

Pipe Bend - Wearback

OVERVIEW

Wearbacks are fabricated “chambers” which are fitted on the extrados of the pipe bend. As the pipe material wears-through from abrasion, the transport material collects in this chamber. The transport material flowing to the bend then impacts upon the collected material and, in essence, wears upon itself.

Wearbacks are either “permanent” or “replaceable”

- Permanent wearbacks are constructed from channel steel, rolled to the same radius and welded to the pipe bend. They are “permanent” until the channel wears through and the entire assembly must be replaced.
- Replaceable wearbacks consist of two angle irons, rolled and welded, with a removable plate bolted through the angles.

Wearbacks are an added precaution that may be taken as a “second line of defense.”

The rate of erosion of the bend extrados cannot be ultrasonically tested during operation, only the condition of the wearback itself.

