VW Embedment Strain Gauge

Applications
VW Embedment Strain Gauges are used to measure strain in reinforced concrete and mass concrete structures.

Operation
The strain gauge operates on the principle that a tensioned wire, when plucked, vibrates at its resonant frequency. The square of this frequency is proportional to the strain in the wire.

The gauge is constructed so that a wire is held in tension between two end flanges. Loading of the concrete structure changes the distance between the two flanges and results in a change in the tension of the wire.

An electromagnet is used to pluck the wire and measure the frequency of vibration. A change in strain is the difference between the current reading and the initial reading multiplied by a gauge factor.

Installation
In reinforced or pre-stressed concrete, the strain gauge is usually tied to the reinforcing cage, as shown above. Some specifications require that the gauge be cast in a concrete briquette prior to installation.

In mass concrete applications, the gauge may be installed either before or immediately after placement of the concrete.

Advantages
Removable Sensor Pickup:
The coils used to excite and read the vibrating wire are separate from the gauge. This allows for flexibility of installation should cable length requirements change during installation.

Built-in Temperature Sensor:
The temperature sensor is useful for monitoring temperature and for making temperature corrections.

Reliable Signal Transmission:
The strain gauge provides a strong signal that can be transmitted reliably over long distances with properly shielded cable.

Accurate Readings:
All embedment strain gauges are tested and provided with a batch factor to provide the user with the most accurate reading possible without the additional cost of individually calibrating the gauges.
EMBEDMENT STRAIN GAUGE
VW Embedment Strain Gauge . . . 52650226
Vibrating wire strain gauge for monitoring strain in reinforced or mass concrete. Includes a built-in thermistor. Signal cable not included.
Range: 3,000 microstrain, set mid-range.
Resolution: 1 microstrain with VW Indicator.
Accuracy: ± 0.5% FS.
Thermal Coefficient: 12 ppm /°C.
Length: 168 mm (6.625”).

PICKUP AND SIGNAL CABLE
VW Standard Clip-On Pickup . . . 52641110
Standard clip-on pickup includes 10 feet (3m) of signal cable and a hose clamp.
VW Custom Length Clip-On Pickup 52641100
Custom clip-on pickup includes the pickup and a hose clamp. Signal cable must be ordered separately and will be installed at the factory.
Signal Cable . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 50613824
Shielded cable with four 22-gauge tinned-copper conductors and flexible poly-vinyl chloride (PVC) jacket rated to 80°C(176°F).

TERMINAL BOXES
Terminal Box for 6 sensors . . . . 57711606
Terminal Box for 12 Sensors . . . . 57711600
Terminal Box for 24 Sensors . . . . 97711624
Provides terminals for signal cable from 6, 12, or 24 sensors. Sensors are selected by rotary switch.
Dimensions of 6-sensor box are 240 x 190 x 120 mm (9.5 x 7.5 x 4.75”). Dimensions of 12 and 24-sensor boxes are 290 x 345 x 135 mm (11.5 x 13.5 x 5.25”).
Universal Connector . . . . . . . . . . 57705001
For terminating a single cable. Connector not required when sensors are connected to a terminal box, a data logger, or to the terminal posts on the VW Data Recorder.

READOUT
VW Data Recorder . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 52613500
Jumper Cable for Terminal Box . . 52613557
The VW Data Recorder displays VW sensor readings in Hz or H²/1000 and thermistor data in degrees C. It can also record the readings. See separate datasheet.
The jumper cable is required when the VW Data Recorder is to be connected to a terminal box or to a connector attached to signal cable.

DATA LOGGERS
VW MiniLogger . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 52613310
The VW MiniLogger is a compact, low-cost data logger for one sensor. See separate datasheet.
4-Channel V-Logger . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 52615140
8-Channel V-Logger . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 52615180
Campbell Scientific Data Loggers
Campbell data loggers with a VW interface and the AM16/32 multiplexer can accommodate 16 sensors with temperature readings or 32 sensors without without temperature readings.