

INSULATED BUS PIPE (IBP) SYSTEM **Transforming Electrical Distribution on U.S. Navy Warships**

Team: Hepburn and Sons LLC | Stäubli | FSU CAPS | General Dynamics Bath Iron Works | AeroNav Labs | Roxtec | RSL Fiber | ABS | Others

Problem

• Cables used since advent of



>20% **Installation Labor** Savings over **Standard Cables**

- electrical distribution in 1800's
- Primary advancements only in \bullet standardization and insulation
- Supplying high current loads requires numerous parallel cables for high amperage
- Bend radius can be over lacksquaretwelve times the overall diameter
- Cable installation does not support modular construction
- Cable repulls are costly and time-consuming. Must pull whole cable to repair.

Solution



Insulated Bus Pipe (IBP) System Model

Project Benefits

• Provides SWAP-C savings for increased endurance and design margin • Supports modular ship construction

Boltless Electrical

Up to 50% Weight Savings **Over Standard Cable Depending on Electrical Ratings of** Application

- Touch-safe power distribution
- Capable of being manufactured into complex routing shapes
- AC ratings up to 36 kV and 6.5 kA
- DC ratings up to 60 kV and 7 kA
- Shielding/Protection options • Electromagnetic shielding
 - Flame resistance capability
 - Developing coaxial IBP for low magnetic signature solution
- Prefabricated sections installed \bullet similarly to pipes in pre-outfitting
- Smaller bend radius than cable
- Directly supports Naval Power lacksquareand Energy Systems (NPES) Technology Development

- Manufactured into complex shapes that can be routed in tight spaces
- Easily repaired where only the damaged modular section is replaced
- High abrasion resistance and increased survivability

Project ROI

- >20% labor cost savings let alone schedule cost savings by installing during pre-outfitting
- 50% weight savings over LSTSGU-400 MCM cable for 450VAC 4kA applications
- 50% savings in connection time using boltless controlled contact connector as

Reduction in Bend Radius Compared to Traditional Cable

Significant

40+ years Designed Lifespan of IBP

16+ years

Research and

Roadmap (TDR)

compared to bolted connections

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SBIR/STTR

NSRP National Shipbuilding Research Program



