

SNAP TITE™-- Composite Column Reinforcement System

The Snap Tite™ Composite Column Reinforcement System is a solution for rehabilitating or upgrading steel reinforced concrete columns or structures with fiberglass jackets. The Snap Tite™ System reduces the labor and heavy equipment required to install traditional steel jackets that are pre-fabricated and field fitted with the aid of a crane, then welded, grouted and painted. The Snap Tite™ System utilizes pre-manufactured fiberglass jackets which are made with custom engineered high strength Vectorply® fiberglass fabrics and a corrosion resistant isophthalic resin. The Snap Tite™ jackets are installed on the concrete column using a high performance urethane adhesive. A typical column will require 3 to 4 layers of jackets, each having a nominal thickness of around 1/8 inch. Vertical and horizontal jacket seams are symmetrically alternated to provide continuous reinforcement and even load distribution. The Jackets are held in place by a set of belt clamps while the adhesive cures. A typical 48 inch diameter by 20 foot tall concrete column can be fully jacketed in less than three hours with only two people and no heavy equipment. A typical installation of conventional steel jackets usually takes three days. The Snap Tite™ System includes a revolutionary new jacket manufacturing process which yields excellent productivity and consistently high quality jackets. It takes full advantage of modern manufacturing and material sciences. The Snap Tite™ System is currently being evaluated in several states for bridge column repair. The technology is also being evaluated to rehabilitate other structures such as wooden utility poles, wooden pier pilings, and parking structures.

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