

Western Instruments

Established 1965

Flash Gauge®

The Flash Gauge is an Ultrasonically based Production and Quality Control Testing System. This equipment provides real time, mill-line information, on the Inside and Outside Weld Area Contours, and Edge Alignment, in a simple to understand format. The Flash Gauge displays the ID and OD weld condition in increments of 0.002", on the unit's computer monitor. Also displayed, is a digital readout of the average wall thickness, outside of the weld area, on each side of the weld.



The Flash Gauge is installed immediately down stream of the welder, where the weld is still at an elevated temperature. The Probe/Shoe assembly oscillates across the hot Weld Area, taking approximately 1000 thickness readings per stroke. These thickness readings are then plotted and displayed on the operator's computer monitor.



The view above shows a close up of the FG7200 Test Head with view of the Oscillator Bearing Assembly and the Probe Shoe assembly riding over the Hot Weld. This Flash Gauge is installed 3 meters downstream of Weld Pressure Rolls and 3 meters upstream of the Seam Annealers on a 14" API 5L Mill.

Below is an overall view of a Flash Gauge (Model FG7200, above 60mm OD), with a close-up of the Operators Pendant. FG7500 for below 114mm.

