FIBER OPTIC LEAK DETECTION SYSTEM FOR DAMS AND DIKES

THE BEST WAY TO MONITOR SEAPAGE, SOIL MOVEMENT OR TO DETECT THE PRECISE LOCATION OF LEAKAGE IS WITHOUT ANY DOUBT A DISTRIBUTED FIBER OPTIC SOLUTION.

Smartec has developed fiber optic based solutions to detect leakage technology and soil movements using proven fiber optic (FO) technology by applying advanced technologies such as Raman and Brillouin interrogation techniques.

These solutions allow the precise measurement of temperature and/or strain every meter along a fiber optic cable that could be deployed over long distances.

References

- Koudiat Acerdoune Dam (RCC type) - Algeria
- Artificial Water Reservoir (Dike type) - Spain
- Nam Ngum II Dam (CFRD type) - Laos
- Kalivac Dam (CFRD type) - Albania
- Laguna Dam (Rock-filled type) - Chile
- Siah Bishe Dam (CFRD type) - Iran
- Landfill waste (Dike type) - Chile
- Biolixiviation Valley (Dike type) - Chile
During the construction of a dam, independent if it is a roller-compacted concrete dam (RCC), concrete face rock-filled dam (CRFD) earth dam or other, the FO solution from Smartec provides real-time monitoring of the behaviour of the concrete or structure. This phase gives important information to designers about the future performance of the structure.

**ACTIVE OR PASSIVE APPROACH**

The monitoring system can be based on an active or passive approach.

The active method (also known as Heat-Pulse Method) is preferred when the expected temperature variation between the water and the soil is small. By applying heat to the FO cable, it allows amplification of the temperature shift in case of a seepage.

On the other hand, the passive method is more economical to deploy when larger temperature changes are expected in the case of even a small leakage.

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**BENEFITS**

This monitoring technique has many benefits:

- Detection and localization of leaks
- Precise identification of leakage path
- Localization of leaks with better than 1m accuracy over distances of 30km and more
- Accurate temperature mapping with 0.01°C resolution
- Autonomous and continuous monitoring 24/7
- Rugged and durable cable constructions for direct embedding in soil or concrete
- Easy and quick to install, use and maintain
- Can be combined with distributed strain sensors for soil stability monitoring
- Immune to electromagnetic fields & corrosion
- Remote monitoring and alerting.

**INSTALLATION**

The installation is quick, easy and robust, as the optical fibers are protected by a stainless steel armoured reinforced cable. Customized monitoring software is offered when the customer is interested in seeing the position of the sensor in the structure, as well as the exact location of an event when alarm or warnings occur.

**REAL TIME DATA GATHERING**

The real-time data gathered by the monitoring solution can also be uploaded to a private and protected website for further analysis and/or archiving.
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Smartec

Smartec is the leading developer, manufacturer and supplier of innovative sensing technologies based on vibrating wire and fiber optic sensors for geotechnical and structural instrumentation.

We are featuring a complete line of conventional sensor-based solutions ranging from the ultra-robust traditional vibrating wire technology to state-of-the-art fiber-optic technology used for the measurement and monitoring of geotechnical projects and structural health monitoring (SHM) of critical assets such as: dams, tunnels, mines, buildings, bridges, nuclear power plants and many other structures too numerous to list.

Smartec offers a wide range of pressuremeters, rock dilatometers, laboratory and in-situ testing equipment for soil and rock.

Available Application Notes

- FO Leak Detection for Dams and Dikes
- Dam & Dike Instrumentation and Safety Monitoring
- Tunnel Instrumentation & Structural Health Monitoring
- Bridge Instrumentation & Structural Health Monitoring
- Building Instrumentation & Structural Health Monitoring
- Historical Monument Instrumentation
- Geotechnical and Structural Monitoring
- Nuclear Power Plant Instrumentation
- FO Movement Detection in Tunnels
- FO Leak Detection for Chemical Plants
- FO Leak Detection for Pipelines
- Storage Facility Instrumentation
- Cliff Instrumentation