

Acoustic Monitoring System for Structures 1997 NOVA Award Nomination 40

SoundPrint Acoustic Monitoring System for Structures

The SoundPrint acoustic monitoring system deploys sensors onto a concrete or other structure and continuously monitors the output of the sensors for sounds resulting from the failure of reinforcing elements in the structure. Data from the structure are transferred via a modem to a central location where the data are analyzed and incorporated into a database from which reports can be easily generated. In unbonded post-tensioned construction, the technique detects, identifies, and reports the failure of individual wires in post-tensioning cables. This allows the targeting of repairs to where and when they are needed. The technology uses continuous monitoring of entire structures to provide accurate and timely data. It is replacing a process of destructive excavation and visual inspection which may be inaccurate, disruptive, and costly.

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