

Using Fiberglass (GFRP) Rebar in Infrastructure and Building Applications

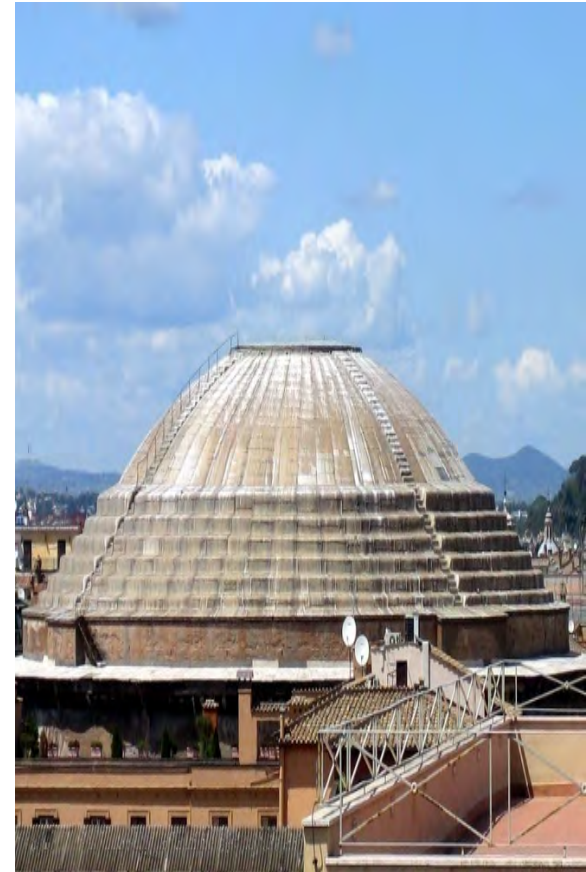


GFRP rebar cage being prepared for installation of the soft-eye.



Presented by
Malcolm McNeill, FRP Distributors Inc
Manufacturers Representative for BP Composites Ltd.





2,000 Year Old Concrete Roof **WHY CONCRTE NO LONGER LAST 2000 YEAR'S...**

Image above: Pantheon- Rome

Top Left : Gath-India

Bottom: Pointe de Guard Aqueduct- France

Durability Dilemma

- To prevent concrete from **collapsing** under **cyclic fatigue loads** 20th century constructors began **incorporating steel rebar** into concrete

On left: vehicle traffic breaks apart un-reinforced concrete curb

Bottom image: earthquake causes un-reinforced concrete houses to collapse in Haiti

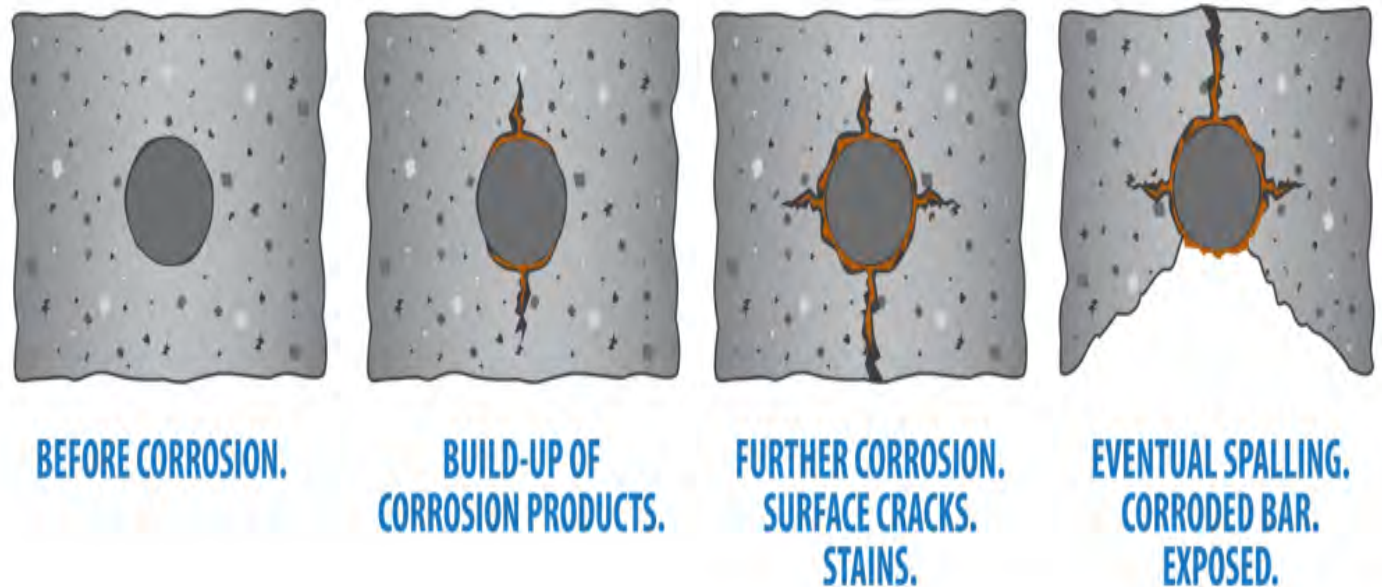


This un conventionally-shaped curb and the adjacent street have sustained substantial damage and deterioration.



Durability Dilemma

- **Corrosion of reinforcing steel: primary reason behind the global infrastructure crisis of today.**



The corrosion cycle of steel begins with the rust expanding on the surface of the bar and causing cracking near the steel/concrete interface. As time marches on, the corrosion products build up and cause more extensive cracking until the concrete breaks away from the bar, eventually causing spalling.



Durability Dilemma

- Expensive **remedial measures** (HPC, patching with advanced repair materials, cathodic protection, epoxy-coated, micro-alloyed or galvanized steel) have been proposed
- Unfortunately, **none** has proven to be **effective** in providing a long-term solution.

Images of 16 year old epoxy coated steel reinforcement from Humber River Ontario Bridge, MTO Ontario 1998

Estimated cost to repair this structure 5 times in the next 100?



Steels Corrosion Effect Stage 1: Rust Staining

Original Cost to pour this entry way... \$2,000

Current demolition cost....\$1,000

Current Cost to pour a new slab ...\$6,000

Total Cost of Rehabilitation....\$9,000

Cost difference to use GFRP vs. Black Steel in this application **\$300**



Steels Corrosion Effect Stage 2: Cracking

On left: 19-year-old Ontario Epoxy Coated reinforced bridge barrier experiences delaminating cracks.

MTO 2005 Ontario, Canada

Below: 23-year-old Galvanized reinforced bridge deck suffering from corrosion induced cracking.

MTO 2007 Ontario, Canada



Rehabilitation required
at 19 years



Rehabilitation required
at 23 years

Steels Corrosion Effect Stage 3: Spalling

Original Cost to Pour and Place Barrier..... \$650.00
Current pickup & demolition cost.....\$500.00
Cost to pour and place new barrier.....\$1,100.00
Total Cost of Rehabilitation..... \$2,150.00

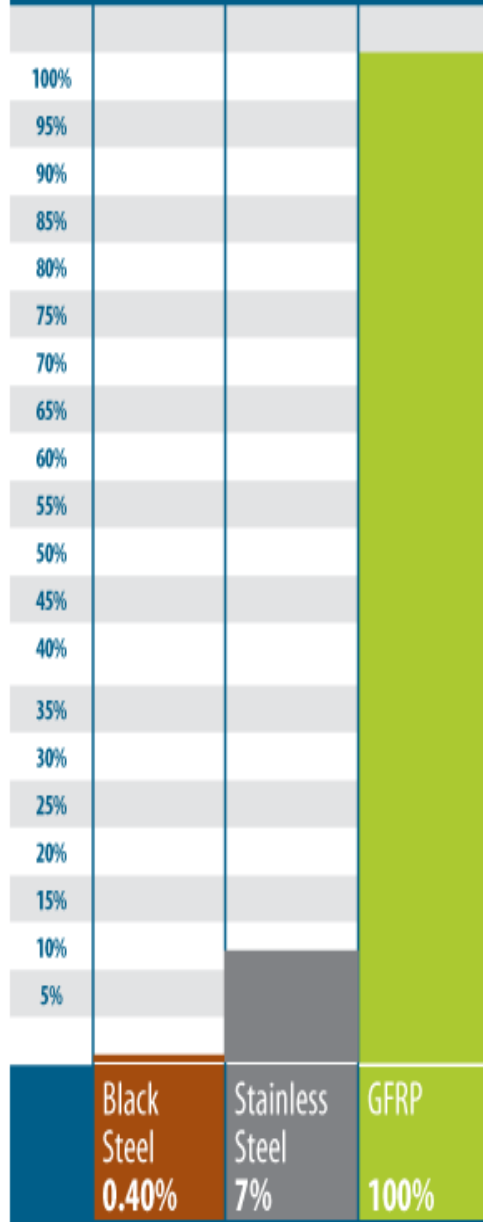
Pricing November 18, 2010

Cost difference to use GFRP vs. Black Steel \$21.00

Cost difference to use GFRP vs. Galvanized none



CHLORIDE RESISTANCE CHART GFRP vs STEEL



Maximum Chloride Tolerance Levels

Steels Corrosion Effect Stage 4: Collapse



13 year old swimming pool roof in Switzerland collapsed after failure of stainless steel rods due to chloride induced corrosion.

www.corrosiondoctor.com

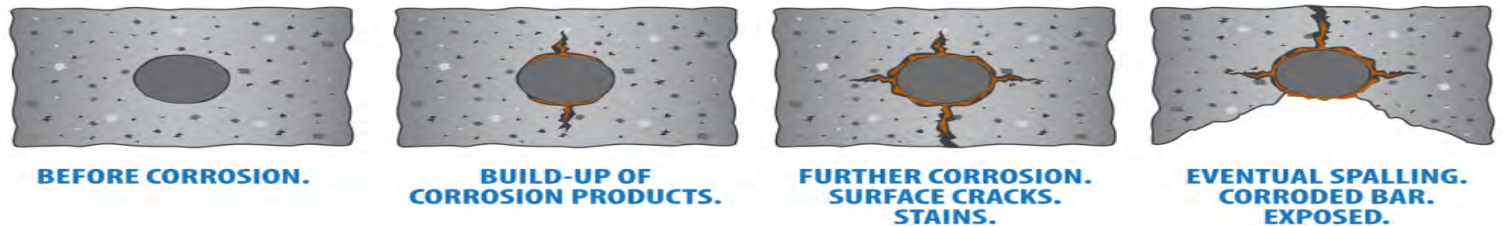


- **Eliminate the source of corrosion problems. A better alternative: corrosion-free glass fibre-reinforced polymers (GFRPs)**
 - New construction (internal reinforcement)
 - Older structures (repair and strengthening)
- **Other attractive characteristics of GFRPs**
 - Light weight (1/4 the weight)
 - Ease of placement
 - Excellent mechanical properties
 - Damage tolerance
 - Magnetic neutrality



Durability Solution

- **GFRP eliminates the corrosion effect created by steel**



The corrosion cycle of steel begins with the rust expanding on the surface of the bar and causing cracking near the steel/concrete interface. As time marches on, the corrosion products build up and cause more extensive cracking until the concrete breaks away from the bar, eventually causing spalling.

- **Image below: core sample from GFRP in Hall's Harbor, New Brunswick, Canada**

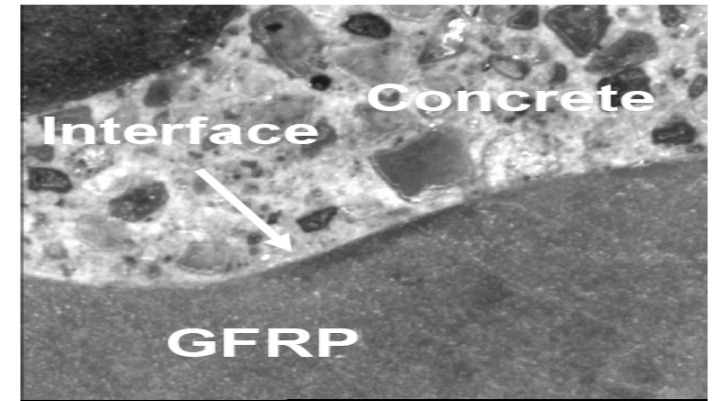
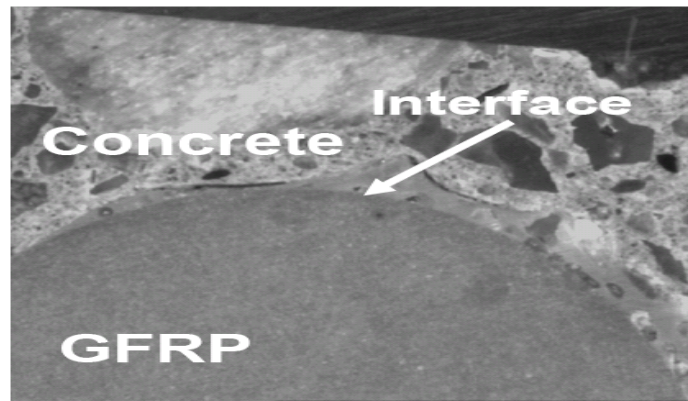
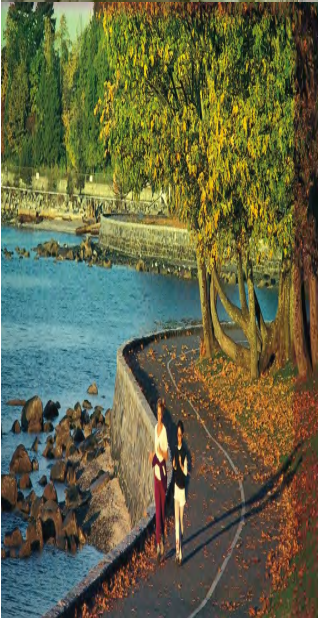


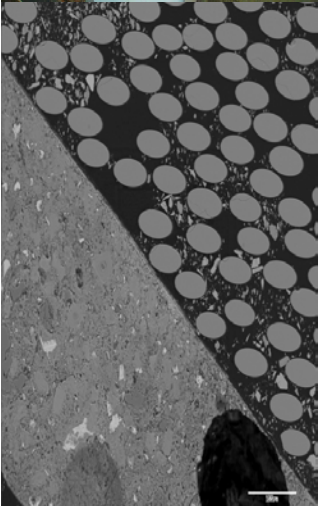
Figure 39: High Magnification Images of GFRP-Concrete Interfaces: (Left) Sample from Hall's Harbor Wharf and (Right) Sample from Joffre Bridge (31-32)



Studied in 12 Countries and 70 Universities

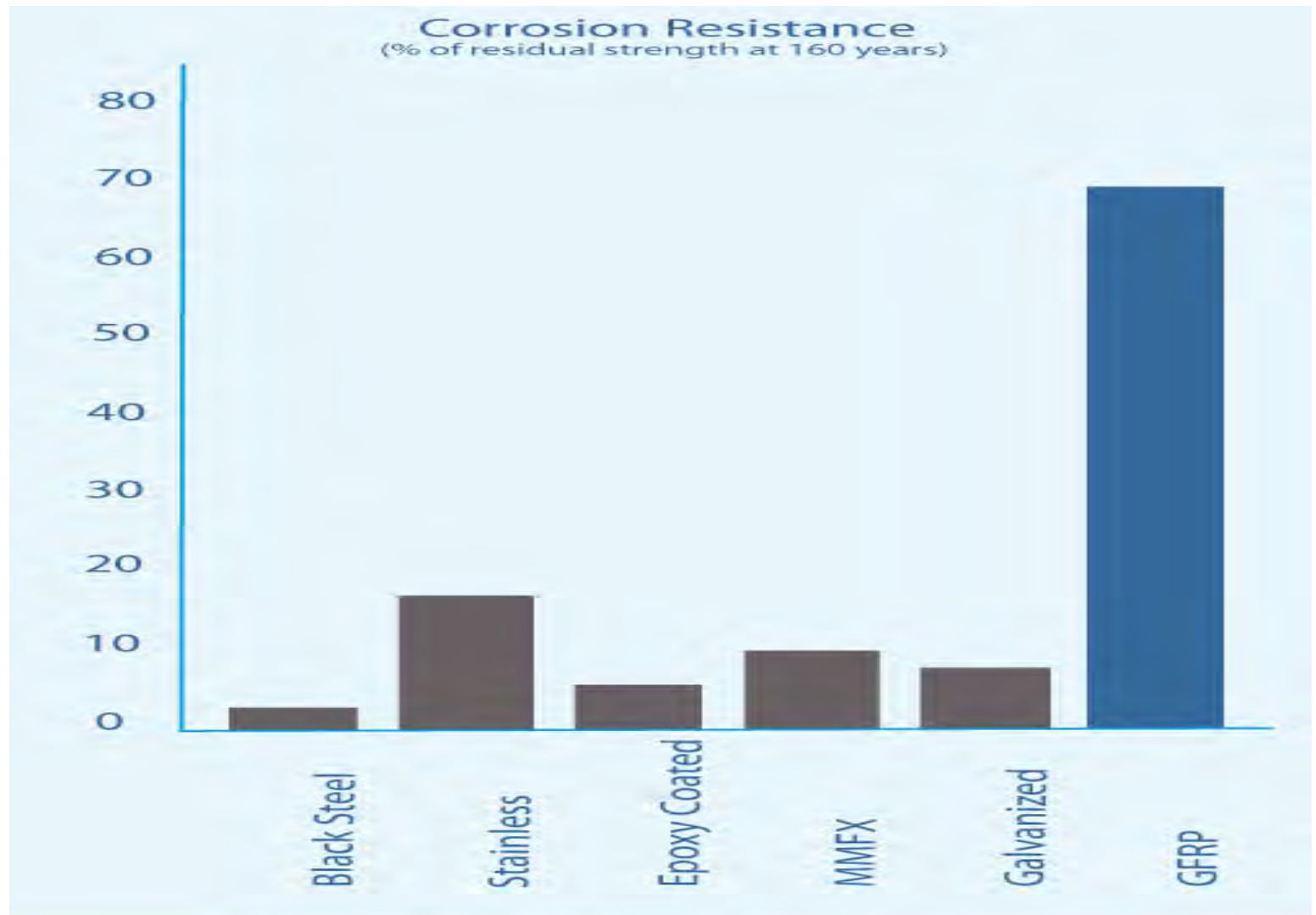
22 Researchers from 14 Canadian Universities concluded a life expectancy of 100 years or more:

- **EXCELLENT BONDING**
- **NO DEBONDING**
- **NO MICROCRACKING**
- **NO VOIDS**
- **NO RESIN MICROCRACKING**
- **NO GLASS FIBRE DEGRADATION**
- **NO SIGNIFICANT DELAMINATION/DEBONDING**
- **NO GLASS TRANSITION**
- **NO SIGN OF CHEMICAL DEGRADATION OF THE RESIN**
- **NO CHEMICAL DEGRADATION (HYDROLYSIS)**



Corrosion Resistance

- Residual strength at 160 years

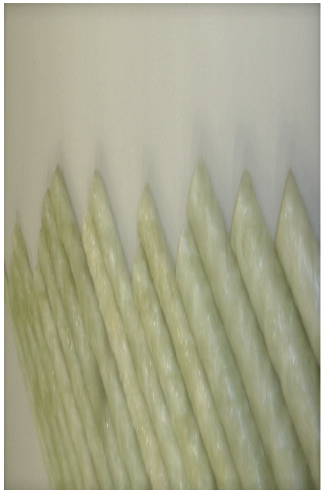


Nemkumar Benthia, UBC, M. Boulfiza U. Saskatchewan. 2004



Property Comparison

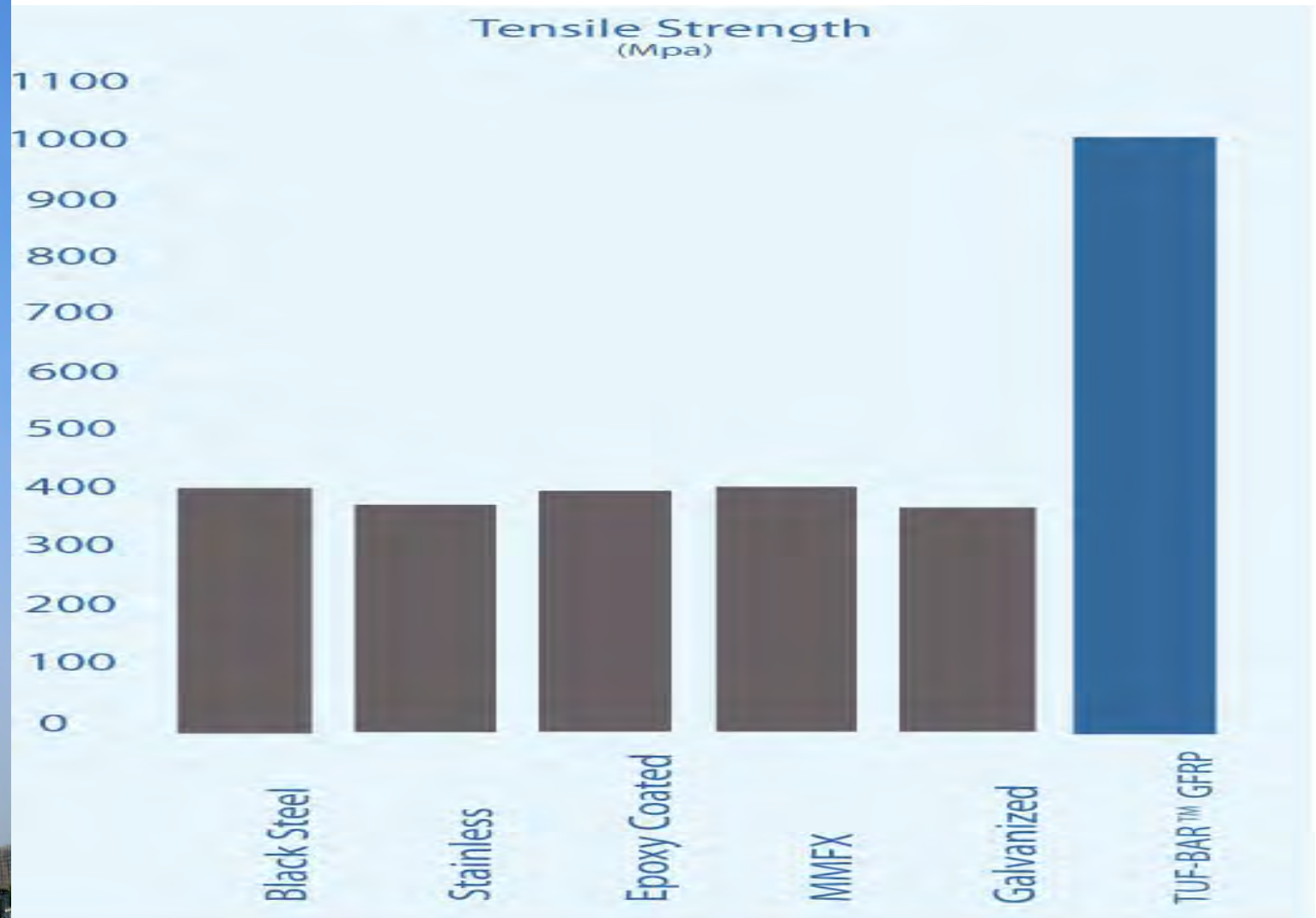
TUF-BAR™ GFRP VS STEEL



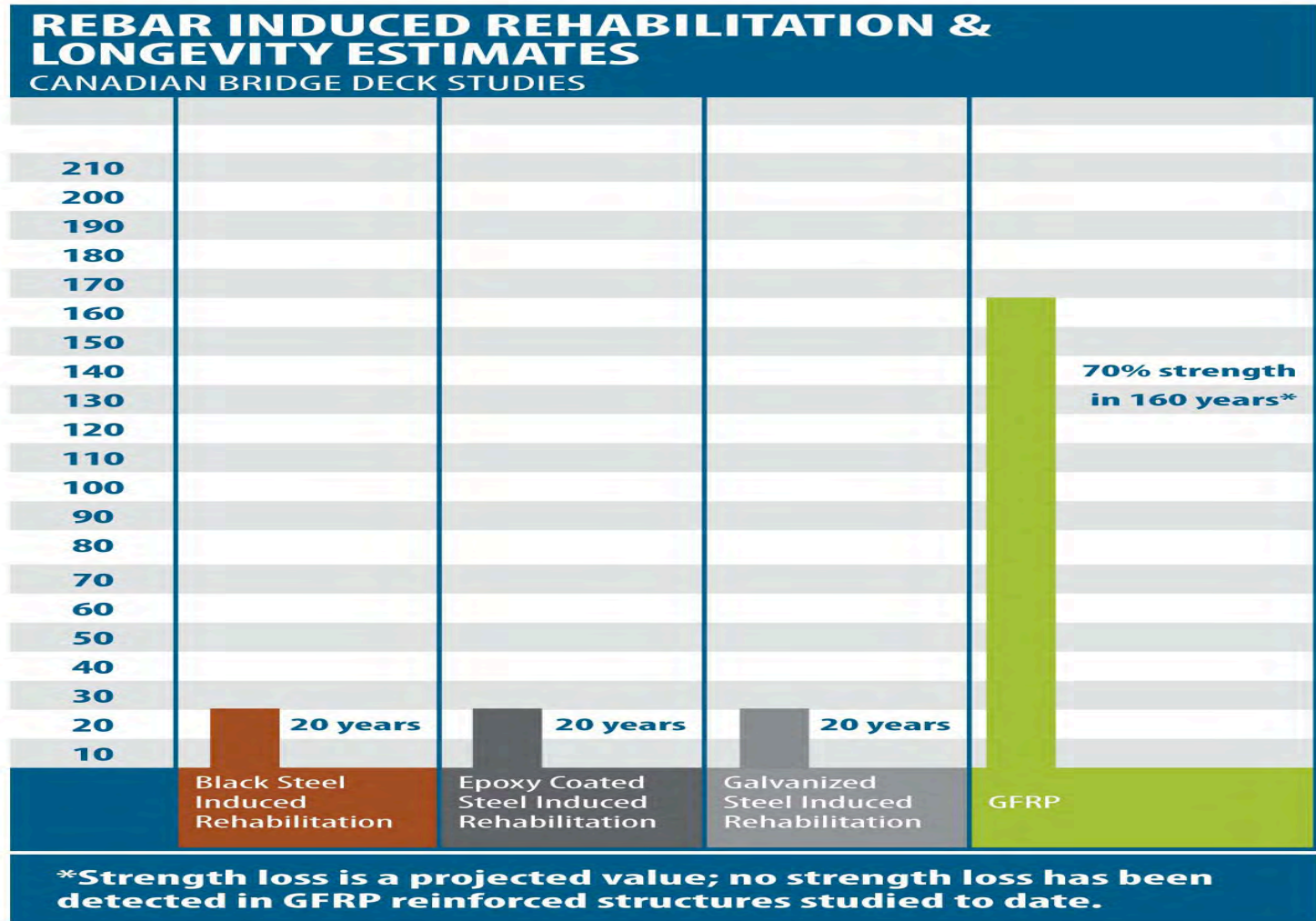
	Black Steel	Stainless Steel	TUF-BAR™
Price		5x-10x Black Steel	Equivalent to Galvanized
Corrosion	Susceptible	Susceptible	Non-Susceptible
Weight			1/4 of Steel
Tensile Strength			2x Steel/ Stainless
Modulus	200 GPa	200 GPa	40-60 GPa
Bond Strength	8-11 MPa	8-11 MPa	10-16 MPa
Thermal Conductivity	Yes	Yes	No
Electrical Conductivity	Yes	Yes	No
Magnetic	Yes	No	No

Tensile Strength

On left: light weight, high strength GFRP rebar reinforced panels are being used in some of the world's tallest building

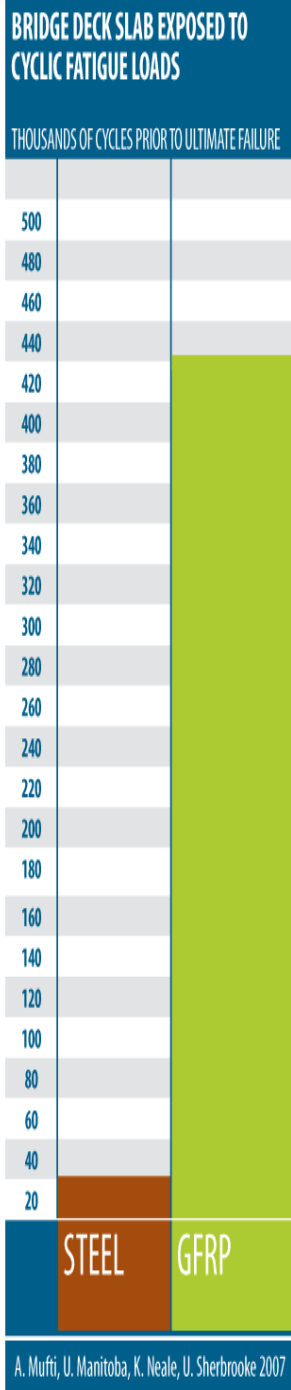


Durability

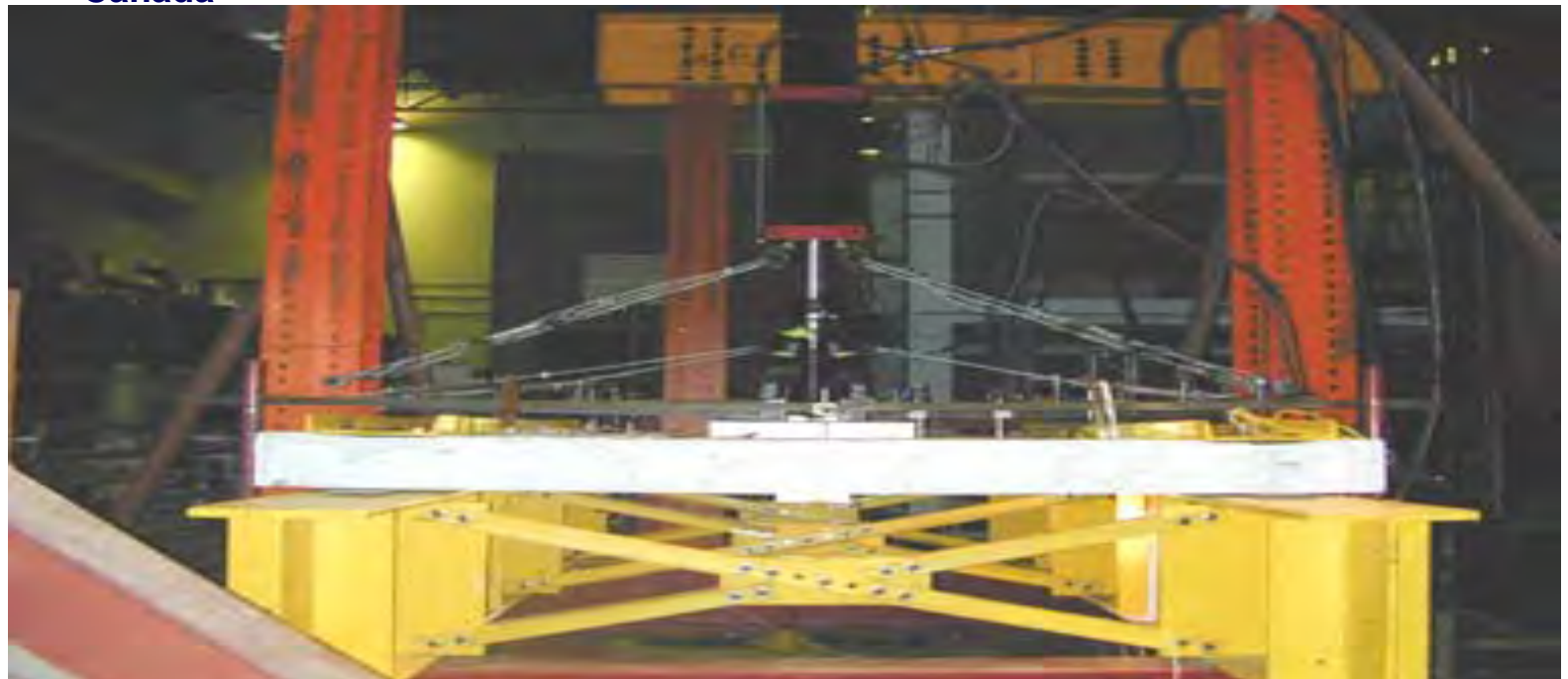


- Natural Sciences and Engineering-Research Council of Canada
- Durability of Fiber Reinforced Polymers in Civil Infrastructure (Canada) 22 Researchers, 4 Universities
- Ontario Ministry of Transport (2007), F. Pianca, H. Schell, G. Cautillo

Concrete Fatigue Resistance GFRP Versus Steel



- **Simulations of traffic going over concrete bridge deck slabs using 60 ton press**
- **Loading Fixture**
- **A. El-Ragaby 1, E. F. El-Salakawy 2 and B. Benmokrane 3**
- **1 PhD Candidate, Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Sherbrooke, Canada**
- **2 CRC Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada**
- **3 NSERC Chair Professor, Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Sherbrooke, Canada**



Concrete Fatigue Resistance GFRP Versus Steel



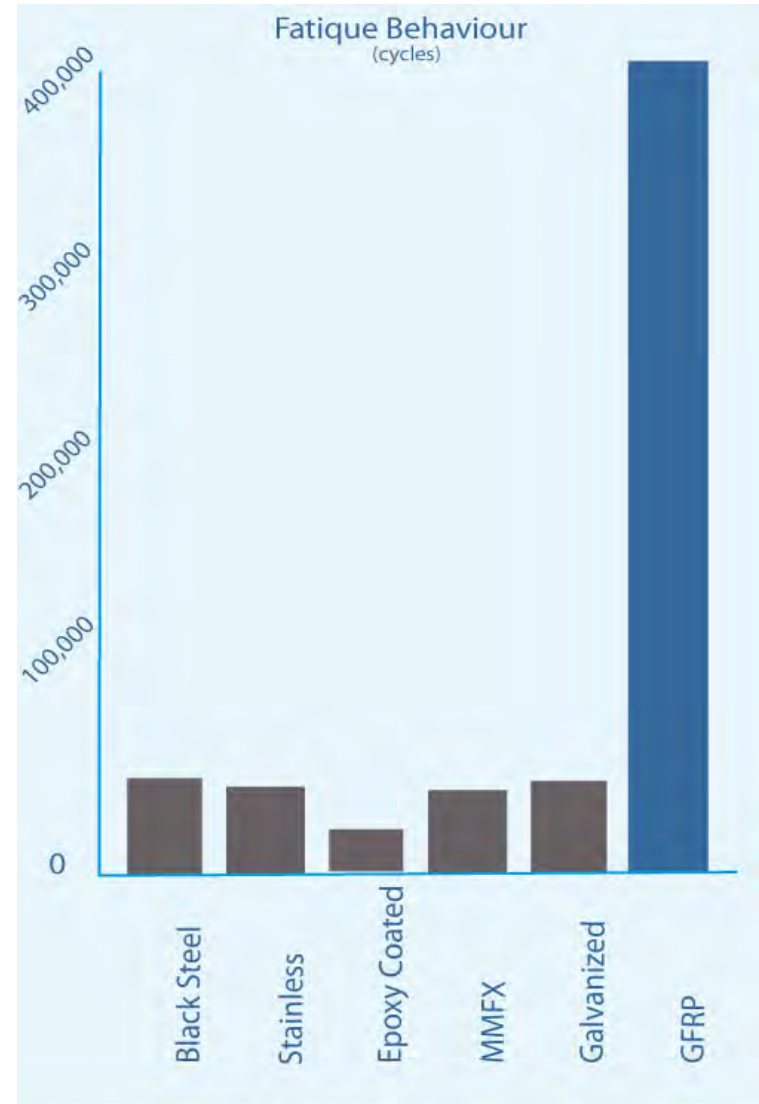
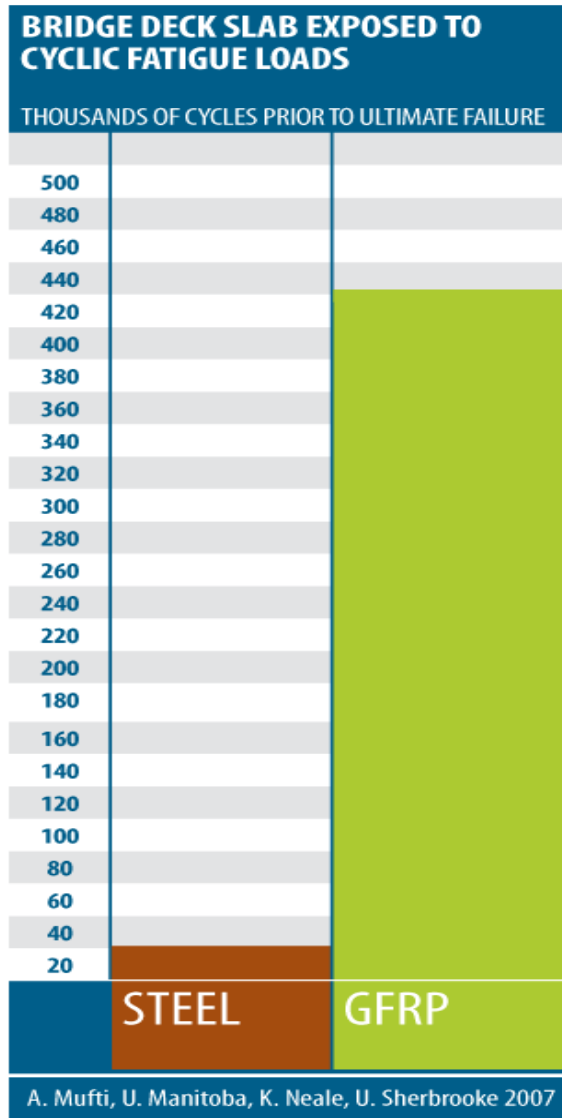
GFRP Reinforced Concrete slabs exposed to heavy traffic:

- will have fewer cracks
- will last 20 times longer





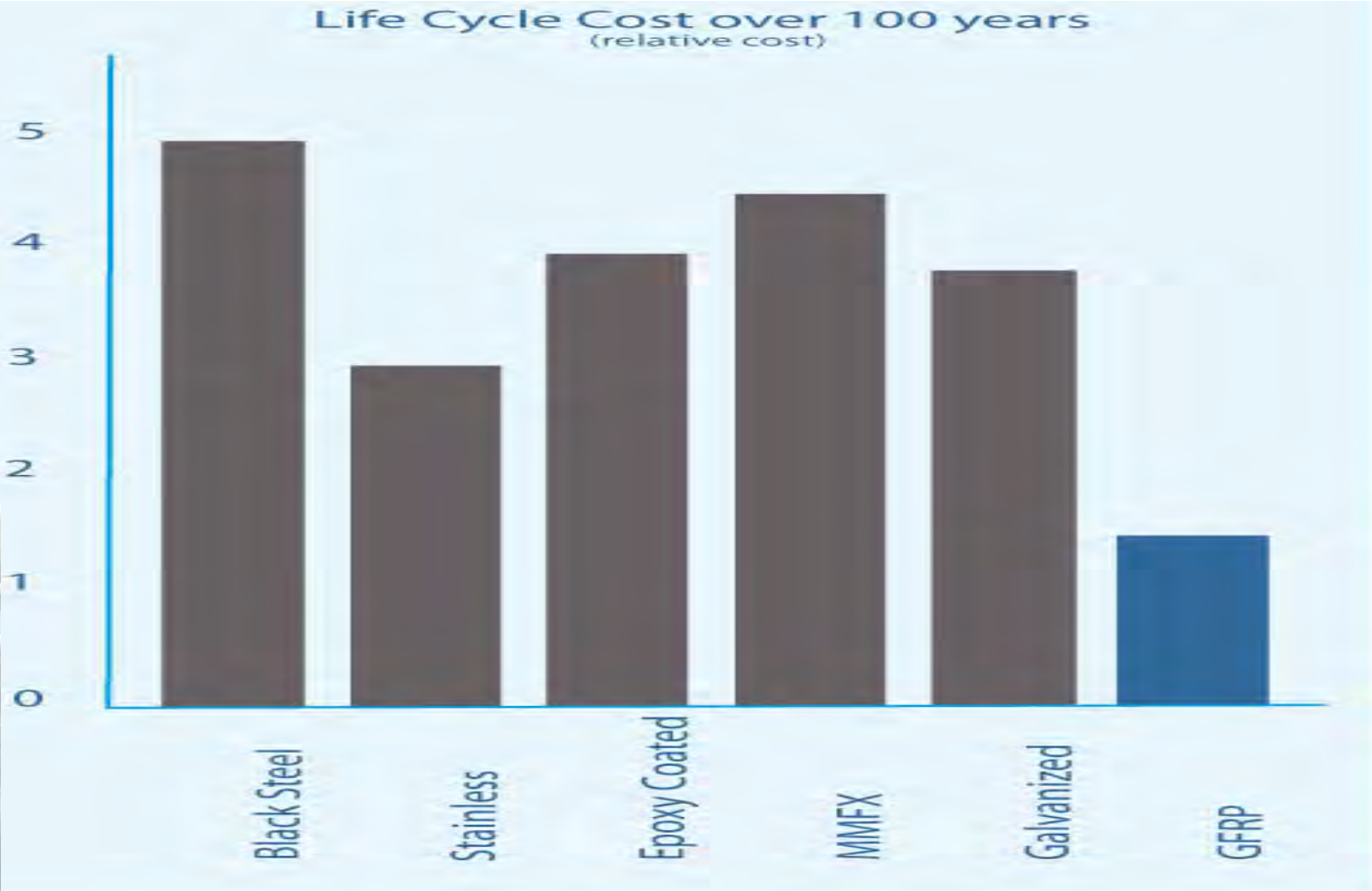
Concrete Fatigue GFRP slabs last 20 times longer



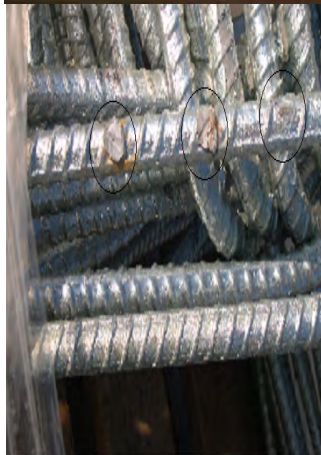
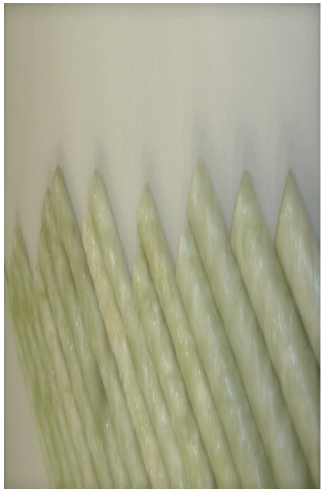
Adimi, M.R., Rahman, A.H., and Benmokrane, B. 2000

Life Cycle Costs GFRP

- 40-60% reduction in repair and demolition costs



Gordon Spark, U. Manitoba, ISIS Canada, 2005



Conclusions from the Field Studies

- **Steel-reinforced concrete:**
 - begins to deteriorate after 10 to 15 years
 - generally major repairs are required at 25 years.
- **GFRP-reinforced concrete:**
 - will last beyond 100 years
 - maintenance and demolition cost savings of 40 to 60% are projected
 - concrete exposed to cyclic fatigue loads will last 20 times longer

“ GFRP is far more cost-effective than metallic reinforcement”

Chair Natural Sciences and Engineering – Research Council of Canada



Research teams recommended:

•That GFRP be allowed as the primary reinforcement design guidance can now be found in;

•**CAN/CSA-S6-06**

“Canadian Highway Bridge Code” (December 2008), 800p.

•**CAN/CSA-S806-02 (R2007)**

“Construction of Building Components with Fibre-Reinforced Polymers” Product Number 2012972

Update No. 3 was published as notification; it is now a National Standard of Canada.

See www.frp distributors.com for additional info.

