# Fastener Corrosion Issues: Testing, Codes, and Design

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#### **Overview**

- Fundamentals of Corrosion
- Designing to Minimize Corrosion
- Codes & Standards
  - · AWC
  - · ICC-ES
  - AWPA E-12
- Current Research
  - Simpson Strong Tie
  - Forest Products Laboratory

#### **Fundamentals**

- All metals corrode
  - Metastable
- Corrosion rate
  - Reaction kinetics
  - Key figure of merit
  - Depends on
    - Chemical environment
    - Physical environment
    - Corrosion products

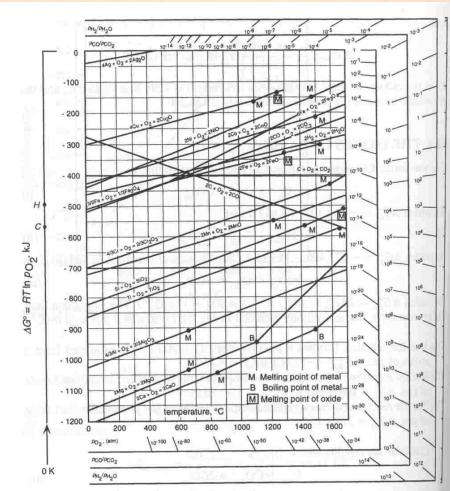


Figure 12.13 The Ellingham diagram for selected oxides

Introduction to the Thermodynamics of Materials - Gaskell

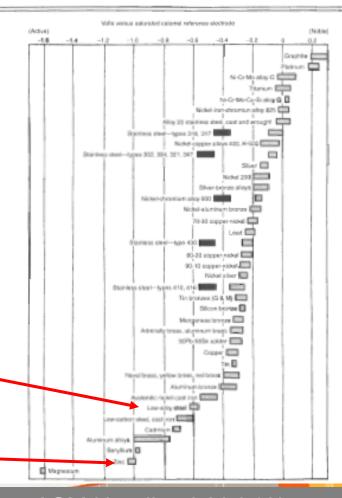
#### **Fundamentals**

- Galvanic Series
  - Only valid for seawater
  - Thermodynamic ranking
    - Does NOT rank corrosion rates

Low Alloy Steel 2.9 mils/year\_\_\_\_

Zinc 0.6 mils/year

#### Galvanic Series of Metals and Alloys in Seawater



ASM Handbook Vol 13b

# **Design Considerations**

- Protective Coatings
  - Metallic Coatings
    - Anodic coatings (galvanizing)
      - "Self healing"
    - Cathodic coatings
      - Pitting corrosion at defects
  - Corrosion performance
    - Corrosion rate of coating
    - Defects in coating

## **Design Considerations**

- Non-Metallic Coatings & Barriers
  - Coatings do not "corrode"
    - Subject to degradation
    - Pitting corrosion at defects
  - Currently researched at FPL
    - Based on epoxy coated rebar techniques
  - Barriers
    - Same concerns as coatings

#### **Codes & Standards**

- AF&PA AWC
  - Corrosion fact sheet
    - Minimum of hot-dip galvanized or equivalent
  - PWF Design Specifications (Draft)
    - "Fasteners in contact with preservative treated wood shall be of Type 304 or 316 stainless steel"
    - Exception: CCA treated wood, moisture content less than 19%,
      - hot-dip galvanized allowed

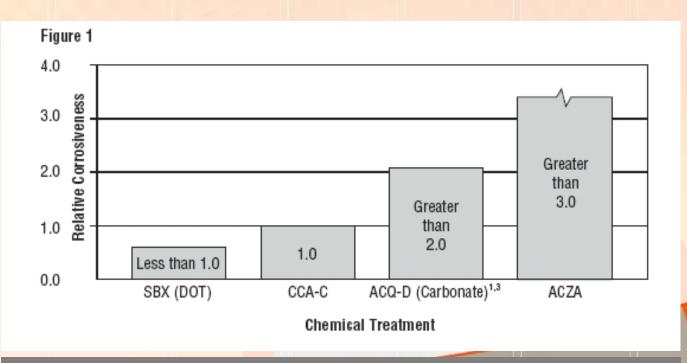
#### **Codes & Standards**

- AWPA E-12
  - Metal coupons held between wood blocks
  - 49°C ± 1°C (120°F± 2°F) with RH of 90% ± 1%
    - Minimum 240 hours exposure
  - Coupons cleaned, corrosion rate reported

#### **Codes & Standards**

- ICC-ES Acceptance Criteria A326
  - Approved March 1, 2006
  - Min 10 replicates
  - Fasteners driven into wood
    - Then follows AWPA E12 exposures
  - Fasteners cleaned & visually inspected
  - Fastener shall pass if it has less than 25% surface corrosion

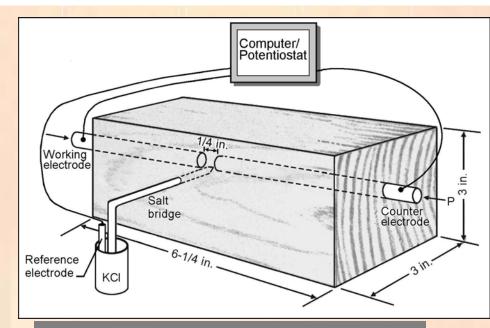
- Simpson Strong Tie
  - 1,800 AWPA E12 Tests
  - 3,000+ Modified E12 Tests
    - Using actual fasteners



Simpson Strong Tie Technical Bulletin T-PTWOOD06

- Forest Products
  Laboratory
  - Electrical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS)

- Pros
  - Test at MC or T of interest
  - Measure diffusion controlled reactions
  - Prevent permanent polarization of preservative
  - Model corrosion via equivalent circuit



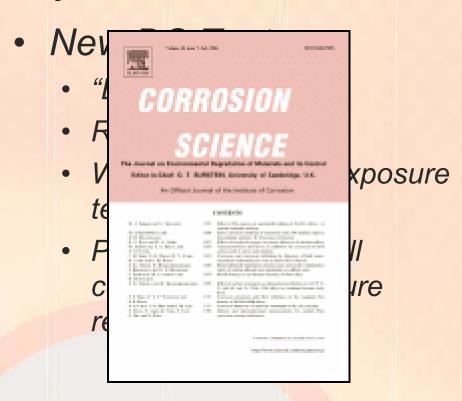
TMS Lett. 2(1) pp.15-16

- Cons
  - Requires expensive equipment
  - Data analysis requires modeling

- Forest Products Laboratory
  - DC methods
    - LPR, Polarization
- Pros
  - Simple data analysis
  - Rapid
  - Test at temperature of interest
  - Theory well studied

- Cons
  - Affected by solution resistance
    - Not well suited to solid wood

- Forest Products Laboratory
- Original DC Tests
  - Solutions of CCA, ACQ
  - Diluted to 0.25 pcf (etc.)
  - 1018 steel, 304 stainless, zinc, and 430 stainless
- Results
  - Steels < 4μm/yr</li>
  - Zinc (no results)
- Conclusions
  - Preservatives change corrosiveness upon entering wood



Forest Products Laboratory



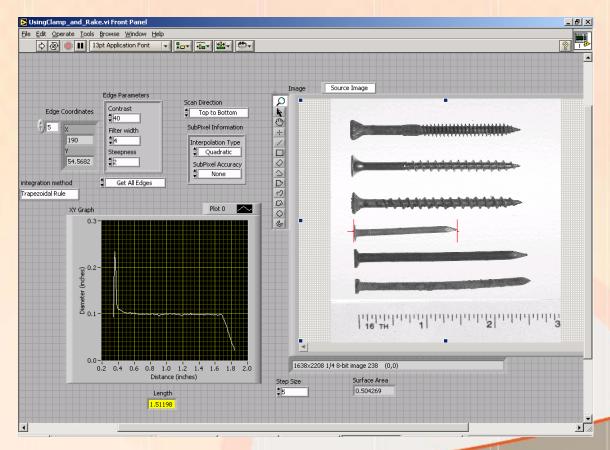
- Cons
  - Time consuming
  - Cleaning techniques cause additional uncertainties

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Surface areas not well defined

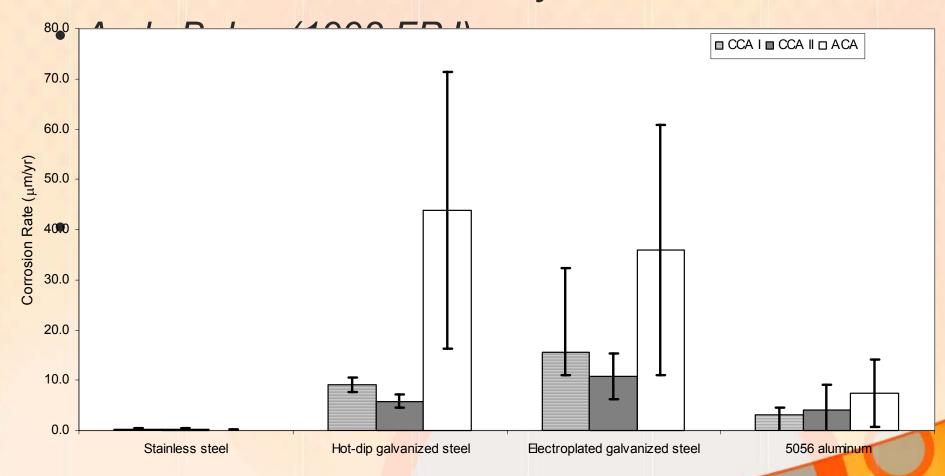
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Surface Area Algorithm



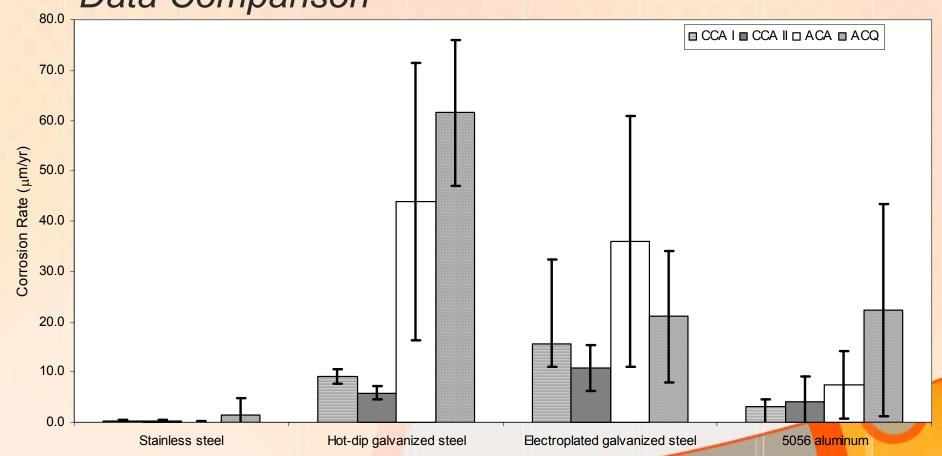
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Data Comparison



#### Summary

- Corrosion- A kinetic phenomenon
- Testing- Quantitative methods being developed
- Design

Product	Design Consideration
Stainless Steel	Combining with a different metal
Metallic Coatings (anodic)	Combining with a different metal
	Corrosion rate of coating
Metallic Coatings (cathodic)	Combining with a different metal
	Defects in coating
	Construction damage to coatings
Organic/Ceramic Coatings	Defects in coating
	Damage to coating during construction
Barriers	Defects in barrier
	Damage to barrier during construction