# PERFORMANCE LIMIT STATES OF RCFST DRILLED SHAFTS











## Speaker: Diego Aguirre, PhD

Principal Investigators: Mervyn Kowalsky, PhD James Nau , PhD Mo Gabr , PhD



# Outline



- 1. Introduction
- 2. Experimental Program
- 3. Analytical Studies
- 4. Performance Limit States
- 5. Conclusions



## **Reinforced Concrete Filled Steel Tube (RCFST) Drilled Shafts**



#### **RCFST Cross Section**







## Past Research: Brown et al. (2015)



- 12 Large-scale tests
- D/t ratios of 33 to 160



D/t ratio

Equilibrium and strain compatibility



## Past Research: Brown et al. (2015)



## **Progression of Buckling for "Thin Wall" Tubes**





## Past Research: Brown et al. (2015)



## **Progression of Buckling for "Thick Wall" Tubes**



# Outline



# 1. Introduction

- 2. Experimental Program
- 3. Analytical Studies
- 4. Performance Limit States
- 5. Conclusions









## **Test Setup**





## **Test Setup**









## **Example:** Test #11 – August 18, 2016

# Test # 11

## Reinforced Concrete Filled Steel Tube in Soil

Outer diameter	:	D	=	12.75 in
Tube Thickness	•	t	=	0.129 in
Nominal D/t ratio	•	D/t		95
Above ground height	:	$L_1$		7.24 D

Test Day : August 18, 2016





### **Failure Mechanism**







## **Tensile Strains Prior Fracture:**



# Outline



# 1. Introduction

- 2. Experimental Program
- 3. Analytical Studies
- 4. Performance Limit States
- 5. Conclusions



Analytical Model: finite element, fiber-based approach (OpenSees)





Performance Limit States of RCFST Drilled Shafts

NC STATE

UNIVERSI

**Parametric Study:** general considerations

- Simulations on single RCFST specimens
- $\blacktriangleright$  Internal reinforcement:  $\rho = 2\%$  and  $\rho_v = 1\%$
- Material properties:

Concrete:
-----------

- Steel tube:
- **Reinforcement:**

**Basic parameters:** 

A706-Gr.60	$f_{yre}$	= 462	Мра	(66 k	si)
APIx52L	$f_yte$	= 396	Мра	(57.2	ks
	$f_{ce}'$	= 36.4	MPa	(5.2 k	(si)

Head Fixity	Diameter (mm)	ALR (%)	D/t Ratio	La/D Ratio
Pinned	610	5	48	4
Fixed	1,220	10	64	8
		15	95	12

(57.2 ksi)





## Parametric Study: soil considerations

- Uniform soil layer
- Deep enough to achieve zero rotation at shaft tip
- Undrained conditions for clay Matlock
- > Dry or moist conditions for sand API + Reese and Van Impe

## Soil parameters:

			Soil Strength and Stiffness				
			S	Sand	Clay		
Soil Type	Soil Profile	γ (kN/m³)	Ø (°)	n <sub>h</sub> (kN/m³)	C <sub>u</sub> (kPa)	<b>ɛ</b> 50	
Sand	Flexible	15.7	30	9500	12	0.020	
Clay	Medium	17.3	35	27200	36	0.010	
	Stiff	18.9	40	61100	72	0.005	



## **System Behavior**



Eklutna River Bridge (echoak.com)







CT



## System Behavior: fixed-head RCFST





## System Behavior: fixed-head RCFSTs

## Top plastic hinge





## System Behavior: fixed-head RCFSTs

## Inground plastic hinge



# Outline



- 1. Introduction
- 2. Experimental Program
- 3. Analytical Studies
- 4. Performance Limit States
- 5. Conclusions





## **Equivalent Cantilever Plastic Hinge Model**

Pinned-Head RCFSTs: Aguirre et al. 2017





# 4. Performance Limit States

## **Performance Limit States:** pinned-head shafts



Limit state curvature:  $\phi_{LS, t} = \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{D' - c}$  D' = D - t

NC ST

**Note:** steel tube provides confinement and flexural strength

#### Inground plastic hinge strain limits



# 4. Performance Limit States



## **Equivalent Cantilever Plastic Hinge Model**

Fixed-Head RCFSTs: Aguirre et al. 2017



# 4. Performance Limit States

## **Performance Limit States:** fixed-head shafts



# Limit state curvature: $\phi_{LS,t} = \frac{\varepsilon_t}{d-c}$ $d = D_{conc} - c_{bl} - \frac{d_{bl}}{2}$

Note: steel tube provides confinement only

#### Top plastic hinge strain limits (POLA, 2010)

Strain	Performance Level				
	Serviceability	Damage Control	Ultimate		
Tension	0.015	$0.6\varepsilon_{sm} \leq 0.06$	$0.8\epsilon_{\rm sm} \leq 0.08$		
KISINGER CAMPO					

# Outline



- 1. Introduction
- 2. Experimental Program
- 3. Analytical Studies
- 4. Performance Limit States
- 5. Conclusions





## **Pinned-Head Shafts:**

- Displacement capacity up to  $\mu_3$  (even for D/t = 95)
- Controlling LS: tube tensile strain of 2.5%
- PJP spiral welds negatively influence performance





## **Fixed-Head Shafts:**

- Displacement capacity up to  $\mu_4$
- Controlled by top plastic hinge only
- Controlling LS: bar tensile strain of 8% (POLA, 2010)
- In-ground hinge has reserved capacity





# Thank you!



#### Diego Aguirre, PhD, El Structures Engineer

Email: Diego.Aguirre@kisingercampo.com

4800 Six Forks Rd., Suite 120, Raleigh, NC 27609

## Acknowledgements:

**KISINGER CAMPO** 







