



DSF No. 7005

Subject: Real Time Aging of Diamond Snap-Form Ties

Date: February 2011

Construction projects may take weeks or even months to complete. During this time, the components used in the construction are exposed to the elements. To demonstrate that the DSF ICF System is not negatively effected by long term exterior exposure, DSF conducted field exposure tests on Diamond Snap-Ties.

Diamond Snap-Form subjected DSF Ties to the elements for an extended period of time - five months. During this time, the ties were mounted in both horizontal and vertical positions facing due south. At the conclusion of the exposure, the DSF Ties were tested for color retention, screw holding power, and tensile strength.

After five months of exposure to ambient outdoor conditions, the weathered DSF Ties showed:

- No color change
- Maintained their excellent screw holding capabilities (see ICF Tech. Bulletin #7002)
- Retained their complete tensile strength

In addition to the controlled experiment described, DSF also tested DSF Ties on a 1-1/2 year old concrete filled field exposed test wall. DSF monitored the appearance and tested the screw holding capacity of the exposed ties. The field exposed wall was located in Denver, Colorado. It was subjected to the harsh ultraviolet light exposure and temperature fluctuations that Denver is known to experience.

After this severe 1-1/2 year exposure to the elements, the weathered DSF Ties showed:

- Excellent color retention.
- Screw holding capacities in excess of recommended values (see ICF Tech Bulletin #7002).
- Retained their complete tensile strength

DSF testing demonstrates that projects utilizing the DSF ICF System will maintain the necessary attachment strength characteristics under general construction time exposure.

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