

# TRIGA FUEL EXAMINATION USING A GE EVEREST XLG3 VIDEOPROBE - WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE FUTURE OF FUEL INTEGRITY DETERMINATION (& OTHER POSSIBLE USES)



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# SNF Examinations

- ◆ **Since 1998, ICP personnel have visually examined over 4,000 fuel elements. The examinations were performed at over 25 domestic and/or foreign research facilities**
- ◆ **Because storage at the INL is anticipated to be for a long period of time, knowledge of fuel condition is of utmost importance to prevent contaminate release in handling the fuel and while in storage and the ability to handle the fuel in the future**
- ◆ **Cladding thickness is an important consideration, in determining the integrity of the fuel.**
  - TRIGA fuel cladding thickness:
    - Aluminum is 0.03 in. (0.762 mm)
    - Stainless steel is 0.02 in. (0.508 mm)



# Al-clad Element with Obvious Damaged Cladding



# Al-clad Element with Peeled Cladding & Crack



# Al-clad Element w/ Breached Cladding & Pinholes





# Set-up of Camera Systems in Reactor Pool



# Set-up of Camera Systems Above Pool





# GE 3D Phase Measurement Video-Probe System



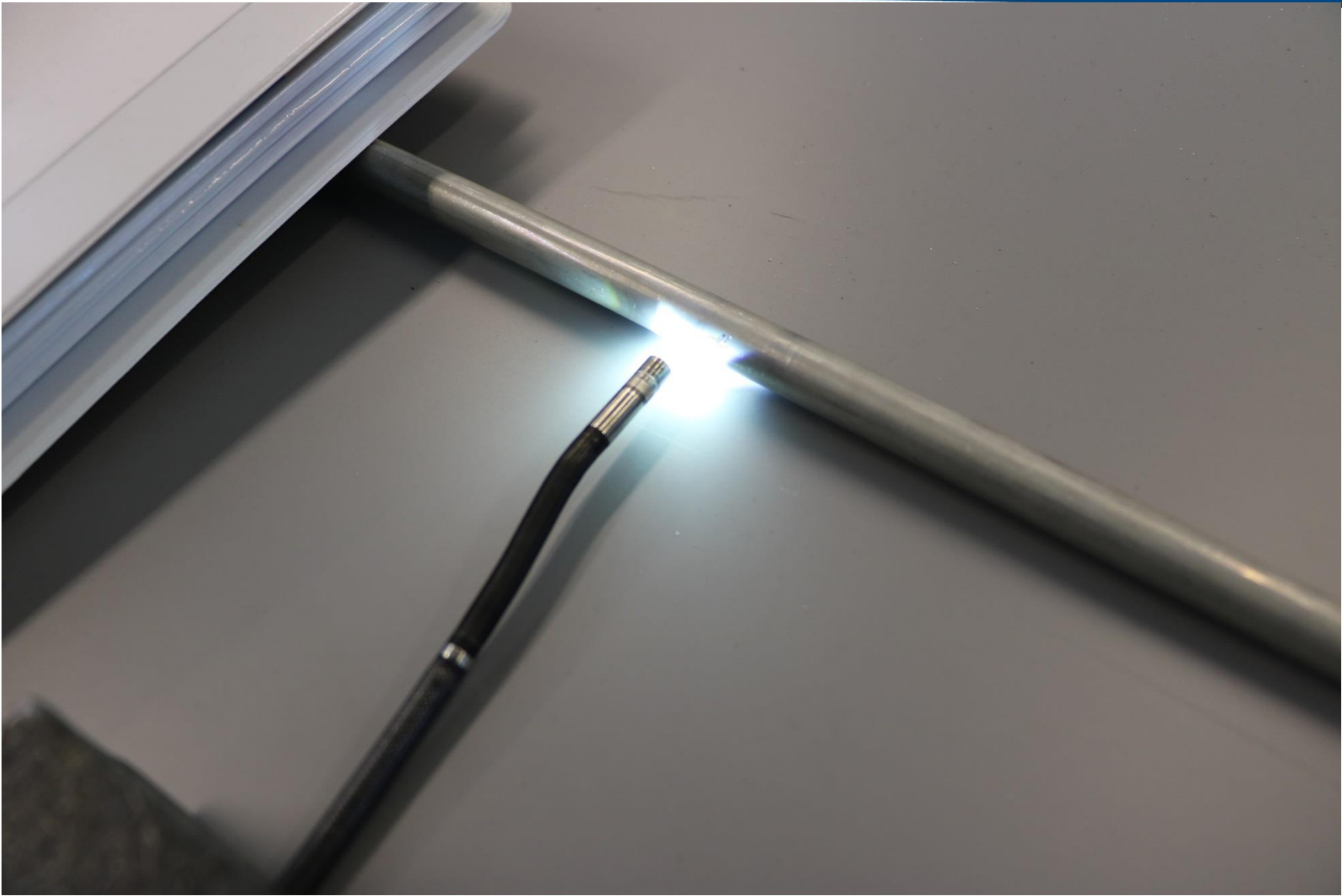
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# Details About the Video-Probe

- ◆ The Video-Probe enables inspectors to both view and measure a defect
- ◆ The 3D Phase Measurement Video-Probe creates a 3D surface scan of the viewing area and can measure length, width, area, and depth of a defect or anomaly using the 3D scan
- ◆ The Video-Probe also serves as a general “boroscope” camera for taking “up close” photos and video of the anomaly
- ◆ The Video-Probe tip articulates via a joy-stick on the control panel to facilitate focusing on the anomaly

# Video-Probe Tip – Light Used for Measurements





# Anomaly on TRIGA Element – Underwater Camera



# Same Anomaly on Element – Seen w/ Video-Probe





# Details of Anomalies – Seen w/ Video-Probe



# Anomaly on TRIGA Element – Underwater Camera

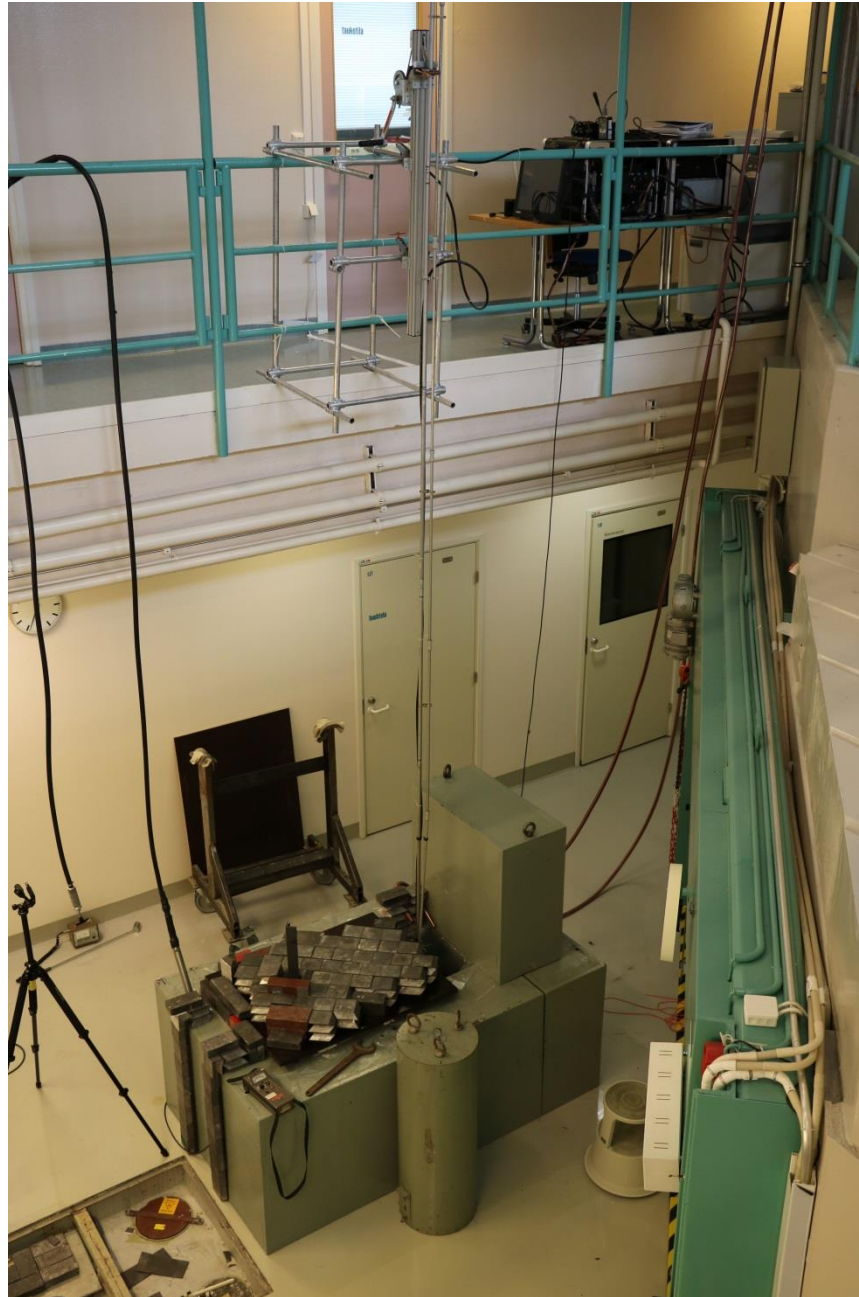




# Same Anomaly on Element – Seen w/ Video-Probe

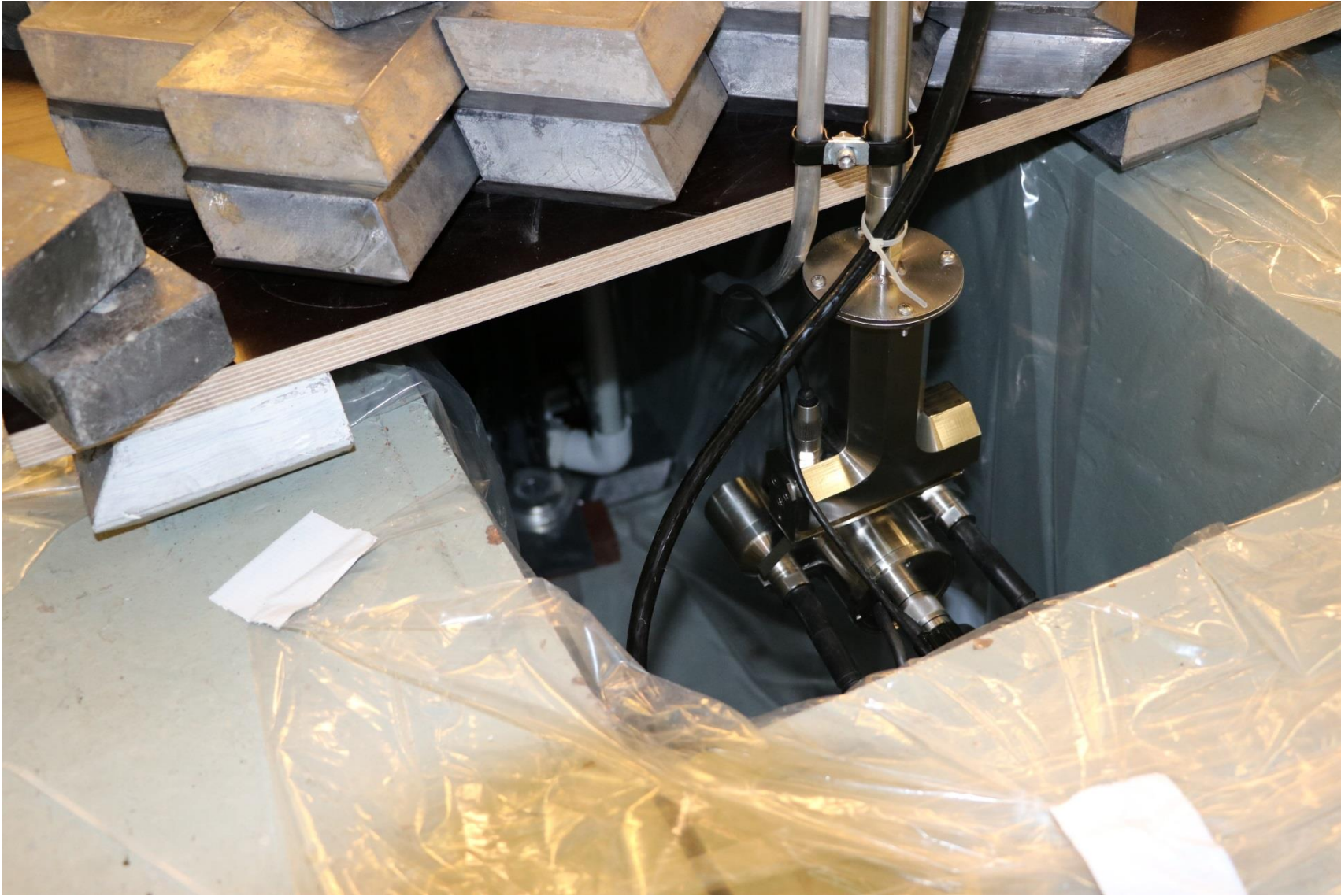


# Temporary Shielding for Fuel Inspection – Dry Fuel





# Camera Systems Used During Fuel Examination



# Retrieving TRIGA Fuel from Dry Storage Wells





# Placing Dry TRIGA Fuel in Shielding for Inspection





# Jury-Rigging for Holding Video-Probe in Place



# Anomaly Found with Regular Camera System





# Anomaly (Zoomed in on Camera)



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# Anomaly Seen with Video-Probe



# Setting the Video-Probe to Measure Depth of Spot

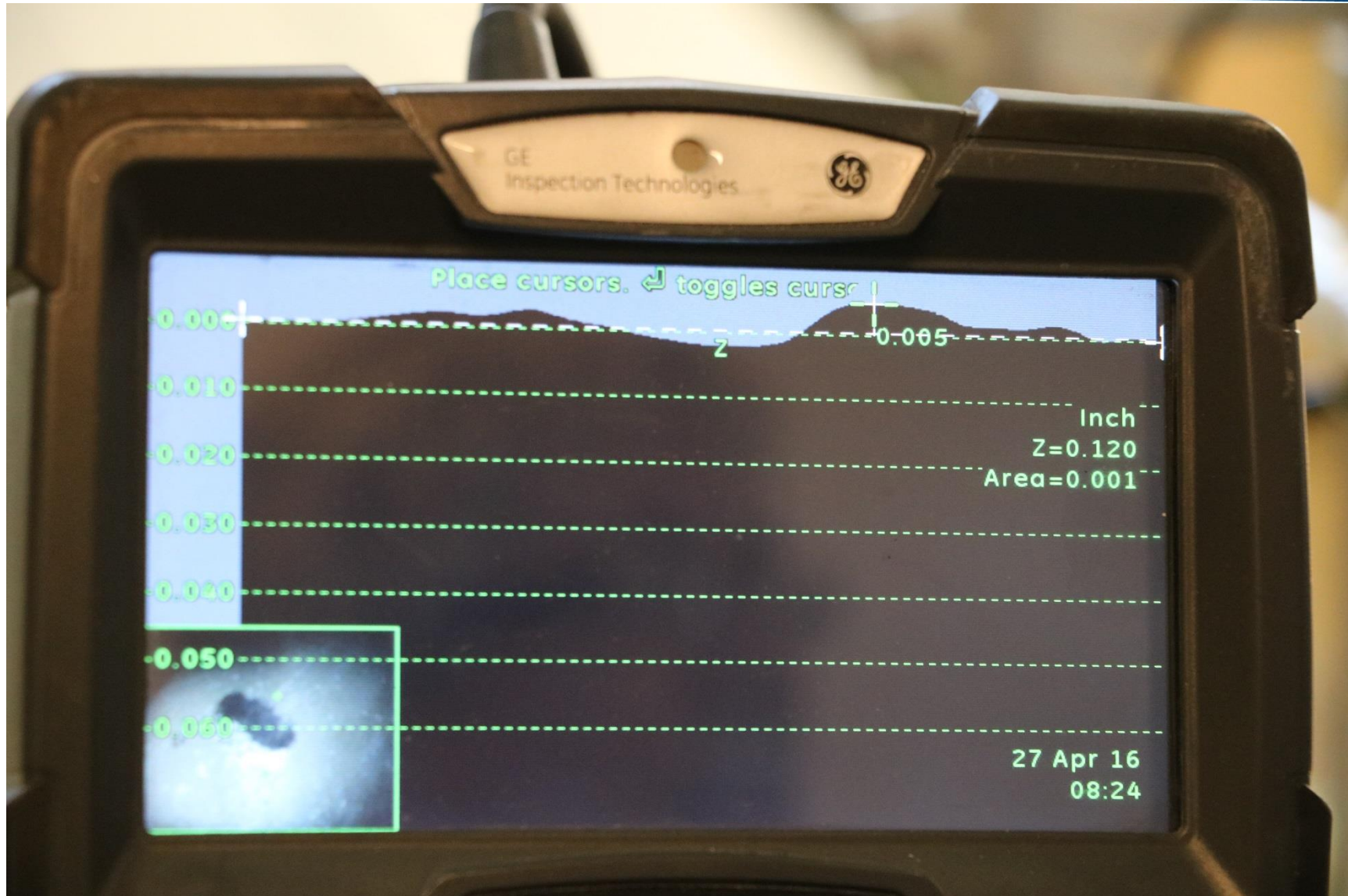




# Setting the Video-Probe to Obtain a Depth Profile



# Depth Profile from the GE Video-Probe





# Anomaly Found with Regular Camera System

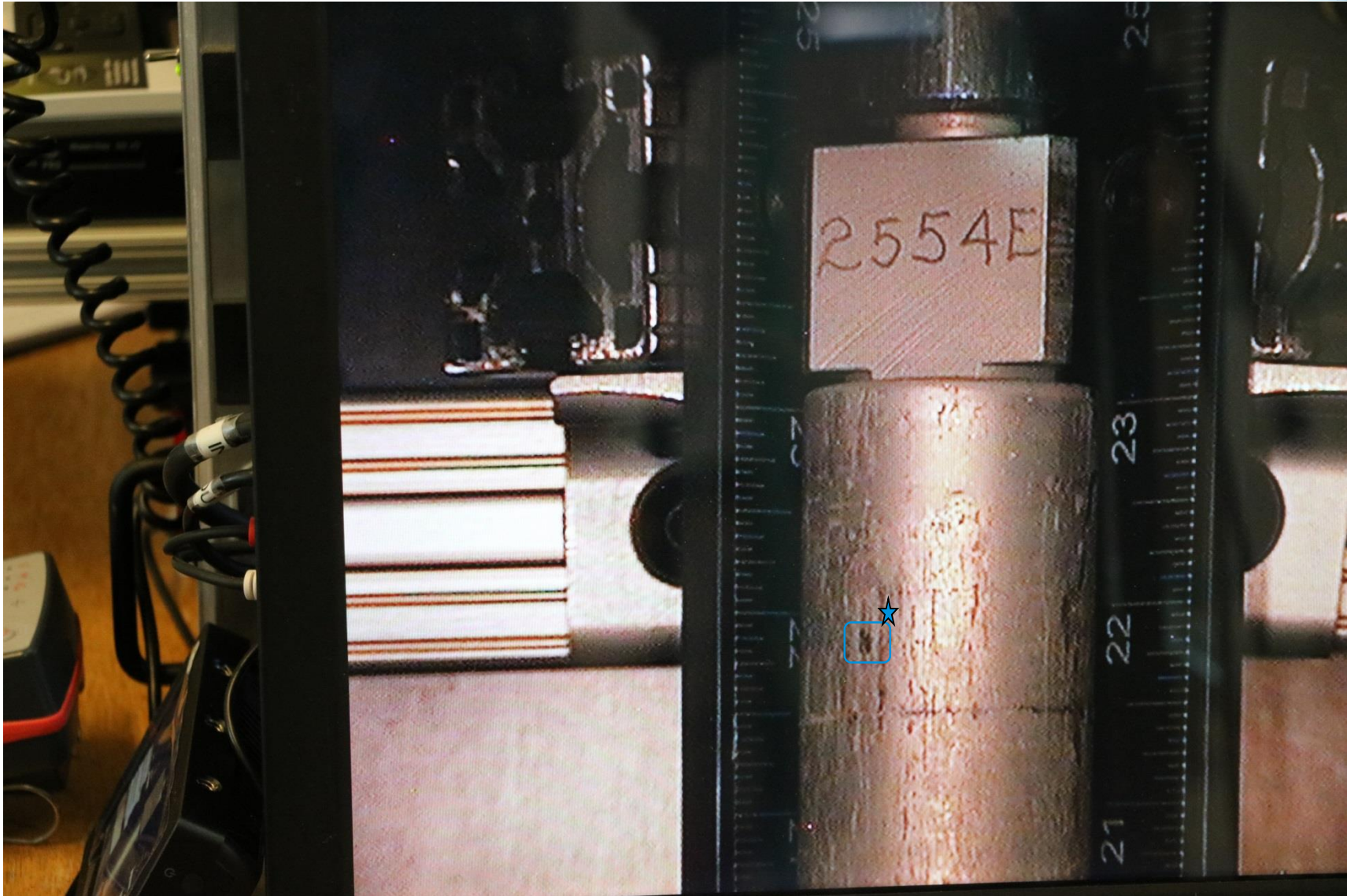


# Anomaly Seen with Video-Probe





# Anomaly Found with Regular Camera System

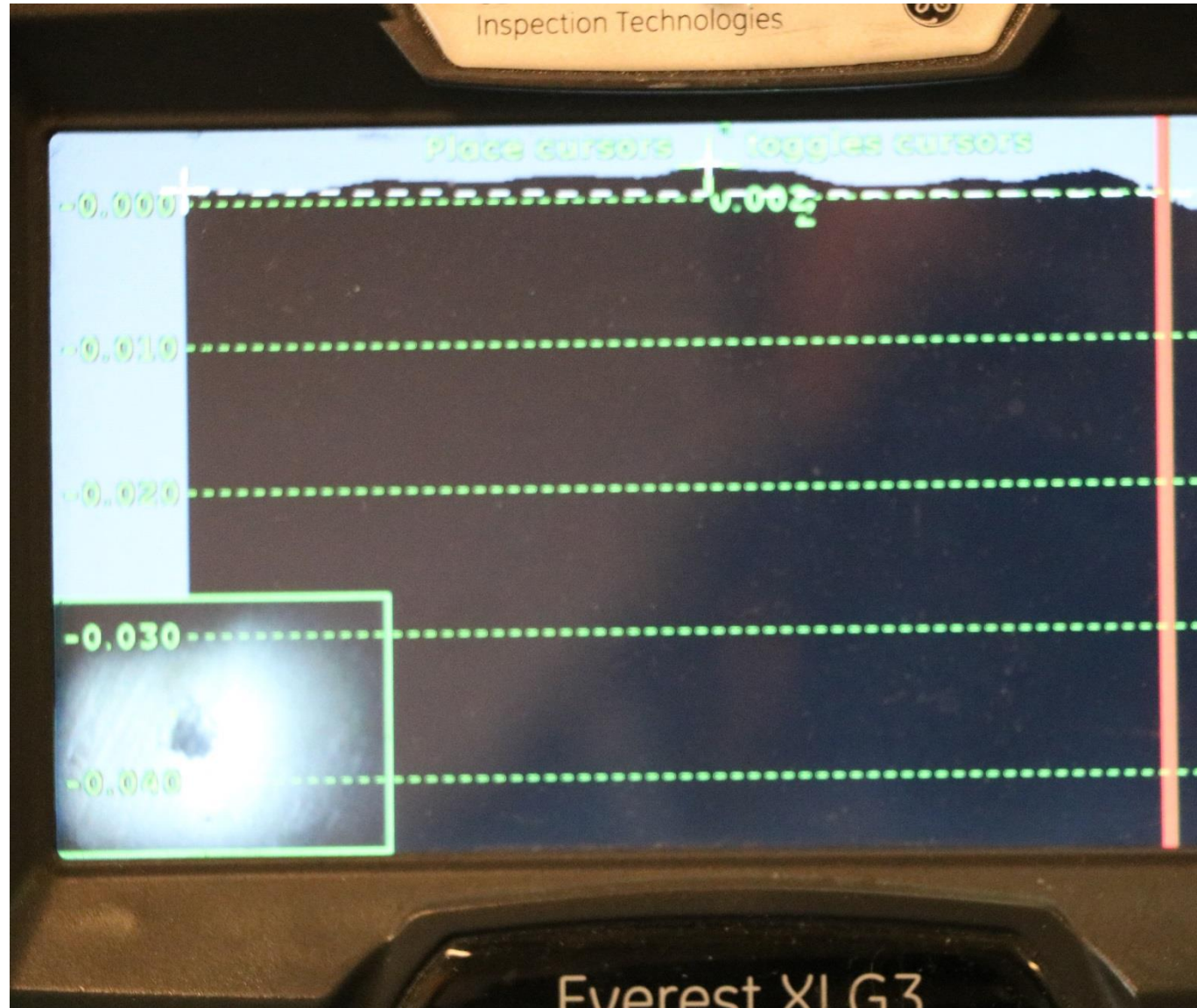


# Anomaly Seen with Video-Probe





# Depth Profile from the GE Video-Probe



# Swelled Cladding Found w/ Regular Camera System

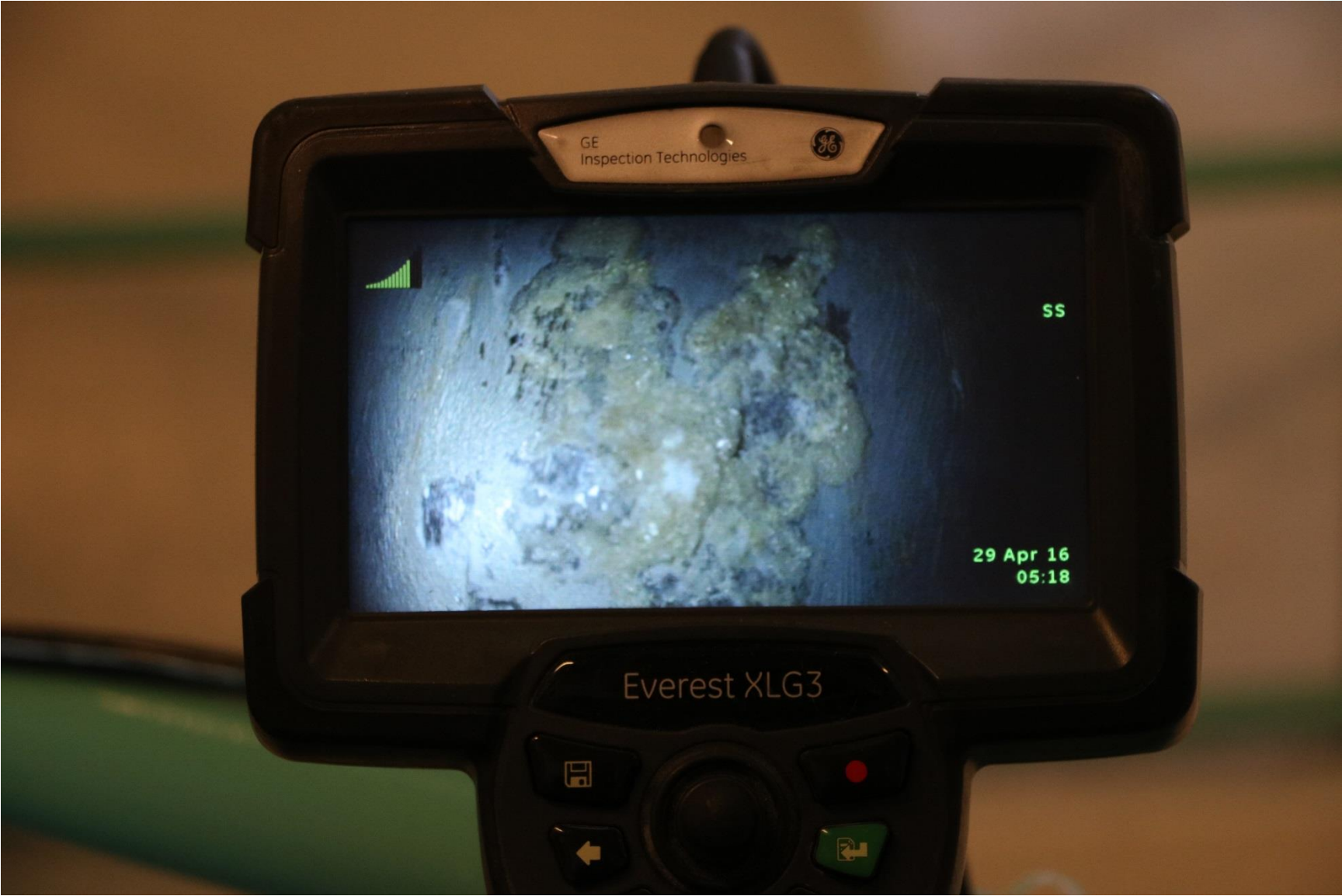




# Swelled Cladding Depth Profile from Video-Probe



# Section of Swelled Cladding Viewed w/ Video-Probe





# Swelled Cladding Depth Profile from Video-Probe

