HIGH PERFORMANCE INJECTION GROUTING: VSL-HPI®

OPTIMISED QUALITY OF GROUTING TO ENHANCE DURABILITY OF POST TENSIONED STRUCTURES:

- INTERNAL TENDONS
- EXTERNAL TENDONS
- SLAB TENDONS
- STRESSBARS
- GROUND ANCHORS
VSL-HPI®: A package for improving to enhance the durability of post-tensioning tendons.

VSL IS COMMITTED TO PERFORM QUALITY GROUTING
Experience with grouted post-tensioning tendons over about half a century has proven that a cementitious grout can provide excellent protection for the prestressing steel. Experience has also shown that the quality of the grouting is of prime importance for the durability of post-tensioning tendons for any kind of application: Bonded internal tendons, external tendons, slab tendons, stressbars. For these concerns, VSL has developed a full process dedicated to improving the quality of grouting activities on site and grouting materials, under the trademark VSL-HPI® (high performance injection).

VSL PROVIDES OPTIMISED GROUT MIXES DESIGNED FOR THE INTENDED USE AND ENVIRONMENT
Constituent materials (cement, water, admixtures) are carefully selected. They are checked for compatibility with each other. Quantities of admixtures and water are optimised to provide stable, low-bleed grouts which assure complete filling of the tendon ducts and an alkaline environment for long-term protection of the tendon. Grout mixes consisting of selected local cements and specific admixtures have been analysed and optimised for exclusive use in the VSL network.

VSL USES SPECIFICALLY ADJUSTED EQUIPMENT
VSL grouting equipment has confirmed compatibility with our optimised grout mixes, and the confirmed ability to produce a homogeneous grout mix. The VSL grouting equipment has also the confirmed ability to grout tendons as specified in our proven method statements and procedures.

With VSL-HPI® grouting, VSL provides post-tensioning works including grouting materials and execution on site will meet and quality requirements. VSL can interfaces of the complex process of the project.

QUALITY END PRODUCT

COMMITMENT

TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED STAFF
the quality of grouting tensioned structures

VSL SERVICES
• When the complete VSL-HPI® grouting package is provided, including the supply of a grout mix optimised for the intended use, VSL will take full responsibility for the quality of grouting works, and guarantee the complete filling of tendons.
• Whether standard or special cases such as long vertical cables, loop tendons, grouting of long horizontal tendons etc., VSL will use post-tensioning system detailing, grouting equipment, and grouting procedures that are best adapted to the particular case.
• VSL can offer assistance to the engineer in selecting structural details best adapted to assure long-term durability of the tendons and the structure.
• Vacuum-assisted grouting providing improved quality may be offered for long horizontal tendons to avoid or reduce the need for vents, and for external tendons without access/vents at the high points of the tendon profile.
• VSL can provide HPI® grouting in combination with the CS 2000 post-tensioning system and the PT-PLUS plastic duct system to provide the highest level of tendon protection available today, and to permit electrical monitoring of the tendon during construction and its entire life (EIT technology).

VSL APPLIES WELL PROVEN PROCEDURES
Grouting works on site are carried out in accordance with well-proven procedures, adapted to the equipment and grout mix used, by qualified and experienced VSL staff. These procedures include checking of the most critical tendon locations for complete filling after grouting. Completely filled and well-protected tendons can therefore be guaranteed.

TRAINED AND EXPERIENCED STAFF
Grouting works are supervised by well-qualified and trained specialists with several years of experience. These specialists are familiar with the latest developments in grout mix design and grouting technology. They assure that the training of our personnel on site is adapted to the intended activities.
THE VSL-HPI® GROUTING TESTS

**Standard test for the viscosity**
- **Aim:** Assure proper viscosity (flow time) of grout for injection into tendon duct. Several forms of cones are used to measure flow time. CRD and EN cones are most common.
- **Minimum 2 tests for any grout mix, carried out before and during grouting.**
- **Requirements:** Flow time limits: 13 to 18 seconds. Stability of flow time over extended periods of time up to 2 hours and more.

**Mud balance test**
- **Aim:** Verification of fluid grout density (weight / volume). Used for approval testing and on-site testing to confirm the water content of the grout mix in-situ.
- **Requirements:** VSL-HPI Grouts have a high density of about 2,050 kg/m³ because of their low water content and low porosity.

**Wick-induced bleed test**
- **Aim:** Verification of bleed and volume change.
- **Grout column with 1 strand at centre.** Used for on-site testing.
- **Requirements:** VSL-HPI Grouts have less than 0.3% bleed, and less than 1% volume change.

**Inclined tube test**
- **Aim:** Verification of bleed and stability; after preliminary testing, used as approval test.
- **Only test available today to represent realistically the environment of grout inside the cable.**
- **2 transparent PVC tubes, each with 12 strands 0.6”.**
- **Requirements:** VSL-HPI Grouts have less than 0.3% bleed and show no segregation.

VSL-HPI® Grouting is the result of intensive research work on the combination of Special Grout and on-site procedures. Today’s state-of-the-art grouting, it significantly enhances the durability of post-tensioned structures.

State-of-the-art testing of grout:
Many projects today have demanding requirements in terms of pressure differential for deep and inclined tendon profiles, workability over extended periods, setting, and particularly grout stability for bleed, sedimentation, and segregation. Such applications require the use of Special Grouts with improved properties and specifically selected cements and admixtures. These grouts must go through an approval process including tests not normally specified by today’s national standards, but suggested in new recommendations by fib, PTI, EOTA, etc.

VSL-HPI® grouts satisfy all the standard test procedures for bleed, flow time, strength, and volume change. In addition, VSL-HPI® grouts satisfy the more stringent requirements now proposed in the above-mentioned recommendations for the following tests:
- Inclined Tube test
- Wick Induced Bleed test
- Mud Balance test
- Stability of Flow Time