



# **Bilateral Exchange: Steam Generator Divider Plate Cracking**

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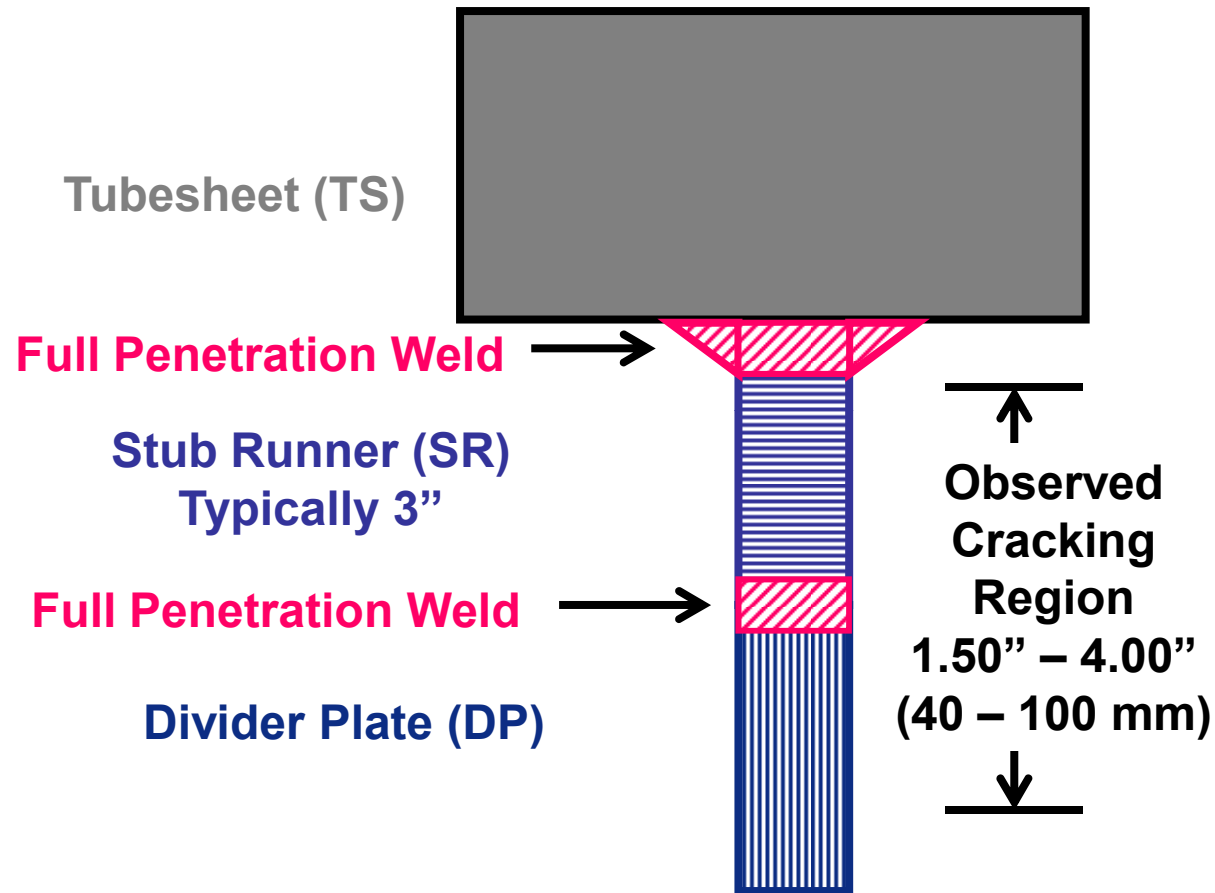
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# Divider Plate





# Issue

- Cracking in the divider plate/stub runner has been observed in several French units
- Inspections have not been performed in the U.S.
- Recently started to question whether cracks in the divider plate could grow into the channel head (steam generator shell) or tubesheet cladding
  - Cracking of the steam generator shell or the tube-to-tubesheet weld could have safety significance



# Regulatory Action

- Completed Actions
  - Safety significance of cracking in the divider plate assessed by U.S. industry
  - Not a significant safety issue
- For license renewal, assessing need for aging management program
  - NRC concern relates to lack of information on how prevalent cracks are in divider plates – number, depth, length, etc. – not a concern for Alloy 690 materials
  - Additional information requested from applicants regarding the potential for cracks to continue to grow into shell or tube-to-tubesheet welds
  - No such cracking has been observed



# Discussion Topics

- Materials of construction of divider plates (Alloy 600, Alloy 82/182 , Alloy 690, Alloy 52/152)
- Divider plate cracking experience in Japan
- Inspections performed in Japan
- Any on-going activities