

Manufacturing Completion of the First ITER Vacuum Vessel Sector

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Outline

- Introduction
- Technical Challenges
 - Nuclear Safety Process
 - Tight Tolerance Requirement
 - Full Inspection Requirement
 - Other Challenges
- Lessons learned





Introduction 한국핵융합에너지연구원 KOREA INSTITUTE OF FUSION ENERGY **(Iter)** KOREA DOMESTIC AGENCY 3 KEE

ITER Vacuum Vessel - Overall Description

- A torus shaped double wall structure
 - To provide the high vacuum for plasma and the primary radioactivity confinement boundary
 - To support in-vessel components (Blanket, Divertor, etc)

Main Vessel (40° Sector)

In-wall

Shielding

Major dimensions Weight (ton) Outer diameter 19.4 m Main vessel 1611 Height 11.4 m Shielding 1733 Double wall thickness 0.34-0.75 m Ports 1781 Interior surface 850 m² Supports 111 Interior volume 1600 m³ Total 5236

Upper Port (18)



Lower Port (9)

VV

Support (9)





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ITER VV - Procurement Sharing



Regulatory Requirements

Requirements	Description
Safety	 PIC (Protection Important Class) components according to French order dated 7 Feb 2012 (INB Order)
Nuclear pressure vessel	 Level N2 and Category IV NPE according to the guidelines of the ASN for application of French Order dated 30 Dec 2015 (ESPN Order) Agreed Notified Body (ANB) involvement for conformity assessment

Technical Requirements

Requirements	Description
Material	316L(N)-ITER-Grade with special requirements
Design load	Dead weight, coolant pressure, various electromagnetic loads
Tolerance	Accurate field joint fit-up and precise assembly of in-vessel components
Welding Inspection	Full penetration welding 100% volumetric NDE even at single side accessing region
Testing	Baking condition: 200 °C Testing pressure: 0.5 MPa, Vacuum leak rate: < 10 ⁻⁸ Pa-m ³ /s
Code	RCC-MR 2007 edition





Brief history of the 1st sector manufacturing



Needs 101 months for 1st sector manufacturing



ITER VV sector #6 (1st sector)







Technical Challenges of ITER VV

- Main technical difficulties are caused by strict nuclear regulation
 - 1. Nuclear Safety Process
 - **2. Tight manufacturing tolerances** even a heavy welded structure having total 1.4 km lengths weld seams
 - 3. 100% volumetric inspection requirement by ESPN order
 - 4. Complicated interfaces among related parties, for example,
 - $\checkmark~$ Involved several DAs, IO and ANB
 - ✓ Manufacturing of IWS by INDA (ATL), Upper Port Stub Extension by RFDA (MAN)
 - ✓ Assembly into Sector : by KODA (HHI)







Challenge-1: Nuclear Safety Process (1/2)

- Whole manufacturing procedure of the ITER VV should observe nuclear regulatory requirements.
 - 1. To maintain traceability for all activities as nuclear pressure vessel
 - 2. All applicable documents shall be approved by KODA, IO and ANB prior to actual manufacturing
 - 3. All manufacturing activities have been inspected and recorded with approved Manufacturing Inspection Plan (MIP)
 - → A great deal of time and effort are required to proceed the manufacturing by a long documents review & approval process, and the complicated work interface

A necessity arose for process simplification !!





Challenge-1: Nuclear Safety Process (2/2)

- In 2015, IO EPB (Executive Project Board) decided to create the Vacuum Vessel Project Team (VVPT)
 - 1. Purpose
 - ✓ One team sprit : IO-CT + IO-DAs
 - \checkmark Simplification of project management of the VV
 - 2. The whole process has been greatly simplified after implementation of the VVPT,
 - ✓ The simplification of the document control procedure by a time review and approval as one team
 - \checkmark All inspections were performed at once
 - ✓ A total of 45,000 inspection points were performed and about 500 manufacturing documents have been developed for manufacturing of the ITER VV sector#6







Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (1/8)

• Interface with in-vessel components



Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (2/8)

• Welding distortion analysis to determine counter deformation during final assembly



Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (3/8)

Final Assembly based on Virtual Fitting

Virtual Fitting in advance based on final 3D result of each PS and UPSE/LPSE for fit-up baseline

(Reference position set-up for each Fiducial Posts based on 1) required tolerance, 2) as built dimension for each segment, 3) required weld root fit-up tolerance, 4) welding distortion analysis results)

PS1+PS3 fit-up based on the Virtual Fitting result









Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (4/8)

Final Assembly based on Virtual Fitting



PS1+PS3+PS2 Fit-up based on the Virtual Fitting Result

PS1+PS3+PS2+PS4 Fit-up based on the Virtual Fitting Result and Welding/NDE



UPSE/LPSE Assembly & Jig removal







Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (5/8)



Final results of S6 PS1 FSH Thread Hole Angle



Required tolerance for FSH

- Angle of Thread Hole :
 - ✓ Max 0.7° (common)



<A angle Max = Max: 1.09°(0.7°+0.39°)>

<B angle Max = Max: 0.47°>

Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (6/8)

Technical requirements - Tolerance



Required tolerance for FSH

- Location :
 - +/- 2mm (for edge) \checkmark
 - +/-4mm (for body) \checkmark

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Final results of S6 PS1 FSH Thread Hole Position

Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (7/8)



Challenge-2: Tight Tolerance Requirement (8/8)

Welding technology for wide root gap & misalignment



PS4 setting for final assembly



Welding Procedure Specification for wide root gap & misalignment (Max. 21 mm)







Challenge-3: Full Inspection Requirement (1/5)

PAUT: Qualification for various VV weld configurations



 15 times of UT qualifications were successfully completed (with 157 qualification blocks and 141 documents) under VVPT & ANB witness.





Challenge-3: Full Inspection Requirement (2/5)

- PAUT: modifications on the general configurations, mainly to difficult access, bring difficulties during the production.
 - Special cases (mainly poor accessibility for UT): Jigs/Fixtures for welding distortion, Surface curvature, Geometrical shape, Thread holes, Water cooling holes, Existing weld lines, etc
 - 2. Special cases leads to higher UT sensitivities and modified acceptance criteria
 → Applied compensation gain

➔ To achieve 100% volumetric examination requirement, all special cases were technically verified and successfully qualified.





Challenge-3: Full Inspection Requirement (3/5)

PAUT: Special case for various VV weld configurations









Challenge-3: Full Inspection Requirement (4/5)

Remote Visual Examination for weldments (100% Visual examination)



Challenge-3: Full Inspection Requirement (5/5)

- Remote Visual Examination for weldments (100% Visual examination)
 - 1. RVE technology has been successfully qualified (resolution capability at least equal to that of direct visual examination).
 - 2. Nuclear requirement (100% VT on backside welds) was satisfied using RVE technology.





Other Challenges (1/3)

Factory Acceptance Test



Other Challenges (2/3)

Factory Acceptance Test

- ✓ He Leak Test was passed successfully
 - The calculated leak rate : 6.08x10⁻⁹ Pa·m³·s⁻¹ (The acceptance criteria : 1x10⁻⁸ Pa·m³·s⁻¹)



He Leak Test of the ITER VV sector #6





Other Challenges (3/3)

Transportation

- ✓ **ITER VV transportation is considered as PIA** according to French Regulation
 - Transportation Plan, Quality Plan and MIP have to be approved by ANB in advance
 - Following documents also have to be approved before shipping
 - 1) Packing Procedure, 2) Packing List, 3) Technical Information, 4) Invoice
 - 5) Packing Control Record, 6) Certificate of Compliance, 7) Deliverable Documentation,
 - 8) Delivery Report, 9) Shipping Requirement, 10) Release Note, 11) EMR
 - 12) Equipment storage & preservation requirement by IO TRO
 - 13) Hazard analysis & specification for transportation/storage by IO TRO



ITER VV sector #6 Hermitical Covering and Transportation





LESSONS LEARNED



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LESSONS LEARNED (1/2)

• Expected significant manufacturing schedule reduction for the remaining KO sectors by,

- Use developed manufacturing documents and techniques for 1st sector
- 2. Improved document management system and the updated quality control to prevent similar nonconformities
- 3. Several technical improvements such as additional splice T-rib between PS1 & PS4 for the final assembly, the improved weld joint design for PAUT feasibility, the improved jig system and welding sequence



LESSONS LEARNED (2/2)

Significance of the regulation and code for vacuum vessel manufacturing,

- 1. It is clearly recognized that the importance of the regulation and code for manufacturing of the ITER VV sector.
- 2. The appropriate regulation and code need to be developed for VV of a future fusion power plant which well balanced between economic and safety point of view.
- 3. In order to achieve this goal, the simplified vacuum vessel design also has to be developed in parallel.





Thank you for attention!



