severe as that observed under gypsum WFGD deposits



2205 in 5 ppm F



2205 in 50 ppm F



2205 in 500 ppm F

## ***Less Aggressive FIUDC Mechanism Observations***

- ▶ Variable morphology – widespread shallow pitting, localized “coral pattern” attack, sub-surface attack
- ▶ Attack is associated with deposits, but not all under-deposit areas exhibit attack
- ▶ Variable attack location – some associated with HAZ, some not associated with HAZ
- ▶ Alloy 625 weld metal was not attacked
- ▶ X-ray indications were not observed above the tank liquid level

# ***Less Aggressive FIUDC Mechanism***

## ***Conclusions***

- ▶ The observed attack is consistent with an under-deposit corrosion mechanism, and fluoride ions appear to be playing a role in the attack
- ▶ It appears that only the soluble fluoride ions are causative (not precipitated forms of fluoride such as  $\text{CaF}_2$ )
- ▶ It appears that soluble fluoride ions penetrate the gypsum scale and concentrate at the scale-metal interface

# ***High Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP) Aggressive Corrosion Mechanism***

## ***What is ORP?***

### ***Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP)***

- ▶ A single voltage measurement against a reference electrode
- ▶ The strength of oxidizers and reducers in a solution in relation to their respective concentration
- ▶ The more positive the voltage, the more strongly a solution would oxidize (attract electrons from) other sources
  - Oxidizers accept electrons, reducers lose electrons.
- ▶ Oxidizing slurry may oxidize its constituents

# ***High ORP Aggressive Corrosion Mechanism***

## ***Observations***

- ▶ Widespread deep corrosion observed on floor and walls
- ▶ Attack was only slightly worse along HAZ than at locations distant from the welds
- ▶ Alloy 625 weld metal was not attacked.
- ▶ Attack was not observed in areas where there was no deposit
- ▶ Attack severity decreased with elevation along the walls
- ▶ Deposits on units displaying this attack contained significant concentrations of Mn

# ***Aggressive ART Shell Corrosion***



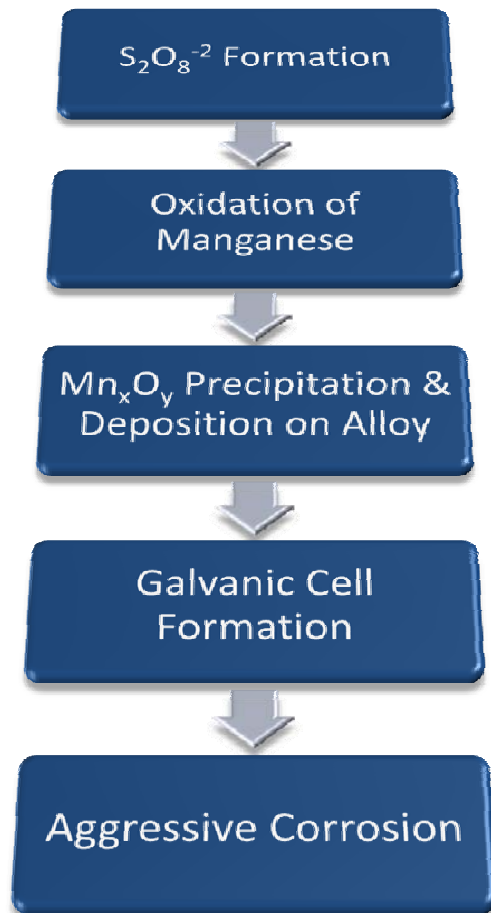
## ***Aggressive Corrosion of ART Vertical Weld Seam***



## ***Spiking Study Results***

- ▶ The reaction which causes  $\text{MnO}_x$  to precipitate is accompanied by a reduction in pH and an increase in ORP.
- ▶ The reaction produces a volatile species when  $\text{MnO}_x$  is formed.
- ▶ The active agent in the filtrate from the corroded unit is stable (i.e. still present after sitting >1 yr in the lab).
- ▶ Very little of the active ingredient in filtrate from the corroded unit is required to cause precipitation.
- ▶ The reaction is accelerated when the sample is heated to 80°C.

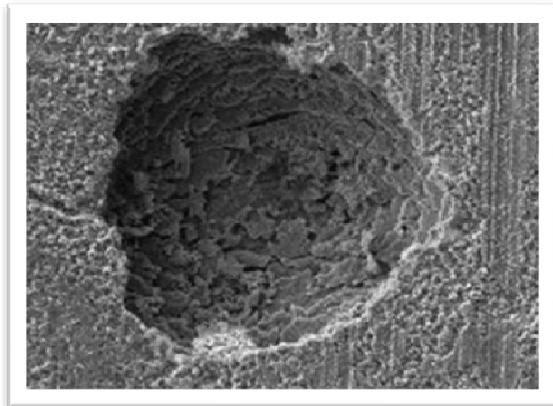
## ***Mechanism – Current Working Hypothesis for Units Exhibiting “Severe” Corrosion***



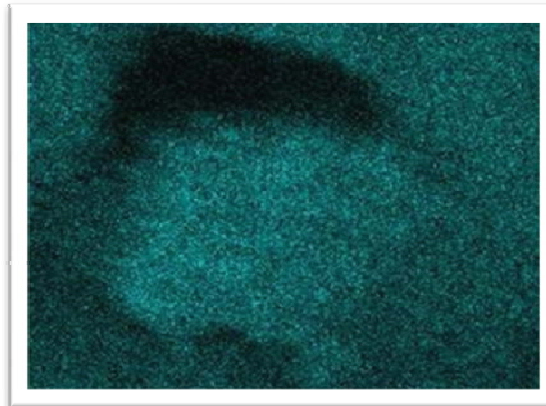
***MnO<sub>2</sub> deposits that physically contact metal surfaces, no matter how it occurs, serve as a galvanic cathode to promote corrosion of the metal.***

**-Lutey**

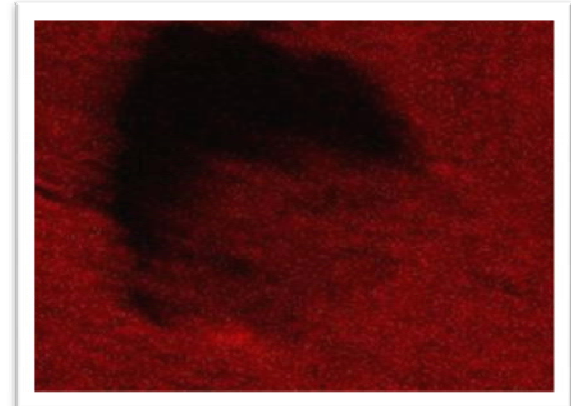
## ***EDS Maps – Bench Scale Specimen - Pit in Weld Seam on Specimen Top***



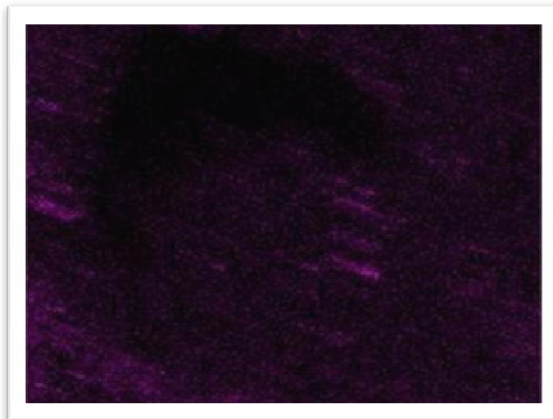
Pit @ 350X



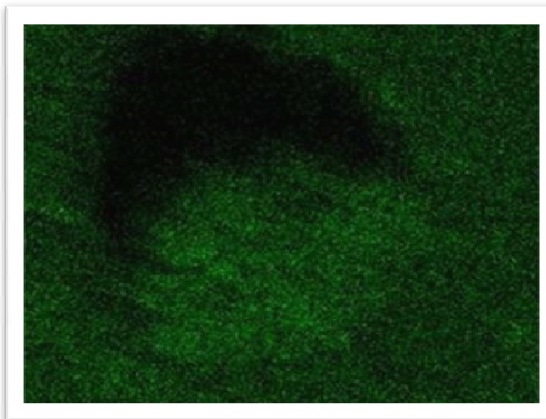
EDS Cr Map



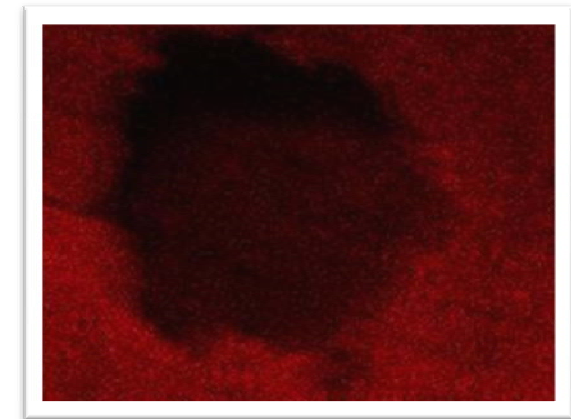
EDS O Map



EDS Ca Map



EDS F Map



EDS Mn Map

- ▶ Most of the F not associated with Ca
- ▶ No Mn inside of the pit
- ▶ Mn that is present surrounds the pit

# ***High ORP Aggressive Corrosion Mechanism***

## ***Conclusions***

- ▶ Precipitated MnO<sub>2</sub> exacerbates an under-deposit corrosion mechanism
- ▶ MnO<sub>2</sub> precipitation is due to high ORP conditions that exist in some units
- ▶ High ORP conditions are due to the presence of a strong oxidizer
- ▶ Without high ORP conditions, Mn ions within the slurry are innocuous

# ***High ORP Aggressive Corrosion Mechanism Recommendations***

- ▶ Eliminate  $\text{MnO}_2$  precipitation by maintaining ORP at a suitable level
- ▶ Perform regular ORP monitoring of slurries
- ▶ If high ORP conditions exist, evaluate system for source of strong oxidizer

# ***Process Chemistry Effects***

# **Process Chemistry Effects**

## **Observations**

- ▶ Large variations in ORP were observed between different units
- ▶ ORP can be controlled in a WFGD process
- ▶ OCP is more important to corrosion rate than ORP
- ▶  $\text{CaF}_2$  precipitation was favored at some units while  $\text{MgF}_2$  precipitation was favored at other units

## ***Process Chemistry Effects***

### ***Oxidation Reduction Potential (ORP)***

- ▶ A wide range of ORP is observed in filtrate samples from operating units (approximately 150 to 700 mV)
- ▶ ORP can be negative
- ▶ Measurement technique similar to pH
- ▶ Can be monitored on-line

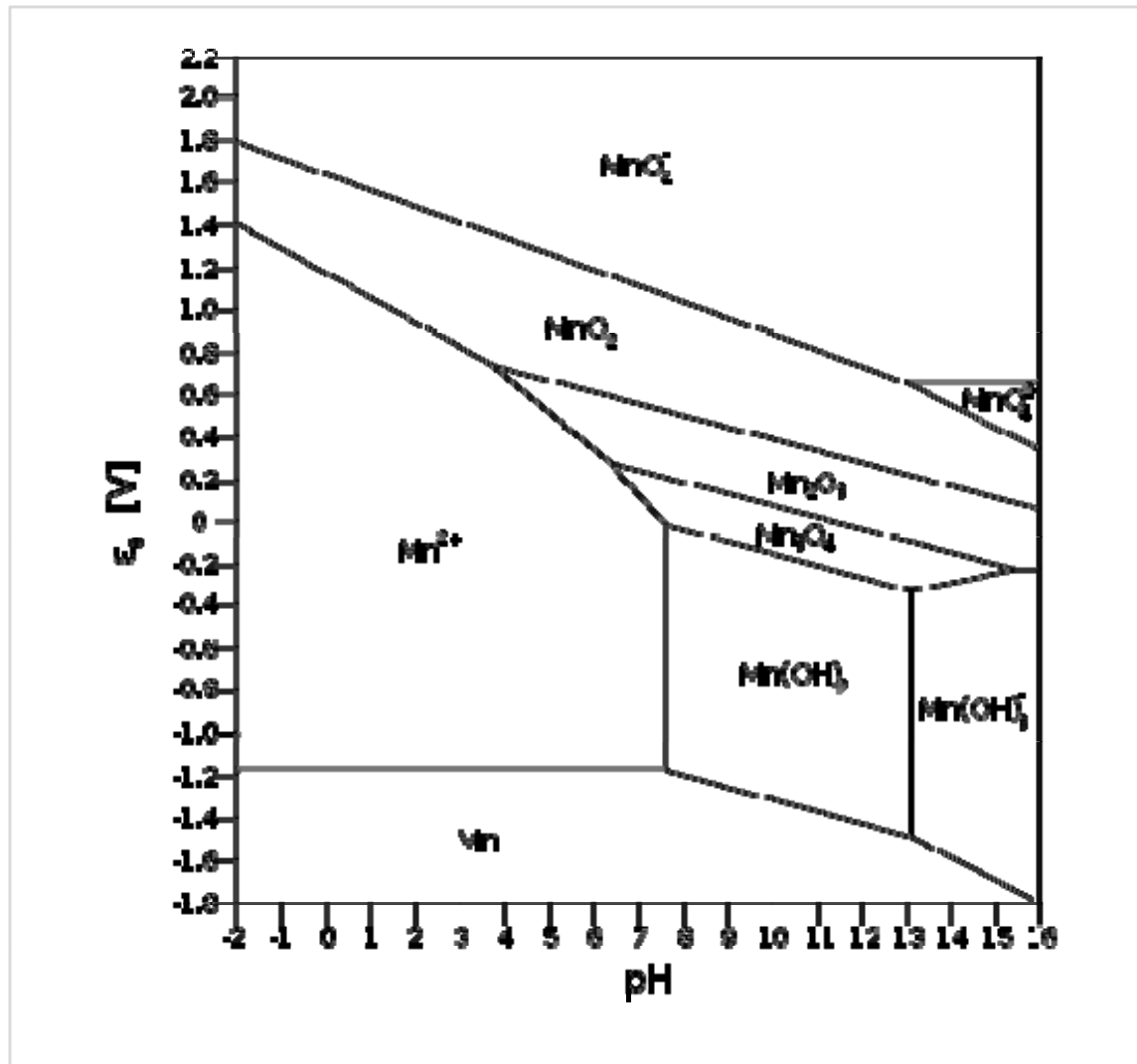
# ORP & Phase Partitioning of Chemical Species

## ORP will affect the oxidation state of the slurry constituents

- ▶ Oxidation state often controls solubility
- ▶ ORP will impact phase partitioning of many species

<b>ORP</b>	<b>Mercury</b>	<b>Selenium</b>	<b>Manganese</b>
High	Hg <sup>+2</sup> Soluble	Se <sup>+6</sup> Soluble	Mn <sup>+4</sup> ↓ Precipitate
Medium	Hg <sup>+2</sup> Soluble	Se <sup>+4</sup> ↓ Precipitate	Mn <sup>+2</sup> Soluble
Low	Hg <sup>0</sup> ↑ Vaporous	Se <sup>+4</sup> ↓ Precipitate	Mn <sup>+2</sup> Soluble

# Why is ORP Important?



## What Causes Very High ORP?

### $S_2O_8^{2-}$ Titration Results

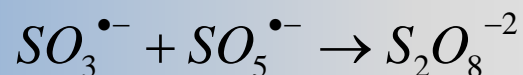
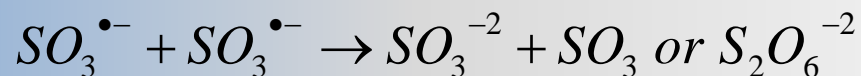
Unit	Observations	Oxidizer (ppm)
1	Corrosion	1680
2	Corrosion	1592
3	Corrosion	1574
4	Corrosion	1571
5	No $Mn_xO_y$ Scale	227
6	No $Mn_xO_y$ Scale	169
7	No $Mn_xO_y$ Scale	50
8	No $Mn_xO_y$ Scale	29
9	No $Mn_xO_y$ Scale	27
10	Uses Additive	19
11	No $Mn_xO_y$ Scale	10
12	No $Mn_xO_y$ Scale	<2

- ▶ Peroxodisulfate is present in absorbers exhibiting Mn-catalyzed rapid corrosion
- ▶ This oxidizer raises the slurry ORP
- ▶ The oxidizer reacts to precipitate out soluble manganese

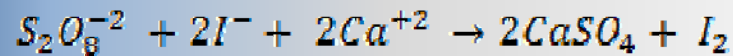
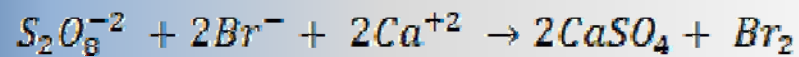
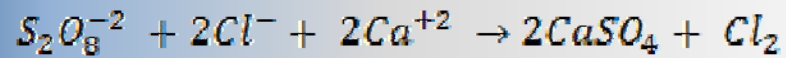
## ***Guberlet Paper***

### ***Formation of Peroxodisulfate:***

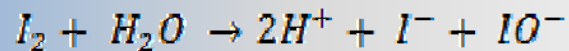
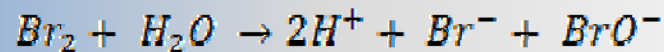
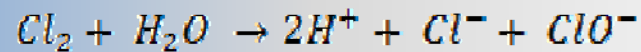
where “M” denotes a transition metal



## $S_2O_8^{-2}$ and pH Drop

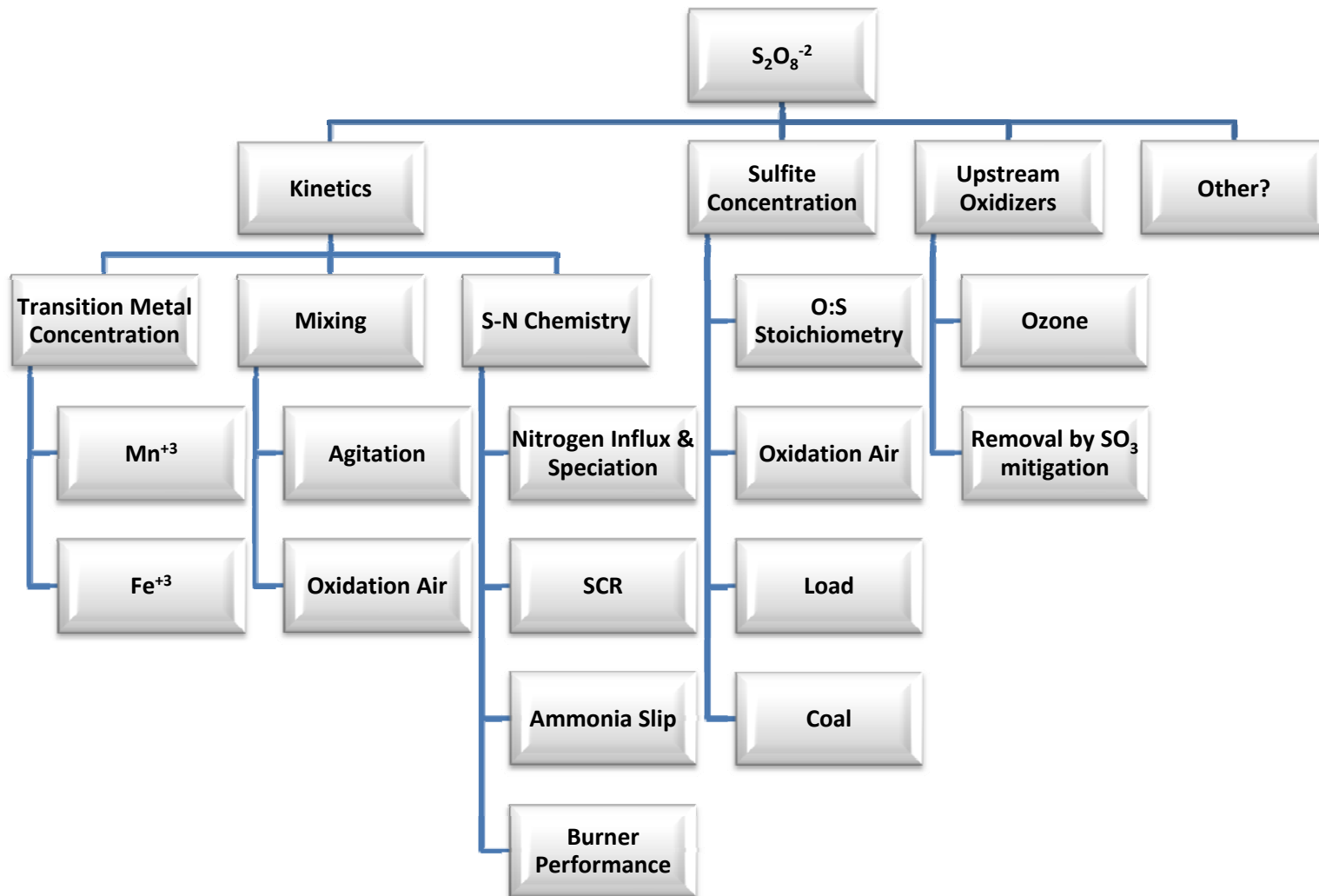


Hypochlorite  
formed



pH Drops  
from Acid  
Formation

# Persulfate Formation



## ***Factors that influence the Formation of $S_2O_8^{-2}$***

- ▶ The **kinetic rate** at which sulfite is oxidized to sulfate is important
- ▶ Oxidation air & mixing
- ▶ Sulfur-Nitrogen Chemistry - Relationship between S-N chemistry & ORP

## *Transition Metals*

- ▶ The currently proposed mechanism for  $S_2O_8^{-2}$  formation involves free radicals
  - Oscillation between the +2 and +3 oxidation states of manganese and iron.
  - $Mn^{+3}$  and/or  $Fe^{+3}$  begins the proposed initiation step.

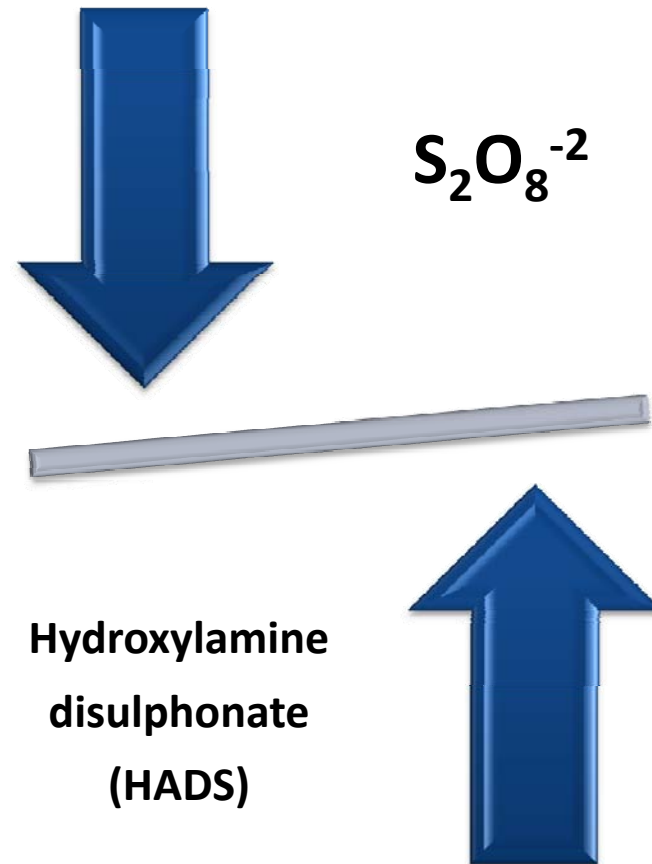


## $S_2O_8^{-2}$ Formation - Sulfite

- ▶ Sulfite is important to  $S_2O_8^{-2}$  concentration
  - The kinetics of sulfite oxidation are thought to control  $S_2O_8^{-2}$  formation
    - $S_2O_8^{-2}$  formation is expected to occur in WFGD absorber slurries
    - The kinetic rate at which sulfite is oxidized to sulfate is important
    - Fast kinetic rates of oxidation are thought to lead to higher levels of  $S_2O_8^{-2}$  in the system
    - Less  $S_2O_8^{-2}$  should be detectable in absorber slurries when sulfite is allowed to form.
  - It is unknown whether the sulfite reacts directly with  $S_2O_8^{-2}$  in solution or if it inhibits  $S_2O_8^{-2}$  formation.

## $S_2O_8^{-2}$ Formation – Sulfur/Nitrogen Chemistry

- ▶ Relationship between S-N chemistry & ORP
  - Nitrogen species react with sulfite in the HADS series
  - Oxidation kinetics
  - May be limiting the chain reaction from happening
  - Chelation or direct reaction w/Mn



# ***Process Chemistry Effects***

## ***Conclusions***

- ▶ ORP can be lowered from a high to a low regime by lowering oxidation air, in some cases
  - ORP controls phase partitioning of many elements
  - ORP may change with coal type
  - ORP is predominantly controlled by a strong oxidizer, the formation of which is being studied
- ▶ FIUDC can occur in low ORP systems
- ▶ Other causes of corrosion may exist

## ***Summary***

- ▶ **High ORP Aggressive Corrosion Mechanism**
  - MnO<sub>2</sub> precipitation due to strongly oxidizing conditions
  - Maintain ORP at a suitable level
  - Identify/eliminate strong oxidizers
  
- ▶ **Fluoride-Induced Under-Deposit Corrosion**
  - Variable attack severity, morphology and locations
  - Better understand mechanism and alloy susceptibility
  
- ▶ **Process Chemistry Effects**
  - ORP can be modified by process control
  - ORP controls phase partitioning of Mn, Hg, Se
  - FIUDC may still occur

## ***In Conclusion*** ***Metals Testing***

- ▶ B&W has created a new bench-scale screening test for WFGD materials.
- ▶ Coupon and/or ER probe testing from field operation will be used to verify the results of the bench test.

# **Process Chemistry Effects**

## ***Path Forward***

- ▶ Joint Field Test Research with SRI
- ▶ Full Scale Test
  - Coal Effects
  - Oxidation Air Effects
  - Upstream Effects

# *Questions*



**B&W**

power generation group

***Thank You***

