

#### Description

The Vibrating Wire Spot Weldable Strain Gauge measures strain in steel members.

It consists of a sealed tube containing a Vibrating Wire element with weldable anchors at each end.

The anchors are separated by a small floating stainless steel tube with 'O' ring seals that protect the Vibrating Wire from water ingress.

A factory fitted, four core screened cable connects the coil to the readout unit.

## **Features**

- Suitable for manual or remote reading
- Removable coil unit
- Range is adjustable to suit compression or tension
- Contains an integral thermistor
- Waterproof to 700kPa

## **Benefits**

- Accurate, repeatable readings over long cable lengths
- · Long working life, long-term stability and reliability
- Coils are reuseable
- Small, low profile design



Comprehensive information about this product and our full range is available at <a href="https://www.soilinstruments.com">www.soilinstruments.com</a>
If you would like to speak with someone directly please call +44 (0)1825 765044 or email sales@soilinstruments.com

PRECISELY MEASURED

# VIBRATING WIRE PRINCIPLE



A high carbon steel wire is held in tension between a fixed point and a movable point within the sensor.

The physical changes measured by the sensor result in small changes to the position of the movable point which results in a change to the tension of the wire.

The wire may be excited by either plucking or sweeping via a coil adjacent to the wire. The resulting resonant frequency (which is relative to the tension of the wire) is then recorded by the same coil. The reading can be displayed by instrument readout or recorded by data logging equipment.

# **Applications**

The Spot Weldable Strain Gauge measures strain in steel and cast iron members on buildings, bridges, dams and pipelines, as well as on reinforcing bars within mass concrete or piles. It can measure tension and compression.

Typical applications include:

- Steel members and struts
- · Monitoring of strain due to load
- Bridges and dams
- Monitoring strain and load during construction and service life
- Pipelines
- Monitoring strains around pipe circumference
- Tunnels
- Monitoring SGI linings and thrust arch beams
- · Piles and mass concrete
- Monitoring strains in reinforcing bars during construction, pile testing and service lifts

## Operation

The sensor is installed by cleaning the area corresponding to the fixing pads at either end of the gauge. The gauges are shipped set to mid point tension, this can be adjusted by rotating the nut. Then either spot weld or glue the gauge into place.

The gauge is fully adjustable to monitor compression, tension, or set at mid point. After installation, changes in strain are monitored by the coil assembly mounted over the gauge.

The sensor is readable with any commercially available Vibrating Wire readout and the incorporated thermistor allows you to monitor for variations in temperature. As with all Vibrating Wire instruments, the use of a frequency based signal allows for long cable runs between the instrument and the readout point or data logger.



# Associated products

| For details on:             | Catalogue code: |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| VWnote                      | RO-1-VW-NOTE    |
| Dataloggers                 | D1              |
| Terminal and Junction Boxes | RO-TB/JB/TJ     |

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#### THE TECHNICAL RATING FOR THIS PRODUCT:

As the correct installation of any monitoring sensor or system is vital to maximise performance and accuracy, Soil Instruments makes the following recommendations, for the skill level of the installation contractor.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

We offer installation and monitoring services to support this system. For more information please email: sales@soilinstruments.com or call: +44 (0) 1825 765044

# INTERMEDIATE







The installer is trained and experienced in the installation of this type of instrument or systems, and is ideally a specialist Instrumentation and Monitoring contractor.

**INTERMEDIATE** 



The installer already has previous experience and/or training in the installation of this instrument or system.

BASIC



As a minimum the installer has read and fully comprehends the manual, and if possible has observed these instruments or systems being installed by others.

# Specifications

| Sensors                 |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Range                   | 3000 microstrain        |
| Resolution <sup>1</sup> | 0.4 microstrain         |
| Accuracy                | ±0.5% full scale        |
| Temperature range       | -20 to +80°C            |
| Active gauge length     | 50.4mm                  |
| Excitation method       | Pluck or Sweep          |
| Material                | Stainless Steel         |
| Weight                  | 6g                      |
| Dimensions              | L 65mm x W 13mm x H 6mm |
|                         |                         |

#### Coil Housing

| Type                                | Injection moulded ABS, detachable with thermistor |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--|
| Standard cable lengths <sup>2</sup> | 3m, 10m, 25m                                      |  |
| Thermistor type                     | NTC 3k Ω                                          |  |
| Thermistor accuracy                 | ±0.5℃                                             |  |
| Thermistor resolution <sup>1</sup>  | 0,1℃                                              |  |
| Weight (coil only)                  | 22g                                               |  |
| Cable weight /m                     | 30g                                               |  |
| Cable type                          | 4 core, PUR sheath, foil screen & drain wire      |  |
| Dimensions                          | L 77mm x W 16mm x H 18mm                          |  |

# Spot Welder

| Weld pov | er             | 22 watts/second |
|----------|----------------|-----------------|
| Welds pe | battery charge | >3000           |

<sup>1</sup>Dependent On Readout Equipment (CR1000)

<sup>2</sup>Other lengths available

#### **Ordering Information** Spot Weldable Vibrating Wire Strain Gauge $3000\mu$ strain range. Requires one sensor ST1-2 per gauge. Tensioning tool or clip required for installation ST1-1.1 Strain gauge Strain Gauge Sensor Includes thermistor, and two weld down straps. Requires one gauge ST1-1.1 per sensor ST1-2.1 Sensor with specified cable length. Cable CA3.1-4-IC to be ordered separately ST1-2.2 Sensor with 3metre cable length ST1-2.3 Sensor with 10metre cable length ST1-2.4 Sensor with 25metre cable length Connecting Cable and Fittings CA-3.1-4-IC Instrument cable, 4 core, 7/0.20, screened. Price per metre, polyurethane jacket CA-4.1 Joint sealing kit CA-4.2 Coloured adhesive tapes. Set of 10No CA-4.3 Crimping tool CA-4.4 Crimping sleeves. Set of 100No W6-6.1 Nylon ties. Price each, 150mm x 3.5mm. Pack of 100No ST1-3.5 Nylon ties. Price each, 370mm x 4.7mm. Pack of 100No Installation Accessories ST1-3.1-220 Spot welder for 220v ST1-3.1-110 Spot welder for 110v ST1-3 1-BATT Spot welder battery pack ST1-3.2 Chemical metal adhesive ST1-3.3 Tensioning tool. Precision adjustable ST1-3.6 Tensioning clip. Set for mid range, not adjustable ST1-3.4 Spare weld down strap. Spares or replacement. Two required per sensor ST2-1.5 Protective thermal cover. Price each, 370mm x 4.7mm. Pack of 100No Manual MAN-126 Vibrating Wire Spot Weldable Strain Gauge



