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**PROTOTYPE PRODUCTION PROCESS
FOR FABRICATION OF WIRE AND TUBING BY
HYDROSTATIC EXTRUSION-DRAWING**

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**BATTELLE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE
COLUMBUS LABORATORIES**

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ABSTRACT

This report describes the initial steps taken towards ascertaining the production tooling and the proper process sequences for prototype production of beryllium wire and titanium tubing by hydrostatic extrusion-drawing (HYDRAW). Design specifications have been drawn up for a straight-bore container to be used for the HYDRAW of beryllium wire and consideration is being given to the possibility of using a side-bore container for the HYDRAW of titanium tubing. Design analyses are still being conducted on side-bore containers.

Experimental equipment is being constructed which will be used for process parameter studies in sub-scale hydrostatic tooling.

FOREWORD

This Interim Engineering Progress Report covers the work performed under Contract No. F 33615-68-C-1197 from 1 November 1967 through 31 January 1968. It is published for technical information only and does not necessarily represent the recommendations, conclusions, or approval of the Air Force.

This contract with Battelle Memorial Institute of Columbus, Ohio, was initiated under Project No. 140-8, "Prototype Production Process for Fabrication of Wire and Tubing by Hydrostatic Extrusion-Drawing". It is being administered under the direction of Mr. Gerald A. Gegel of the Metallurgical Processing Branch (MATB), Manufacturing Technology Division, Air Force Materials Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

The program is being conducted at Battelle by the Metalworking Division with Mr. R. J. Fiorentino, Associate Chief, as Program Manager. Mr. B. D. Richardson, Research Metallurgical Engineer, is Project Engineer of the studies on beryllium wire and rounds and Mr. G. E. Meyer, Research Metallurgical Engineer, is Project Engineer of the titanium tubing portion of the program. Others contributing to the program are Mr. J. R. Douglas, Research Metallurgist, and Mr. A. M. Sabroff, Chief of the Metalworking Division, and Mr. F. W. Boulger, Senior Technical Advisor of the Department of Process and Physical Metallurgy. Dr. J. C. Gerdeen, Senior Research Mechanical Engineer, Advanced Solid Mechanics Division, is contributing to the high-pressure-container design study. Data from which this report has been prepared and recorded are in Battelle Laboratory Record Book No. 24446.

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this research program is to ascertain the production tooling and the proper process sequences for prototype production of 0.005-inch-diameter beryllium wire and thin-wall Ti-6Al-4V titanium-alloy tubing in sizes ranging from about 1/4 to 1-inch OD. The production technique to be used will be hydrostatic extrusion-drawing. This Battelle-developed technique*, called HYDRAW, consists of applying a hydrostatic pressure to the unreduced stock while simultaneously applying a controlled drawing stress at a predetermined drawing speed.

Present-day conventional techniques for producing beryllium wire and titanium tubing are quite costly. The results obtained in an earlier program^{(1)**} at Battelle on Air Force Contract No. 33(615)-1390 indicate that the techniques outlined for this program offer the prospect of reducing fabrication costs substantially as well as possibly improving product quality. The current program is divided into three phases, each subdivided for beryllium wire and seamless Ti-alloy tubing with the following general objectives:

Phase I

- Part (a). To establish the various parameters which affect the hydrostatic extrusion-drawing of fine beryllium wire and seamless titanium tubing with existing tooling.
- Part (b). To design and construct prototype production tooling for extrusion-drawing of beryllium wire and titanium tubing for the Phase II effort.
- Part (c). To establish the various die design parameters which influence the hydrostatic extrusion of brittle materials without the use of a fluid counter-pressure system.

Phase II

To ascertain the processing techniques and conditions necessary for producing high-quality, 0.005-inch-diameter beryllium wire and aircraft-quality Ti-6Al-4V tubing with the prototype production tooling.

Phase III

To produce a sufficient quantity of the beryllium wire and titanium tubing to verify the processing sequence and to enable evaluation by users.

* U. S. Patent No. 3,328,998, "High Reduction Drawing", A. M. Sabroff and R. J. Fiorentino, Issued July 4, 1967.

** References given at end of report.

The design and construction of tooling for extrusion-drawing of beryllium wire [in Phase I, Part (b)] is being funded independently by Battelle-Columbus. However, in the interest of furthering the tooling design technology developed in the past program⁽¹⁾, complete details of the proposed tooling design are included in this report.

During this first quarter much of the effort was devoted to procuring the equipment, materials, and tooling necessary to conduct the process parameter investigations. In addition, the design specifications for the 7-inch-bore container to be used in the Phases II and III efforts on beryllium wire, have been completed. A preliminary design analysis of the side-bore container which might be used for the Phases II and III efforts on titanium tubing has been conducted.

HYDRAW STUDIES

The Phase I process parameters studies on the HYDRAW of both beryllium wire and titanium alloy tubing are to be conducted in tooling constructed for the Air Force Materials Laboratory on Air Force Program No. AF 33(615)-1390. This tooling, which is described in detail in Reference (1), has a design pressure capacity of 250,000 psi on a bore 2-3/8-inch diameter x 20 inches long. The chamber volume is adequate for handling sufficient quantity of material for the evaluation of the initial process variables. Preliminary details of the design of prototype production containers for the Phases II and III effort are given later in the report.

HYDRAW of Beryllium Wire

Experimental trials on the HYDRAW of beryllium wire are soon to be conducted. In an earlier program⁽¹⁾, beryllium wire was hydrostatically extrusion-drawn from 0.020 to 0.0124-inch diameter (a reduction of 60 percent) at a speed of about 40 fpm. In the forthcoming trials, the following parameters will be evaluated:

- (a) Lubrication. In an earlier program only one wire lubricant, PTFE, was evaluated. This was quite satisfactory but several wire lubricants are now to be evaluated with the aim of possibly improving lubrication efficiency and reducing the cost of application and removal. Initially, the selected wire lubricants will be evaluated at a reduction of 60 percent.
- (b) Reduction ratio. Dies have been ordered which will enable reduction of 60, 70, 75, and 80 percent. Data obtained in another program have indicated that reductions up to 80 percent are possible within the available pressure capacity, providing efficient lubrication can be obtained.
- (c) Temperature. Workpiece temperatures lower than the presently established 500-550 F range will be used to determine their effect on pressure requirements and material properties.

(d) Exit speed. Equipment has been purchased and assembled which will enable a greater flexibility of drawing speed and draw stress than was previously used. Wire exit speeds will be independently controllable from 30 to 600 fpm. Should relatively high exit speeds be possible, it is anticipated that the heat generated during deformation may allow lower environmental preheat temperatures to be used. The unit will also be able to provide controlled drawing loads ranging from about 0.1 to 150 lbs.

Beryllium wire representing both ingot and powder origin has been purchased. The wire is nominally 0.020-inch diameter and is to be reduced in the annealed condition. On the basis of previous experience obtained in the HYDRAW of this material (see Reference (1)), the wire will be pre-coiled by a warm-wrapping technique (at 600 F) and will be paid out from within the hydrostatic container from a free vertical coil. The coil will be loaded in a unit which will also house the die. This unit will facilitate the handling of the wire and die during loading in the hydrostatic container.

Initially, the HYDRAW experiments will be conducted at temperatures up to 550 F. This requires preheating the container, fluid, and the wire and die unit. However, studies are currently being made of techniques for locally heating the wire around the die orifice. This will allow the container and most of the fluid to be maintained at or near room temperature, which should reduce the problems of sealing and materials handling accordingly.

HYDRAW of Titanium Tubing

Contacts have been made with possible vendors of titanium tubing for use in the process parameter studies. Until the available tube sizes are established, the experimental trials cannot be planned in detail - especially in regard to the design of mandrels and dies. Only three out of nine seamless tube manufacturers have expressed an interest in producing the Ti-6Al-4V alloy tubing in the sizes and quantities required. It is anticipated that a working arrangement can be established with at least one of these companies by which the tube manufacturer can participate in the evaluation of the tubes produced by HYDRAW. The use of the manufacturer's test facilities would minimize wasteful duplication of equipment.

The approximate tube stock sizes which will be initially evaluated by HYDRAW are as follows:

<u>OD, inches</u>	<u>ID, inch</u>	<u>Wall Thickness, inch</u>
1.125	0.981	0.072
0.625	0.527	0.049

The HYDRAW trials will be aimed at determining the processing parameters required to reduce both the bore diameter and the wall thickness of the tubing.

To best utilize the capabilities of the HYDRAW process, very high draw loads will be required to provide draw stresses in the order of 150,000 psi. A special hydraulic draw bench is currently being designed with this capacity. The drawing unit will be designed for use on Phases II and III of the program also.

HYDRAW TOOLING FOR PROTOTYPE PRODUCTION

The preliminary design studies have indicated that the container to be used for the HYDRAW of beryllium wire should be of straight-bore multi-ring construction but the container to be used for the HYDRAW of titanium tubing might be of right-angle or side-bore design. These conclusions are based on the design requirements for each application and on the limited amount of design data available on side-bore container design. The fluid pressure level required for the HYDRAW of beryllium wire, at least 200,000 psi, for a long-fatigue-life side-bore container appears to be too high based on the present-day technology for such designs. A side-bore design would have an advantage in paying out wire tangentially from a large coil of wire stock. However, it is anticipated that paying out wire from a straight-bore container will present no problems.

An advantage of the side-bore design for extrusion of tubing is the ability to use vertical hydraulic presses without large vertical "daylight" between platens and without deep pits beneath them to extrude long lengths of product. It is estimated that a side-bore system can be designed to withstand pressures (P) on the order of 150,000 psi. It appears that this level should be sufficient for HYDRAW of titanium alloy tubing, since it will be possible to apply a draw stress (D) of at least 125,000 psi to the tube product (together with the 150,000 psi fluid pressure). This would make the total $P + D = 275,000$ psi, which is adequate to effect substantial tube reductions in a single pass. A model study of the right-angle system is to be conducted to determine with a greater degree of certainty the feasibility of containing pressures in the order of 150,000 psi and higher. This study will be conducted in the near future.

Design of a Container for the HYDRAW of Beryllium Wire

The straight-bore, multi-ring container for the HYDRAW of beryllium wire has been designed on the basis of the fatigue-strength criterion established in an earlier program⁽¹⁾. In addition to beryllium wire, the container will have the capability of being used for a wide variety of hydrostatic extrusion applications. It has been designed to withstand pressures of 250,000 psi on a bore of 7-inches diameter by 30 inches long. Thus a coil of wire up to at least 6-inches diameter can be accommodated co-axially in the container. To add to the versatility of the tooling, the container has also been designed to withstand up to 350,000 psi on a 4-inch diameter bore, provided that a liner material having suitable properties is available. This pressure capability would be achieved by press fitting a 4-inch bore liner into the 7-inch bore.

The outer dimensions and number of rings of the container were calculated for the 7-inch bore container using optimum design procedures. This was done using the computer code MULTIR developed in an earlier program⁽¹⁾. A summary of the calculations is shown in Table 1. The following generalized fatigue relations, formulated in an earlier program⁽¹⁾, were used in the design:

$$A_n (\sigma_\theta)_r + B_n (\sigma_\theta)_m = \sigma_n$$

(1a, b)

$$\text{or} \quad A_n S_r + B_n S_m = \sigma_n$$

TABLE 1. DESIGN DETAILS FOR TWO MULTI-RING HYDROSTATIC EXTRUSION CONTAINERS HAVING 5 RINGS IN COMMON

Ring	Diameter, inches		Material Design Stress ^(a)	Manufactured Interferences ^(b)	Stress on ID at Pressure, psi			Residual Stresses on ID, psi		
	OD	ID			Radial	Hoop	Shear	Radial	Hoop	Shear
<u>7-Inch Bore, 250,000 psi Container</u>										
2	11.9	7.0	300,000		-254,000	8,000	131,000	0	-258,000	129,000
3	18.5	11.9	250,000	0.0453	-168,000	37,000	102,000	-84,000	-59,000	12,000
4	25.7	18.5	170,000	0.0462	-108,000	51,000	80,000	-77,000	8,000	43,000
5	35.8	25.7	170,000	0.0702	-70,000	95,000	82,000	-56,000	70,000	63,000
6	46.5	35.8	150,000	0.0745	-30,000	117,000	74,000	-26,000	101,000	64,000
<u>4-Inch Bore, 350,000 psi Container</u>										
1	7.0	4.0	350,000		-366,000	11,000	188,000	0	-361,000	180,000
2	11.9	7.0	300,000	0.0272	-239,000	1,000	120,000	-121,000	-123,000	1,000
3	18.5	11.9	215,000	0.0441	-161,000	33,000	97,000	-122,000	-11,000	55,000
4	25.7	18.5	160,000	0.0462	-104,000	51,000	78,000	-89,000	31,000	60,000
5	35.8	25.7	160,000	0.0660	-66,000	91,000	79,000	-60,000	79,000	70,000
6	46.5	35.8	140,000	0.0687	-28,000	110,000	69,000	-26,000	103,000	65,000

(a) The design stress for Rings 1, 2, and 3 was the ultimate tensile strength. The design stress for Rings 4, 5, and 6 was the yield tensile strength. The design stress is the right hand side of the fatigue relations, Equations (1a, b) in the text.

(b) Interferences between each ring before assembly.

where

- (a) A_n , B_n are coefficients describing the material of ring number n ,
- (b) subscript, r , denotes the semi-range stress component,
- (c) subscript, m , denotes the mean stress component, and
- (d) σ_n is the tensile strength of ring number n .

It is seen in Table 1 that to withstand 250,000 psi on the 7-inch bore (which is the inside diameter of Ring 2) an outside diameter of 46.5 inches and 5 rings are required. This design was influenced by the fact that a liner (Ring 1 in Table 1) is to be press-fitted in the 5-ring assembly to give a container having a 350,000 psi pressure capacity on a 4-inch bore. Details of this design are also given in Table 1.

The fatigue life of the two containers is expected to be 10^5 to 10^6 cycles under ideal conditions. They were designed to be operated at room temperature only.

The computer program was not capable of exactly matching the requirements of the two containers and so the calculated interferences for the 6-ring container differ slightly from those obtained for the 5-ring. However, if Ring 1 is removed from the 6-ring container it is seen in Table 2 that the stresses in the remaining 5 rings compare very closely with the optimum design stresses required to contain 250,000 psi. Thus, the design interferences for the 6-ring container will be adopted for the multi-purpose hydrostatic extrusion container. However, the higher design strengths of the outer four rings of the 5-ring, 250,000 psi container will be used.

TABLE 2. COMPARISON OF STRESSES IN THE OUTER 5 RINGS OF THE 6-RING CONTAINER (LINER REMOVED) WITH THOSE IN THE 5-RING CONTAINER

Ring	Stresses on ID at Pressure, psi			Residual Stresses on ID, psi		
	Radial	Hoop	Shear	Radial	Hoop	Shear
<u>Stresses in 5 Rings of 6-Ring Container (Liner Removed)</u>						
2	-250,000	12,000	131,000	1,000	-250,000	125,000
3	-164,000	38,000	101,000	-82,000	-57,000	12,000
4	-105,000	53,000	79,000	-74,000	11,000	43,000
5	-67,000	92,000	80,000	-54,000	67,000	61,000
6	-28,000	111,000	70,000	-24,000	95,000	60,000
<u>Stresses in 5-Ring Container (Optimum Design)</u>						
2	-254,000	8,000	131,000	0	-258,000	129,000
3	-168,000	37,000	102,000	-84,000	-59,000	12,000
4	-108,000	51,000	80,000	-77,000	8,000	43,000
5	-70,000	95,000	82,000	-56,000	70,000	63,000
6	-30,000	117,000	74,000	-26,000	101,000	64,000

On the basis of this design, three industrial companies have been asked to quote on the fabrication of the tooling. As soon as quotations have been received and the exact specification of the tooling has been ascertained, a more detailed design of the auxiliary tooling specifically required for the HYDRAW of wire will be prepared. This will include the wire spooling and paying-out arrangements. These will be based on preliminary model studies of techniques required to pay out axially from a large coil of fine wire. It is anticipated that most of this effort will be conducted in the next quarterly period.

Design of a Container for the HYDRAW
of Titanium Tubing

A preliminary design assessment of a right-angle or side-bore container has been conducted because of the possibility of its use for the HYDRAW of titanium tubing.

A monoblock side-bore container is shown in Figure 1. (The term "side-bore" is used here to distinguish it from a "cross-bore" design in which one hole intersects the other in two places.) This design offers advantages to the hydrostatic extrusion process where the billet length plus the stem stroke results in an excessive length for a straight-bore container. If a side-bore container could be used, the required container length would be less and consequently the required working clearance of the press would be less.

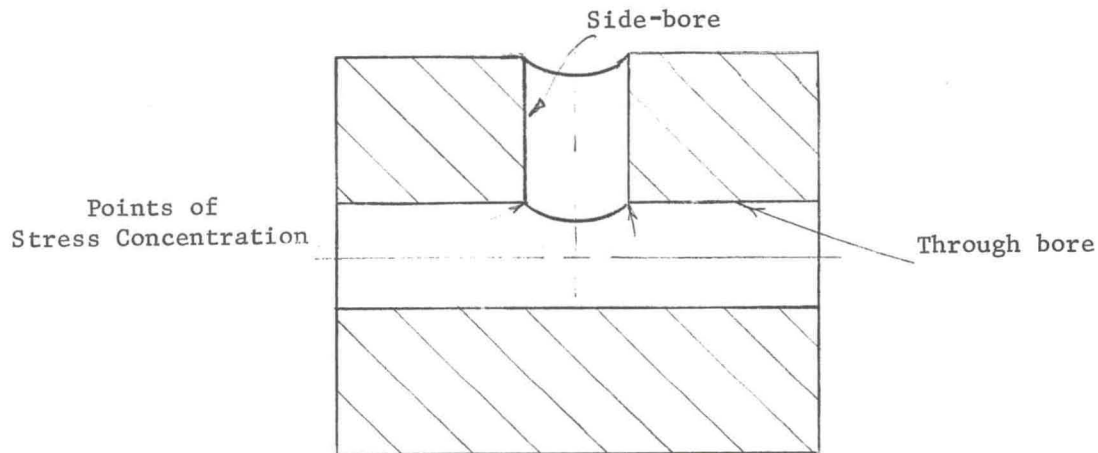


FIGURE 1. CROSS SECTION OF A MONOBLOCK SIDE-BORE CONTAINER

However, a side-bore container suffers from a stress concentration at the critical "tee-section" at points of intersection of the main bore and the side bore as shown in Figure 1. The stress-concentration factor, k_h , on the hoop stress results in a hoop stress of $(\sigma_\theta)_T$ at the tee-intersection of

$$(\sigma_\theta)_T = k_h \sigma_\theta \quad (2)$$

where σ_θ is the nominal hoop stress calculated for a straight cylinder.

The stress-concentration factor, k_h , can be expected to be different for internal pressure and external pressure loadings on the liner. The k_h for these two loadings are denoted as k_{hi} and k_{he} respectively.

In a straight-bore container, the maximum shear stress, S , at the bore is

$$S = \frac{\sigma_\theta - \sigma_r}{2} \quad (3)$$

At the tee-intersection of a side-bore container for the internal pressure condition, $\sigma_r = -p$, the shear stress is

$$S_T = \frac{k_{hi}\sigma_\theta + p}{2} \quad (4)$$

where p = fluid pressure.

Consequently, the stress-concentration factor, k_{si} , on the shear stress for the internal pressure condition is

$$k_{si} = \frac{S_T}{S} = \frac{k_{hi}\sigma_\theta + p}{\sigma_\theta + p}, \quad (5)$$

whereas at the unloaded condition (residual stress condition with zero-bore pressure), the shear-stress concentration factor is

$$k_{se} = k_{he} \quad (6)$$

If the stress-concentration factors are known, then the semi-range and mean stresses for a pressure cycle can be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (\sigma_\theta)_r &= \frac{k_{hi}(\sigma_\theta)_{\max} - k_{he}(\sigma_\theta)_{\min}}{2} \\ (\sigma_\theta)_m &= \frac{k_{hi}(\sigma_\theta)_{\max} + k_{he}(\sigma_\theta)_{\min}}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (7a, b)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} S_r &= \frac{k_{si} S_{\max} - k_{se} S_{\min}}{2} \\ S_m &= \frac{k_{si} S_{\max} + k_{se} S_{\min}}{2} \end{aligned} \quad (8a, b)$$

where the stresses $(\sigma_\theta)_{\max}$, $(\sigma_\theta)_{\min}$, S_{\max} , and S_{\min} for a straight cylinder can be calculated using Equations (1a, b) and:

$$S_r = \frac{k_n^2}{2(k_n^2 - 1)} [P_{n-1} - P_n] - (q_{n-1} - q_n), \text{ at } r = r_{n-1} \quad (9)$$

and

$$S_m = \frac{k_n^2}{2(k_n^2 - 1)} [(p_{n-1} - p_n) + (q_{n-1} - q_n)], \text{ at } r = r_{n-1} \quad (10)$$

where

- k_n = wall ratio of component n, $k_n = r_n/r_{n-1}$
- p_n = pressure acting on component n at r_n where $p \neq 0$, psi
- p_{n-1} = pressure acting on component n at r_{n-1} where $p \neq 0$, psi
- q_n = residual interface pressure acting on component n at r_n where $p = 0$, psi
- q_{n-1} = residual interface pressure acting on component n at r_{n-1} where $p = 0$, psi
- r_n = outside radius of component n, inches
- r_{n-1} = inside radius of component n, inches.

(Reference (1) gives the derivation of Equations (9) and (10)).

For large-diameter cylinders of large wall ratio (k_1), it has been found (in both theoretical and experimental studies at Battelle) that the minimum k_h , i. e., the optimum geometry, occurs when the side-bore diameter equals the bore diameter. This yet needs to be verified experimentally for smaller wall ratio liners for $k_1 \leq 6$. For $k_1 \geq 6$ it has also been found that $k_{hi} \approx k_{he}$. Thus, assuming $k_{hi} \cong k_{he} \equiv k_h$ and a maximum-tensile-stress fatigue criterion on the hoop stress for a side-bore liner, the pressure capability, p_{sb} , predicted for a side-bore container is

$$p_{sb} = p/k_h \quad (11)$$

where p is the pressure capability for a straight cylinder. If $k_h = 1.5$ and $p = 300,000$ psi, then $p_{sb} = 200,000$ psi.

The corners at the "tee-intersection" can also be rounded off at the points shown in Figure 1 to reduce the stress-concentration factor by a few percent, and thus increase p_{sb} somewhat.

To improve the pressure capacity of a side-bore container, it might be possible to provide some prestress to the liner material by similar techniques to those used in straight-bore containers. The possibilities offered by multi-ring construction are now considered.

Equation (11) would apply to a multi-ring, side-bore container only if the outer rings, which also must have side bores and corresponding stress concentrations, are not stressed too high. If it is necessary that the side-bore diameter of each ring must be equal to the bore diameter as was found for the optimum design of monoblock containers, then the side bore must be larger for each subsequent outer ring as shown in Figure 2. However, the stepwise increase in side-bore diameter results in less and less supporting material. Perhaps a better design would be to use a double set of shrink-rings that are separated longitudinally such as shown in Figure 3. This would avoid stress concentrations in the outer rings, but would result in less compressive stress at the bore of the liner than would be achieved if a continuous ring was shrunk

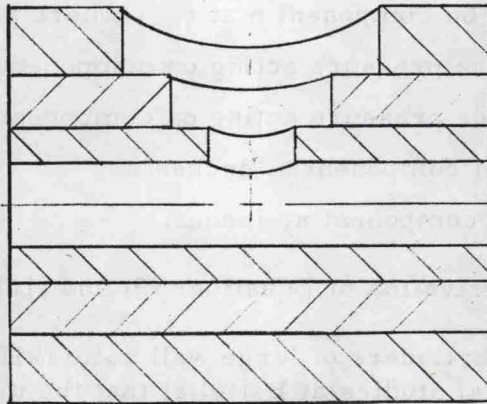


FIGURE 2. CROSS SECTION OF A SHRINK-FIT SIDE-BORE CONTAINER (WITH SIDE-BORE DIAMETERS EQUAL TO BORE DIAMETERS OF EACH RING)

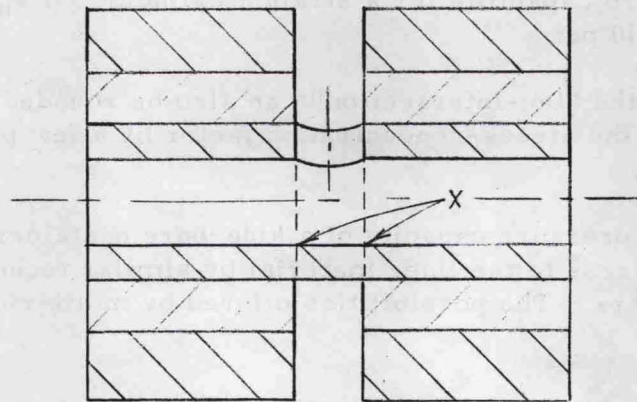


FIGURE 3. CROSS SECTION OF A SIDE-BORE CONTAINER WITH A DOUBLE SET OF SHRINK RINGS

on. For example, it can be shown that the nominal residual hoop stress at the liner bore at Point X in Figure 3 would be 1/2 the value normally achieved entirely under the shrink-ring. (An analysis of this is given in Reference (2)). This is assumed to apply to the type of shrink rings shown in Figure 2 as well. Thus, it is concluded that a side-bore container with such "partial" shrink-rings, compared to a straight-bore container with the same number but "whole" shrink-rings, will have a pressure capability less than that given by Equation (11).

To avoid difficulties associated with shrink-rings on a side-bore liner, an autofrettaged monoblock design of a side-bore container is considered. If the wall ratio could be made sufficiently large, and an autofrettage residual stress of sufficient magnitude could be achieved, then Equation (11) may apply for p = pressure capability of an autofrettaged straight cylinder. For example, pressures, p , up to 290,000 psi have been applied many times to a monoblock autofrettaged cylinder of 285,000 psi ultimate tensile strength as reported by Thomas, Turner, and Wall⁽²⁾. The cylinder had an overall wall ratio of $K = 7.2$.

Before autofrettage can be recommended with confidence for side-bore cylinders, experiments should be conducted to determine if the same benefit is achieved as achieved in straight-bore cylinders. It is well to point out here that autofrettaged cylinders are weaker in fatigue than are shrink-fitted cylinders⁽²⁾ but an autofrettaged monoblock may be easier to replace than a liner of a shrink-fitted container.

Clearly, there are many unknowns in the design of side-bore containers. Even in the design of straight-bore containers much remains to be learned about such factors as fatigue properties of high-strength steel cylinders under cyclic internal pressures and the autofrettaging capabilities of high-strength steels. However, because relatively low fluid pressures of about 150,000 psi will be required for the HYDRAW of titanium tubing, the use of a side-bore container is a distinct possibility and would be eminently desirable from a materials handling standpoint. Consequently, studies are soon to be conducted on geometrically similar plastic models to determine the stress-concentration factor at the critical tee-intersection. This will be done by measuring the strains under pressure indicated by suitably positioned strain gauges. Pressures of only a few hundred psi would be required. The variation of stress-concentration factor with wall ratio will be investigated. The model will be designed with an optimum side-bore to through-bore diameter ratio of one, and with a tee-intersection-radius to bore-radius ratio of one.

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