

The Influence of Thermal Expansion on Package Tightness during Fire

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Patram 2010, London, UK

Outline

- Introduction
- Parameters
- Evaluation of leak tightness
- Conclusions

Accident conditions of transport

Test conditions

- Drop test: 9 m drop on unyielding target
- Puncture test: 1 m drop on steel bar
- Fire test: 30 minutes at 800°C

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Requirements

- Integrity
- Leak Tightness
- Shielding
- Criticality Safety

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- **Fire test: 30 minutes at 800°C**

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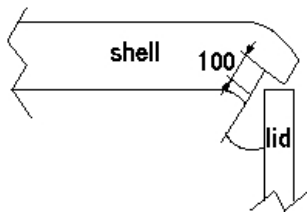
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- **Leak Tightness**
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Fire test effects

- Thermal expansion of shell and lid during fire
- Possible change of sealing configuration
- Effect activity release
- Situation lasts for minutes in opposite to the drop event

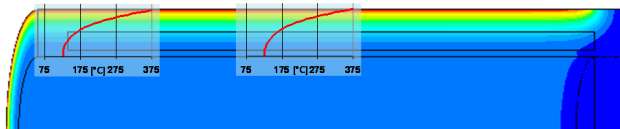
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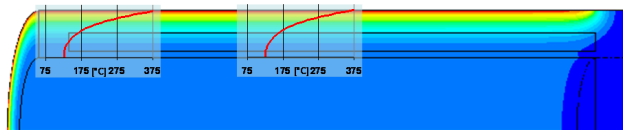
Fire test effects

Temperature gradients

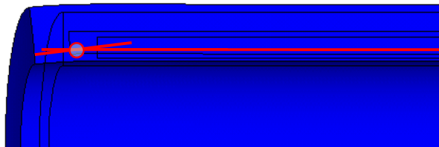


Fire test effects

Temperature gradients



Deformations induced by thermal expansion



Parameters

Studied:

- Temperature and wall thickness
- Shell material
- Drop test result: shock absorber

Temperature gradient and wall thickness

Temperature gradient

<i>Gradient</i>	<i>Thickness</i>	<i>Stress outside</i>	<i>Stress inside</i>
K	mm	MPa	MPa
100	200	-175	205
200	200	-351	411
300	200	-526	616

Temperature gradient and wall thickness

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Wall thickness

<i>Gradient</i>	<i>Thickness</i>	<i>Stress outside</i>	<i>Stress inside</i>
K	mm	MPa	MPa
300	100	-547	595
300	200	-526	616
300	300	-508	635

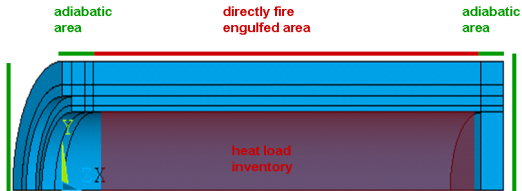
Shell material

Cast iron and steel

<i>Gradient</i>	<i>Thickness</i>	<i>Stress outside</i>	<i>Stress inside</i>	<i>Material</i>
K	mm	MPa	MPa	
200	400	-209	282	cast iron
200	400	-324	437	steel

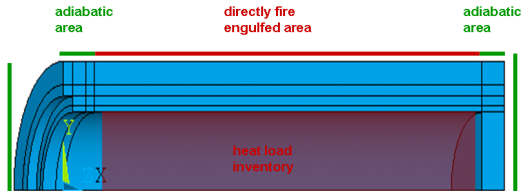
Drop test: shock absorber

End shock absorber present

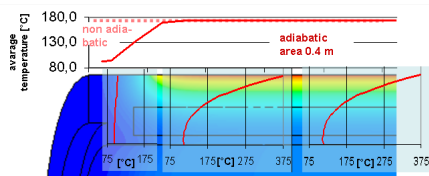


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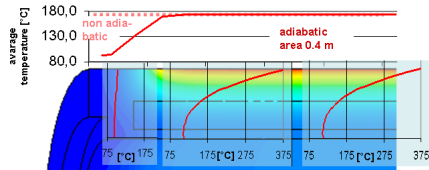


Effect



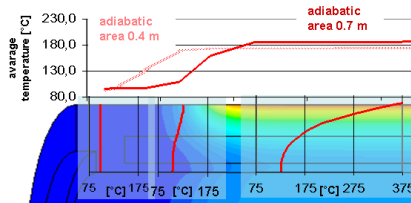
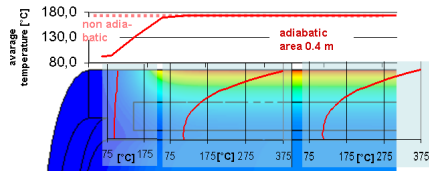
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Main parameter: length of adiabatic area



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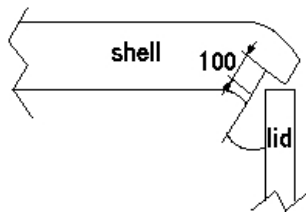
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- Compared with seal recovery

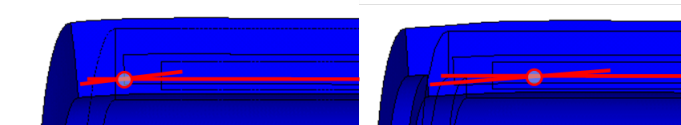
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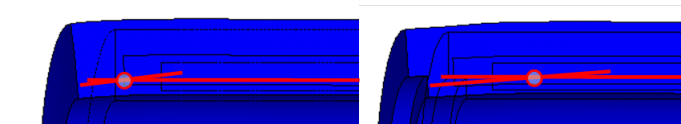
Evaluation of leak tightness

Length of adiabatic area: rotation point



Evaluation of leak tightness

Length of adiabatic area: rotation point

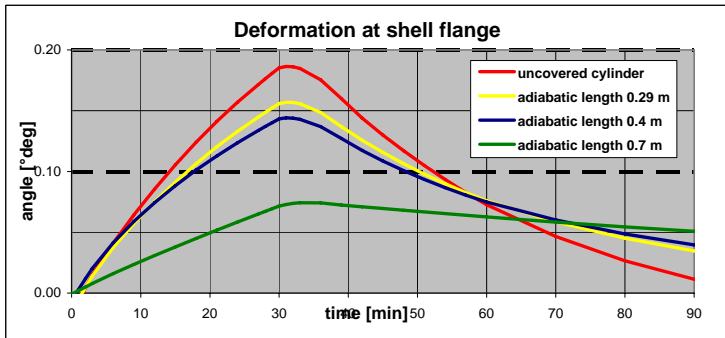


Angles and gaps

<i>Case</i>	<i>Angle</i>	<i>Gap at seal position</i>
Non-adiabatic area	0.186°	0.325 mm
Adiabatic area of 0.4 m	0.143°	0.250 mm
Adiabatic area of 0.7 m	0.073°	0.127 mm

Evaluation of leak tightness

Time influence



Conclusions

Investigated issues

- Thermal expansion during fire test (ACT) is studied
- Identified parameters:
 - Temperature gradient
 - Wall thickness
 - Shell material
 - Shock absorber presence after drop test
 - Shock absorber design

Conclusions

Consequences

- Shell/lid deformations (angle)
- Increased shell/lid gap at seal area
- Potential release of radioactive material
- Situation lasts minutes in opposite to short-time drop event
- ... results in a **significant safety issue**