

Inspection of Pipeline CP Systems with ILI Tools

**BAKER
HUGHES**

Pipeline Management Group



Nov. 8th, 2007

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Agenda

- ***Review of Corrosion and CP of Pipelines***
- Description of the CPCM concept
- Field trials and CPCM data
- Benefits of CPCM
- Acknowledgments
- Questions & Discussion

Cathodic Protection

- Reduction or elimination of corrosion of a metal by the application of direct current from an anode through the electrolyte to the metal surface.
- Same 4 components that are needed for corrosion are required for CP. We just control where the anode and cathode are located.
- Note: The DC current is normally supplied by a galvanic anode or by an impressed current source such as a rectifier.

Testing for CP – Common Practice

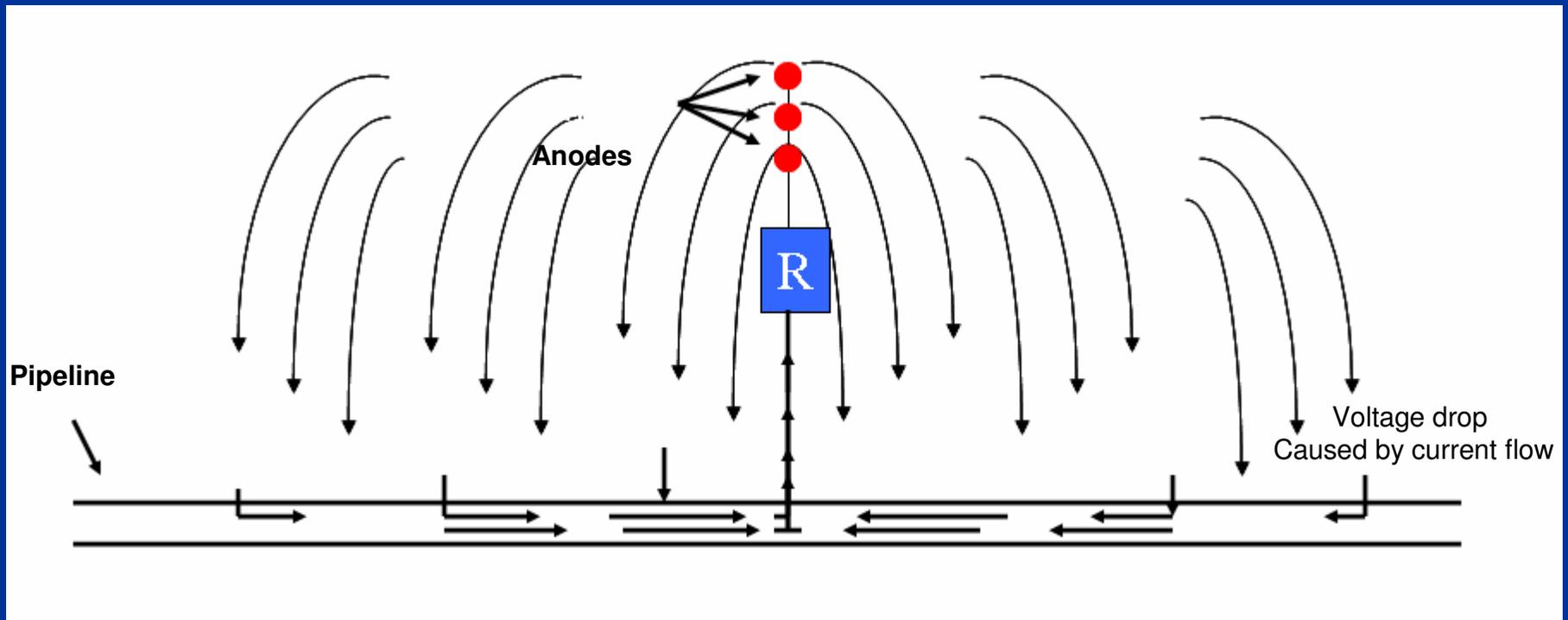


Standard practice is to measure the pipe-to-soil potential from the surface of the right of way at predetermined intervals. If the potential is more negative than some number (this number varies depending on many factors) then it can be assumed that at the pipe surface cathodic protection current is being applied.

Concerns with Potential readings

- Limitations of using potential based criteria can be due to many factors.
- Both cp and non-cp related influences can cause problems in the collection of accurate potential measurements³
 - Right of way access issues (urban, rural, industrial)
 - Non conductive surfaces (pavement)
 - Congested rights of way
 - Waterways
 - High earth currents both AC and DC
 - Foreign or third party CP currents
 - Transit systems
 - Power Line Corridors
 - Distance to coating holiday (well coated lines) or pipe/soil interface

Pipeline CP System



CP current is being “pushed” by the rectifier to the anodes where it enters the soil (electrolyte) then travels to the pipe surface where it enters the metal (cathode) and returns via a cable or other connection (negative).

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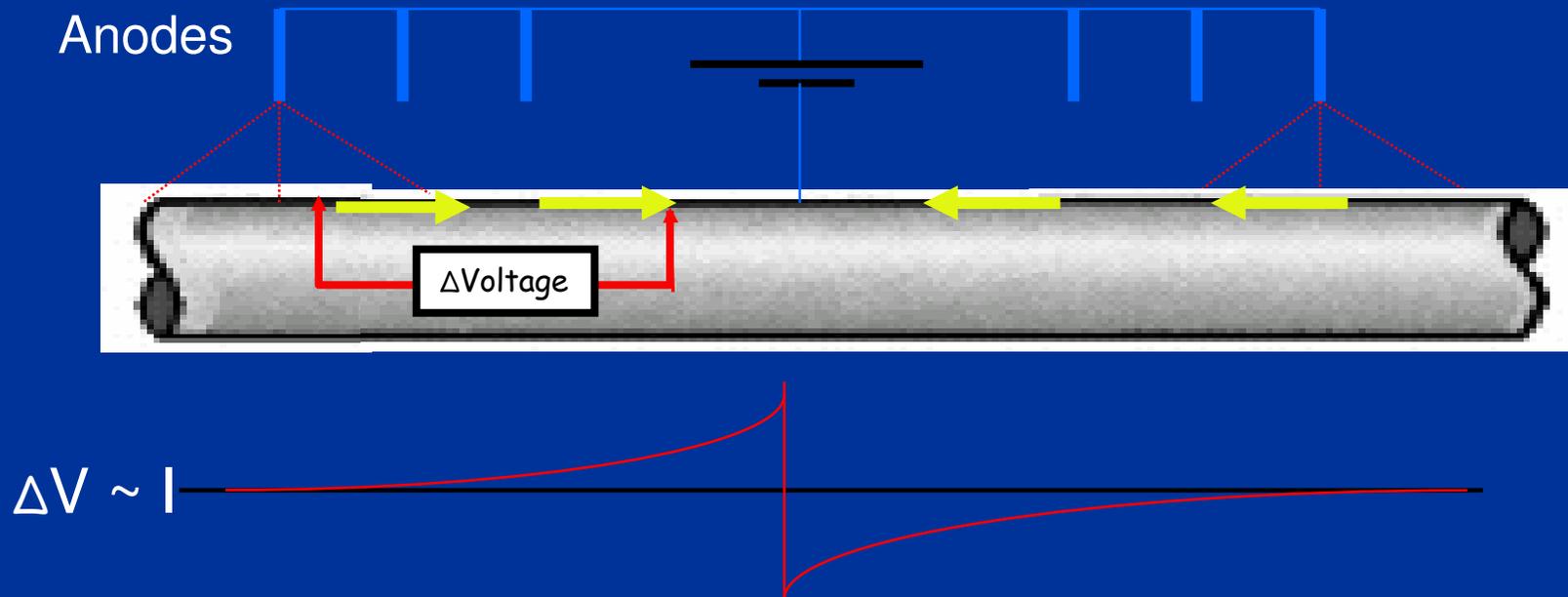
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CPCM –

- Measures a voltage drop across a length of pipe (~ 2m) caused by the current flow from the CP system.
- Using Ohm's law we can calculate the actual current.
- Changes in current at any point along the pipe gives a signature which allows us to know something about the system.

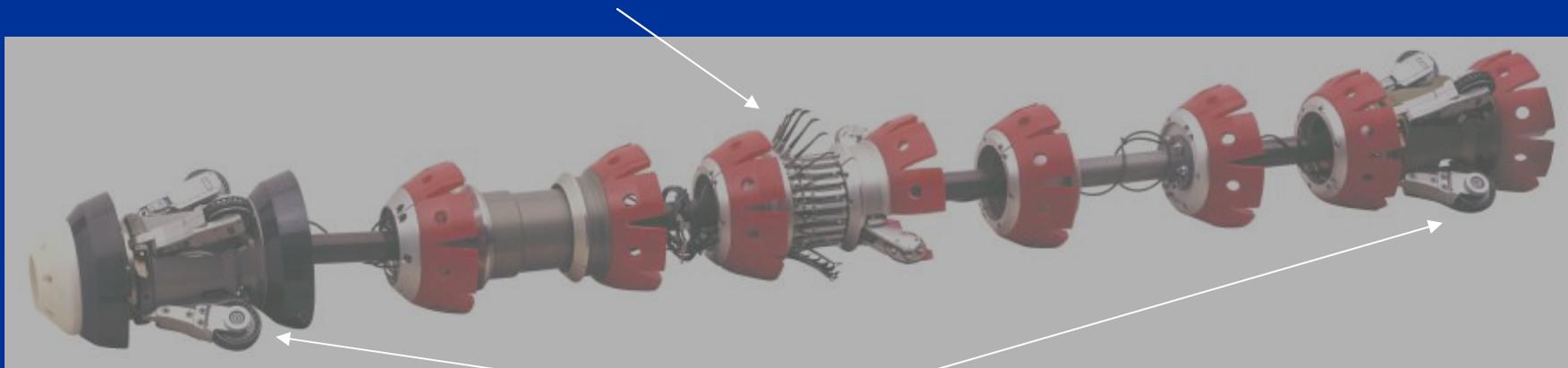
The CP circuit (pipeline)--Current Graph

- In this illustration CP current is shown in its complete circuit. Notice that the current flowing in the pipeline causes a voltage drop because the pipe is a resistor.



CPCM ILI Tool

On board caliper section used for alignment and deformation



Tool reads and records voltage difference (both AC & DC)
Between these two points.

CPCM –Fast Facts

- Measure change in CP current due to poor/missing coating
- Identify galvanic anode and rectifier locations and measure current output
- Find unknown bonds and confirm bond current and locations
- 100% inspection of CP systems ensuring minimal gaps in integrity inspection data

**(Especially viable in locations where access is difficult such as offshore, swamps, mountainous terrain and congested urban areas (HCA's))*

Note: The pipeline cannot be internally coated. Build-up of scale, paraffin, bitumen may be problematic.

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Field trials and data



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Signals

Large gains or losses over a single point = Rectifiers, Bonds, Shorts, Anodes

Large gains over several feet or meters = areas of poor coating or bare pipe – high current density

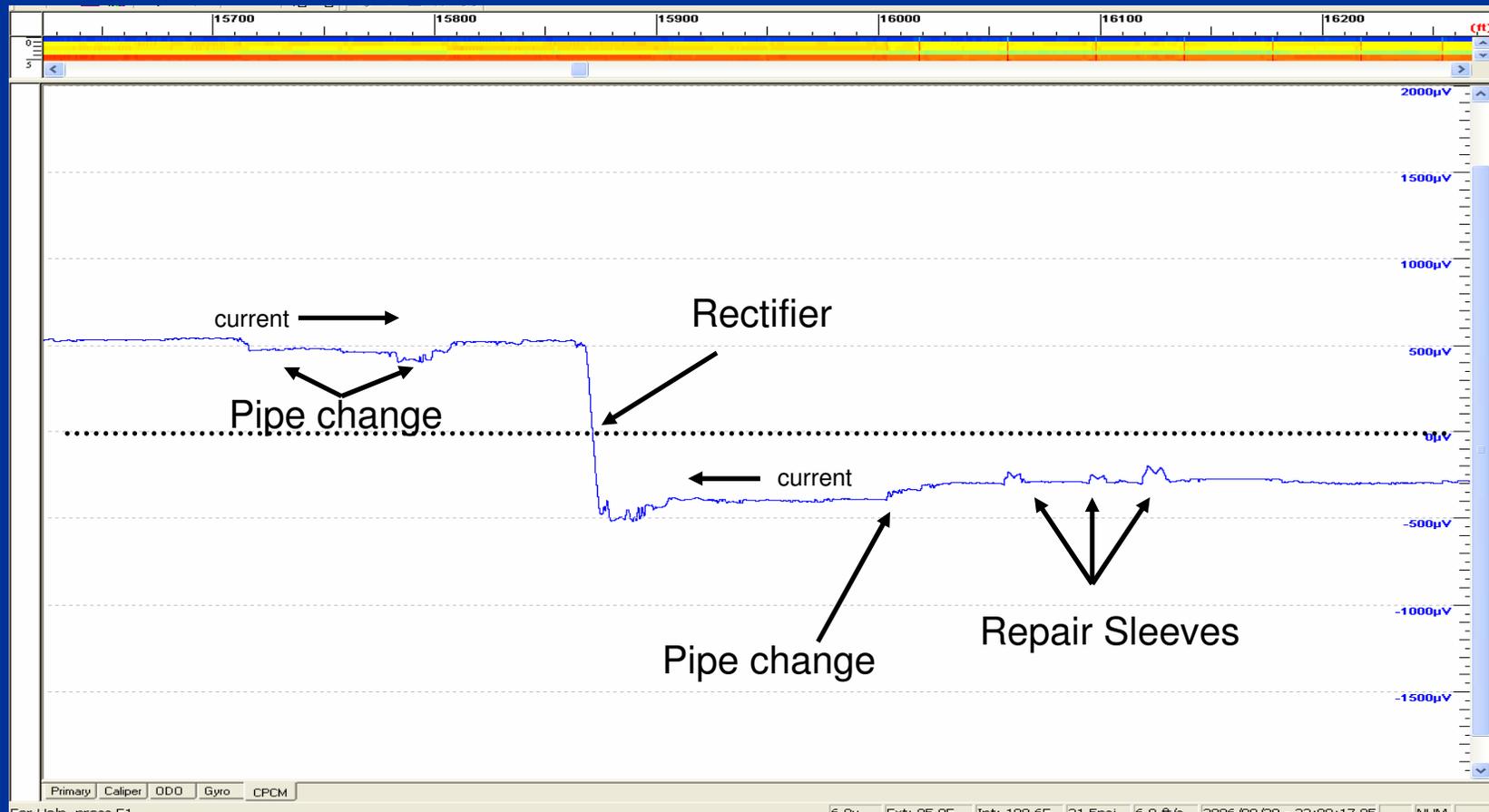
Small gains over longer areas are ideal and evidence of good coating and well distributed CP

Shallow positive (up left to right) slope across the zero line = mid point between sources and good CP coverage

Rectifier



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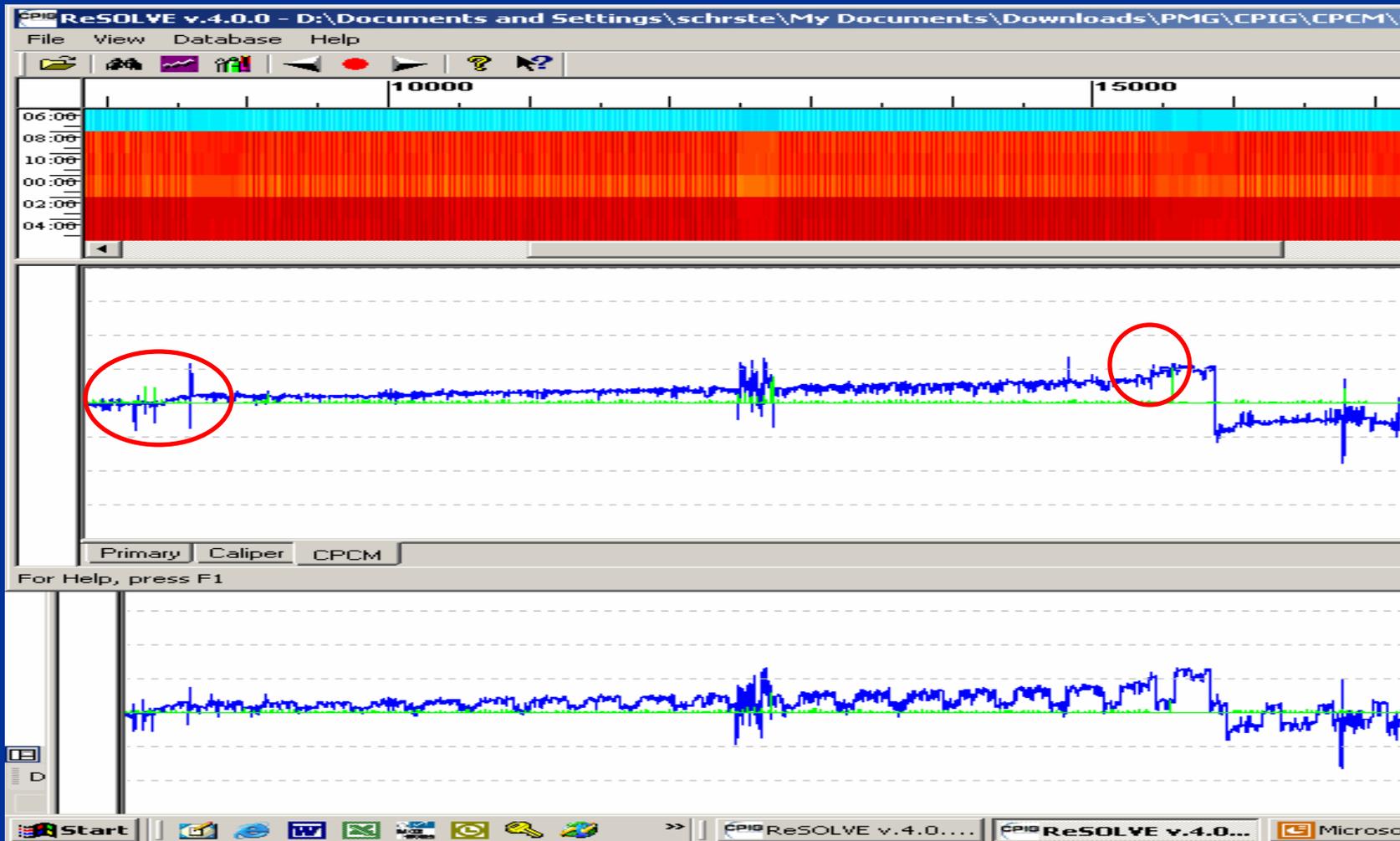
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Sample raw data – Rectifier and Rect/Interrupter



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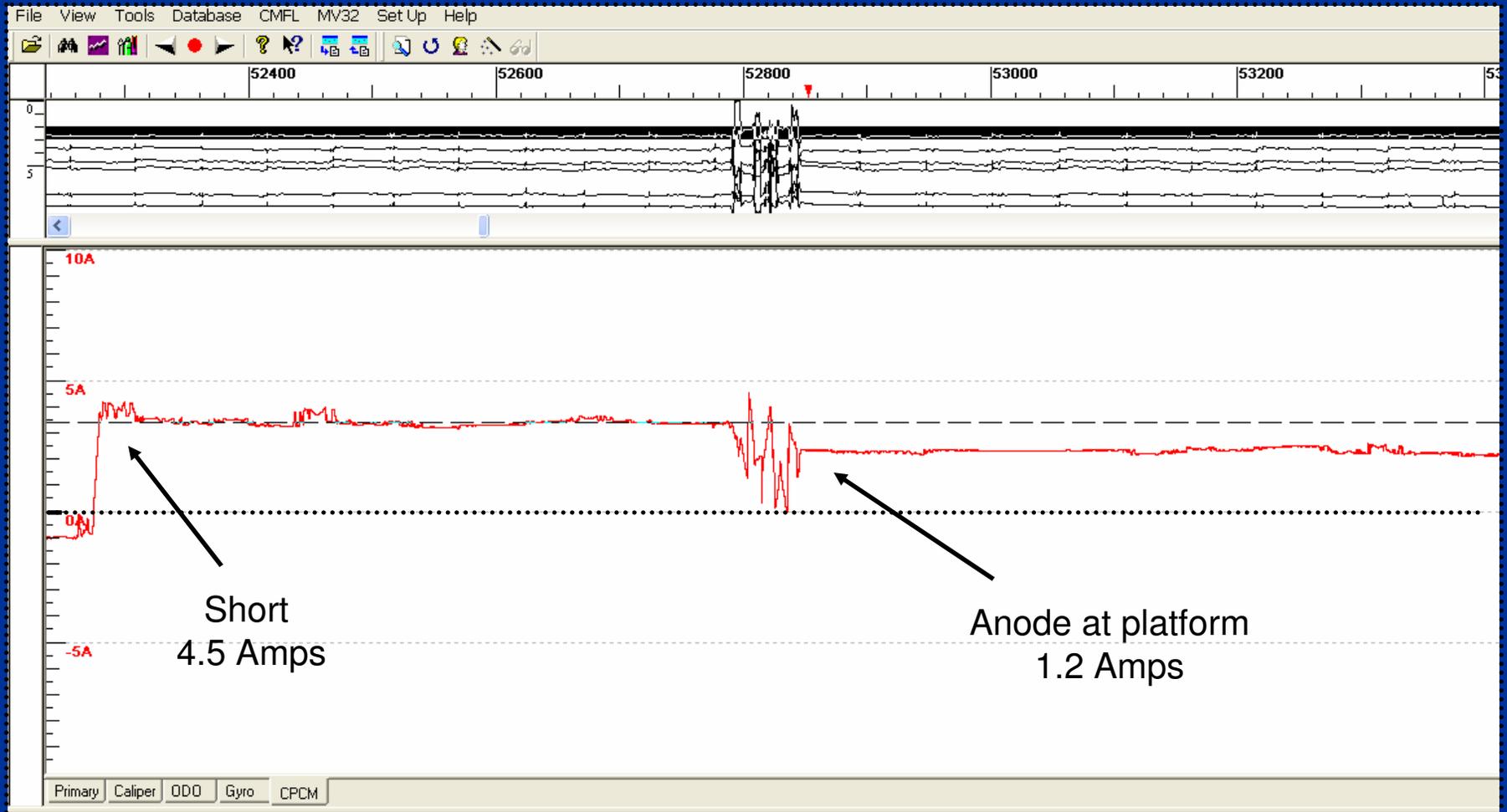
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Galvanic Anode & Short



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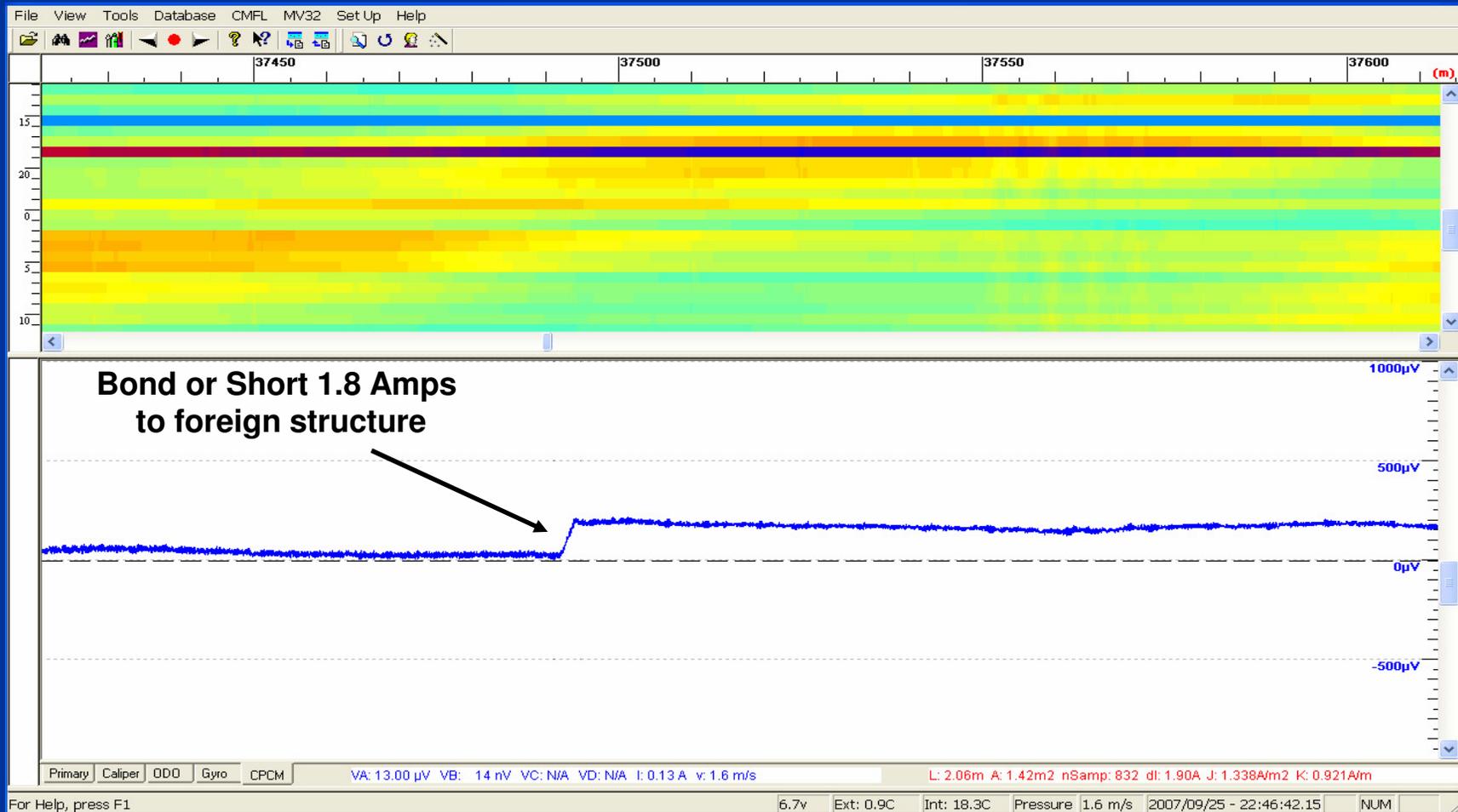
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Bond or Short



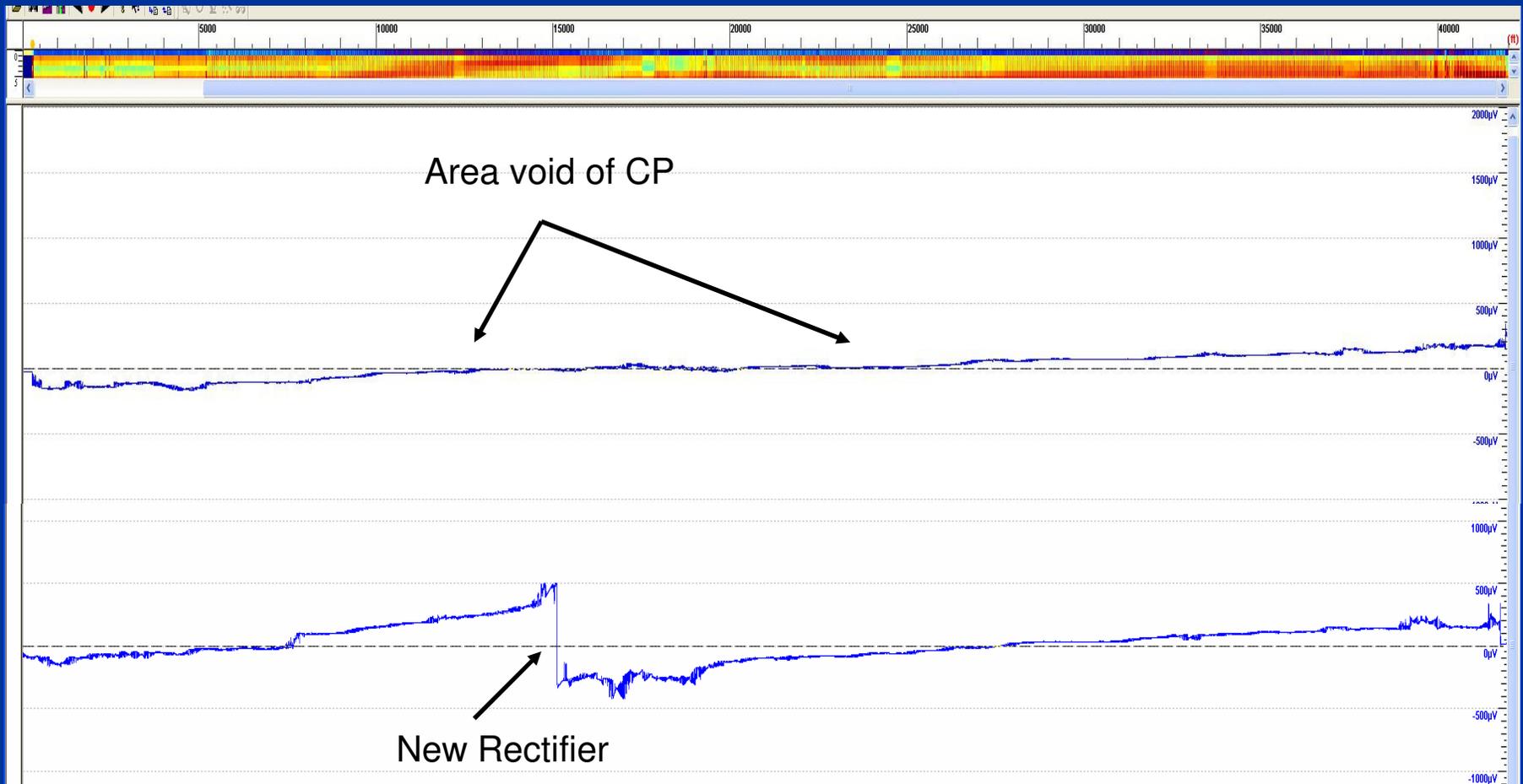
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8 Miles of pipeline before and after rectifier added



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Short



Signals – cont.

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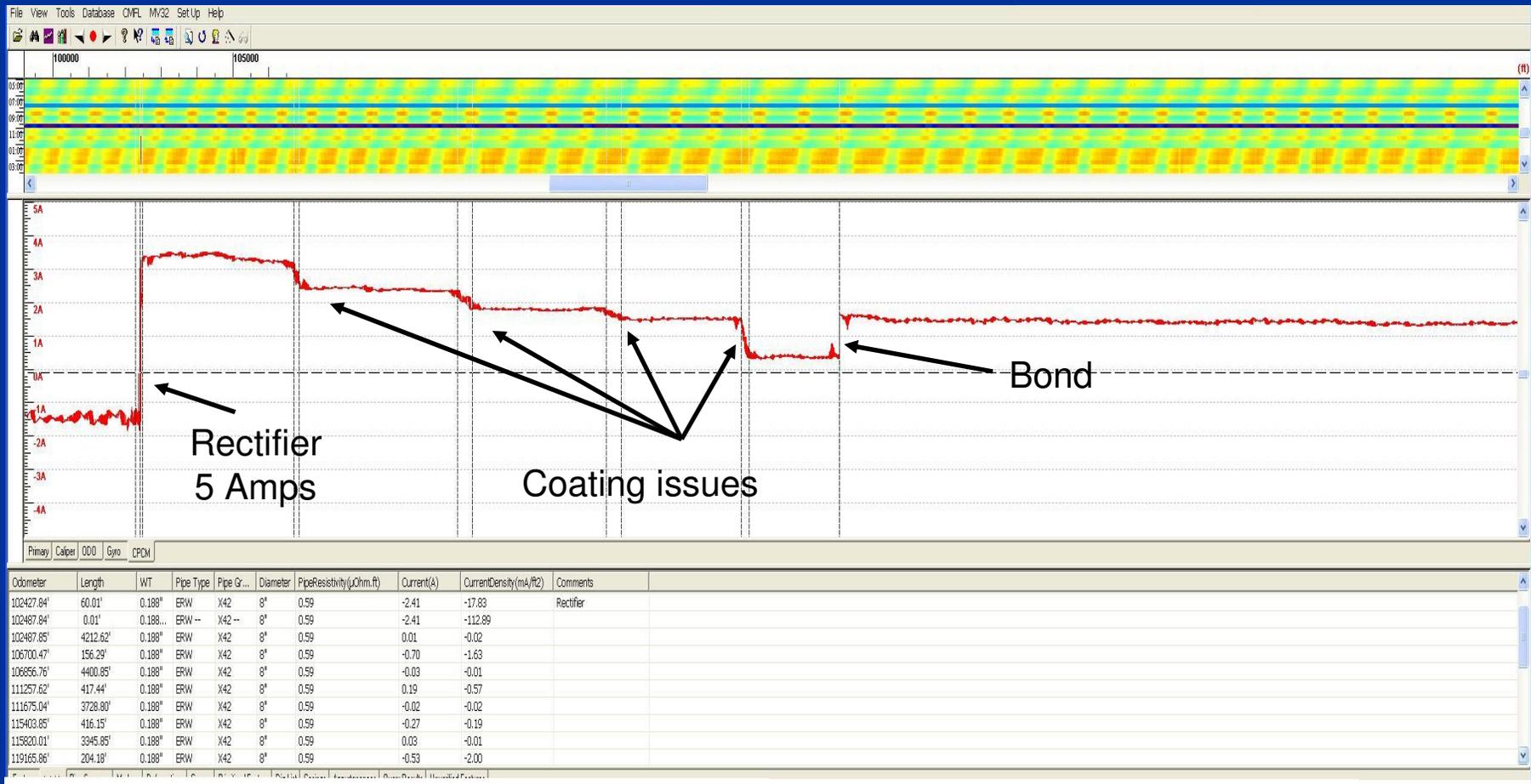
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Downstream of Rectifier w/ Filter On



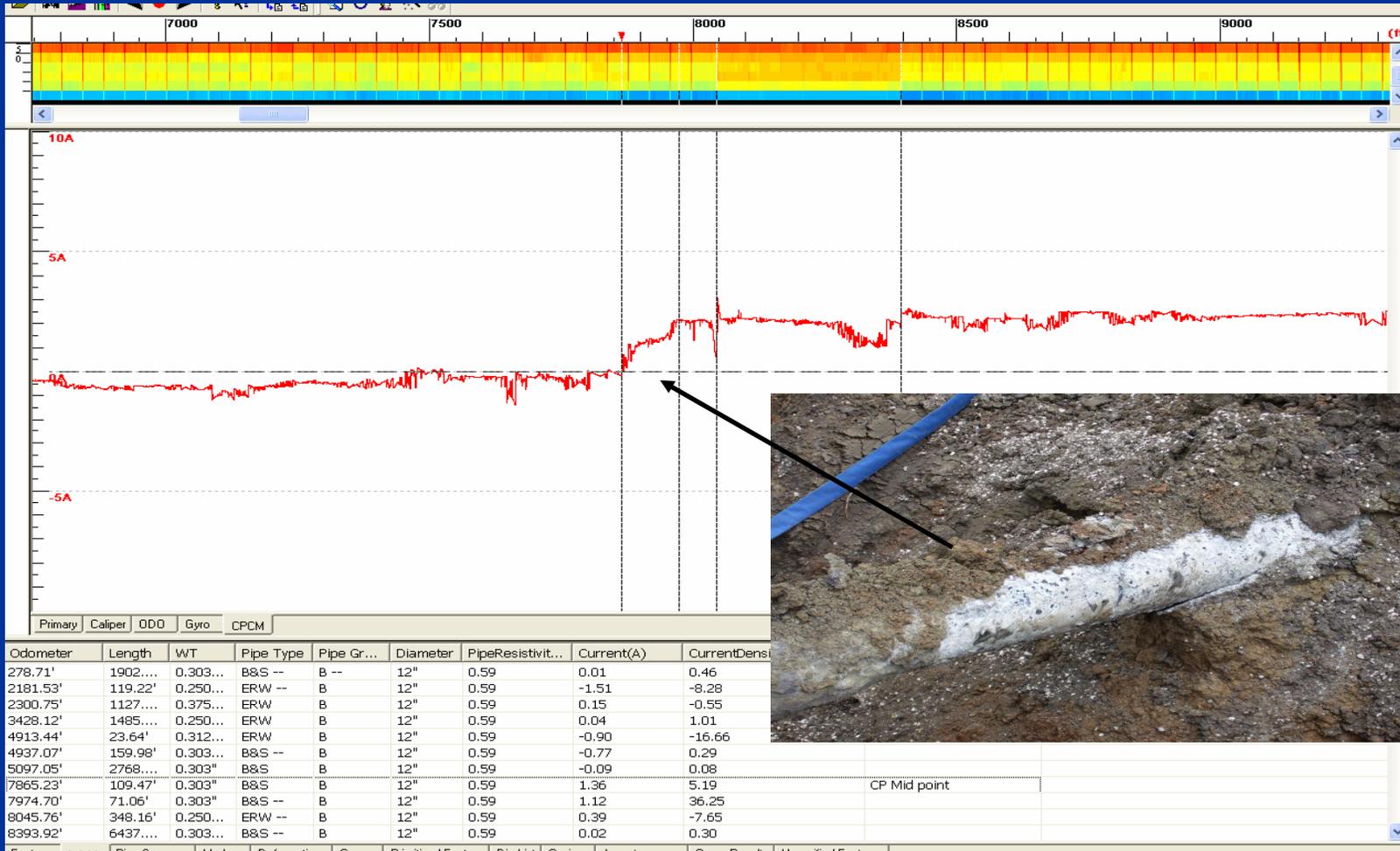
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Area of damaged coating



Signals cont.

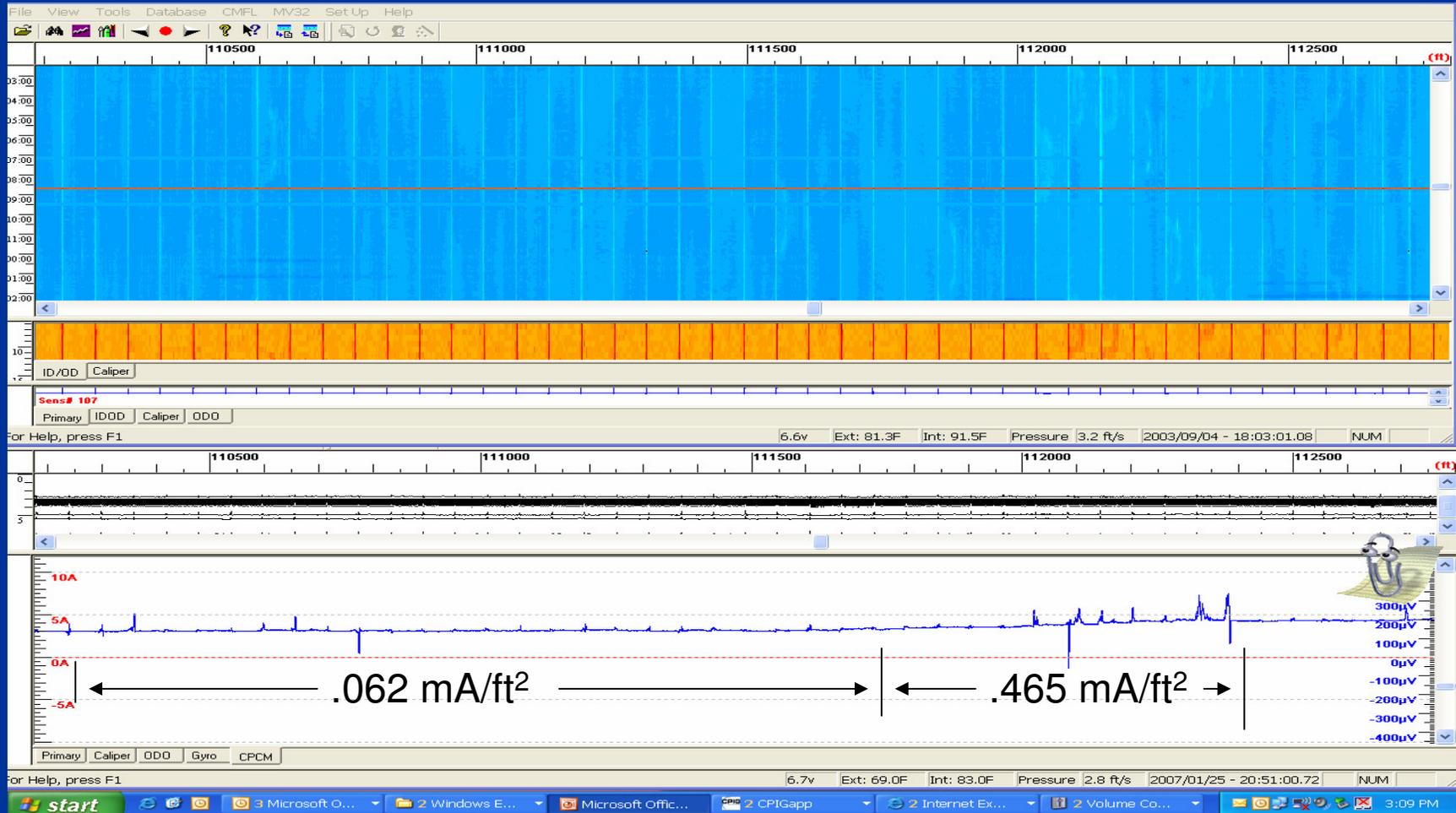
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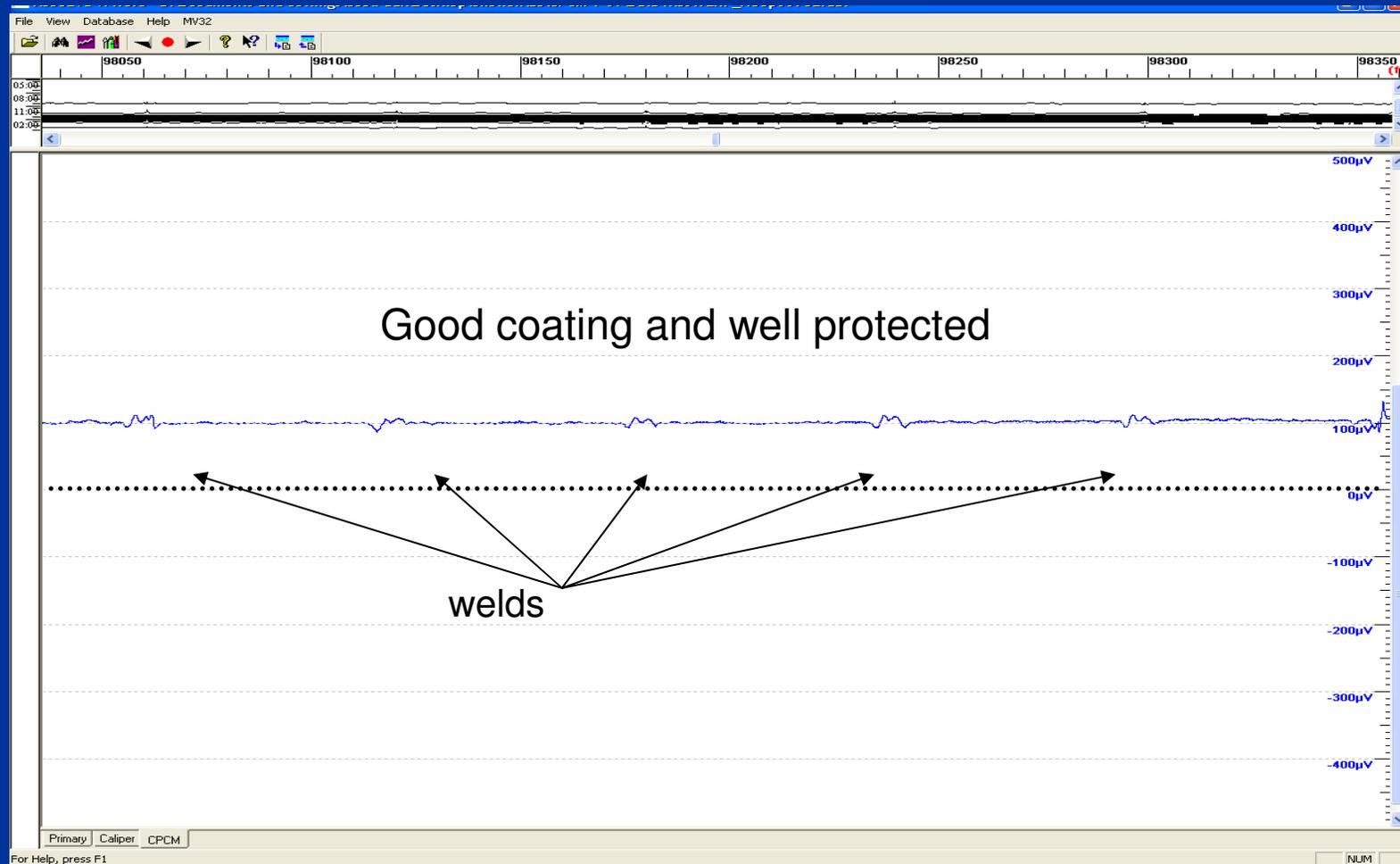
Well coated pipe



Well coated pipe noise caused by welds



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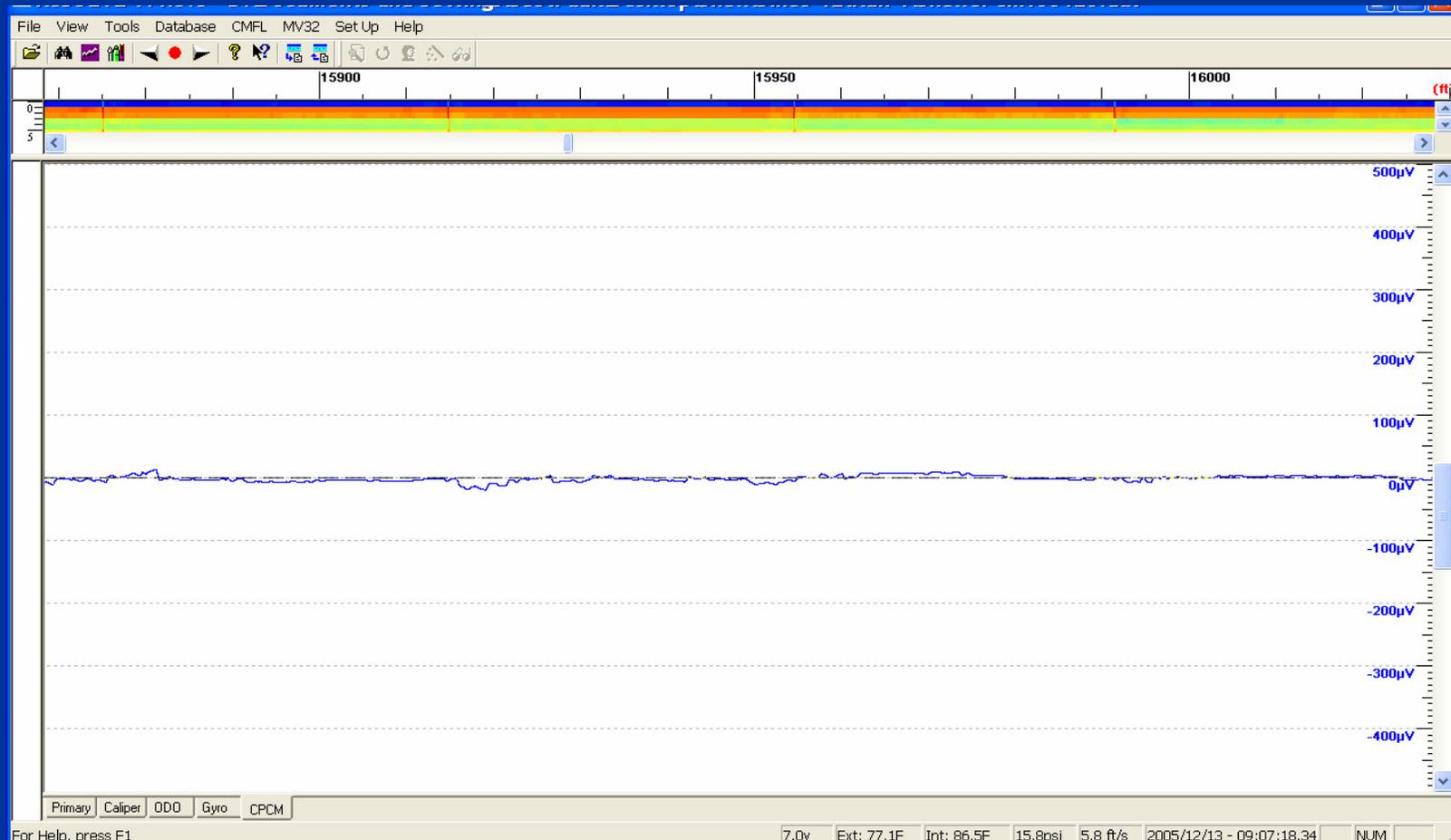
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Area void of CP



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Signals cont.

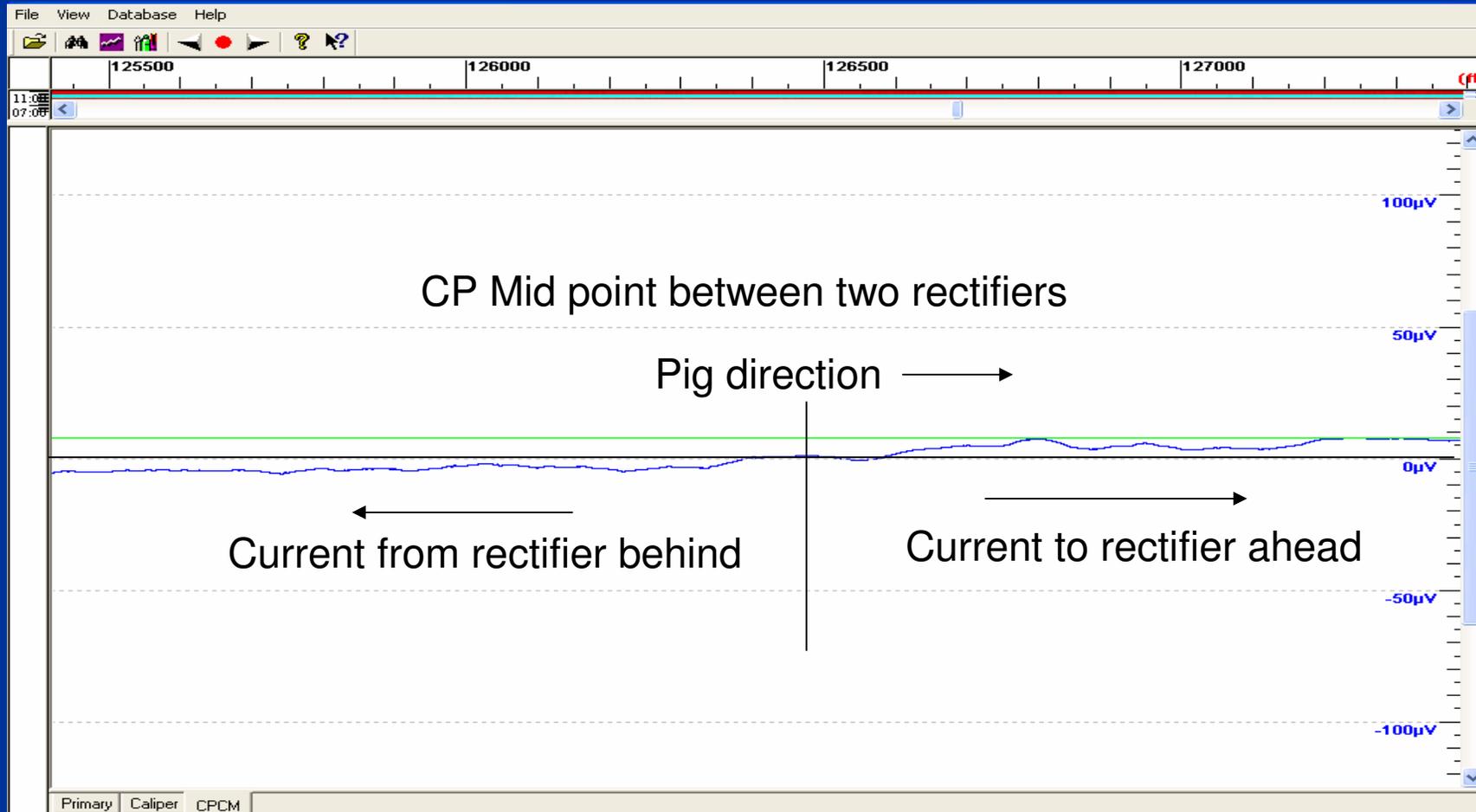
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Mid point between rectifiers



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Benefits of CP Current Monitoring via ILI



- Minimal personnel requirements
- Ease of evaluation
 - Only affecting currents are recorded
 - Good understanding of overall pipe condition
- 100% inspection
- Not dependent on ROW access
- Ease of which data is integrated with other ILI information

Data Integration

- Direct correlation with metal loss data makes data integration easy and meaningful.
- Aids in action planning
 - Is metal loss likely active or passive?
 - Is more CP needed to arrest corrosion?
 - Is shielding the most probable cause and recoating needed?
 - What action is needed to prevent future repairs?

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Groups working on CPCM



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Paul Nichols – Shell Global Solutions

Bert Potts – Shell Global Solutions

Kola Fagbayi- Shell Global Solutions

Peyton Ross – Shell Pipeline Co. L.P.



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Vyacheslav Akulshyn - Mech Eng.

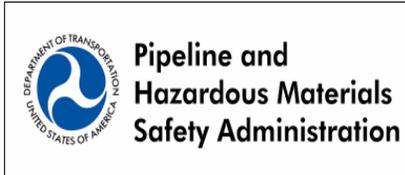
Mark Kalicki - Electrical Engineering

David Chung - Software

Support and Matching Funding



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US DOT OPS – Pipeline & Hazardous Material Safety Administration

Jim Merritt – R&D Program Manager

Peter Katchmar – Project technical manager

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Patent Issued



US007104147B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Pots et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 7,104,147 B2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Sep. 12, 2006**

(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MEASURING
ELECTRIC CURRENT IN A PIPELINE**

(75) **Inventors:** **Bert Pots**, Houston, TX (US); **Kola
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(73) **Assignee:** **Shell Oil Company**, Houston, TX (US)

EP

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