



*Progressive Engineering Inc.*

---

**USA Vinyl LLC**

ASTM D7032 Guardrail  
Post Mount Tests

3/22/2018



This test report contains eleven (11) pages, including the cover sheet. Any additions to, alterations of, or unauthorized use of excerpts from this report are expressly forbidden.

2017-6122

(B)

## 1. TITLE

ASTM D7032 Guardrail Post Mount Tests

## 2. OBJECTIVE

To apply a load to the top of a guardrail post, as described in ASTM D7032, Section 6.2.4 Concentrated Load Test, to test the post and the post anchorage system when installed on a rigid platform.

*This test report pertains only to the specimens tested. It remains the sole responsibility of the manufacturer to provide a product consistent to that which was tested.*

## 3. TESTED FOR

USA Vinyl, LLC  
5795 Green Pointe Drive S  
Groveport, OH 43125

## 4. TESTING ORGANIZATION

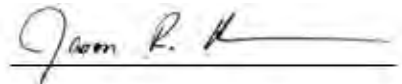
*Progressive Engineering Inc.*

58640 State Road 15  
Goshen, IN 46528  
[www.p-e-i.com](http://www.p-e-i.com)

*See IAS Evaluation Report TL-178 for ISO 17025 Accreditation*

## 5. TESTING PERSONNEL

Director of Testing	- Jason R. Holdeman
Project Manager	- Jacob Bontrager
Technician	- Justin Witmer



## 6. REFERENCE STANDARDS

**ASTM D7032 - 17** - Standard Specification for Establishing Performance Ratings for Wood-Plastic Composite and Plastic Lumber Deck Boards, Stair Treads, Guards, and Handrails

## 7. TEST EQUIPMENT

- A. Hydraulic Cylinders
- B. Load Cell - (PEI No. 466)
- C. String Potentiometer - (PEI No. 1033)
- D. Data Acquisition - (PEI No. 643)

## 8. TEST SPECIMEN

- A. Aluminum Guardrail Post - 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" x 44" long with an average measured thickness of 0.108" Part No. LCAL-POST-2.5xx\_V2. See attached drawing for details.
- B. Post Base - 4-11/16" x 4-11/16" x 0.436" thick aluminum plate Part No. ACAL-POSTBASE-2.5\_V2, with eight (8) screw holes for attachment to Post. See attached drawing for details.

- C. Fasteners - Base plate to post fasteners were ELCO Part No. EAF886 (also Hilti Part No. 452) 1/4"-20 x 2" long Washer Hex Head with an average head diameter of 0.501" and an average shank diameter of 0.247", and length of 1.998". See attached drawing for details.

## **9. TEST SPECIMEN CONSTRUCTION**

The test samples were tested in the 'As Received' condition.

## **10. TEST SET-UP**

The Guardrail Post Assembly was secured to a rigid steel fixture with four (4) 3/8" diameter Grade 5 bolts. No washers were used above the base. A hydraulic cylinder was attached to another steel fixture such that the load direction was horizontal. A strap was looped around the Guardrail Post at the height of 42", and held in place with quick-clamp. A chain was used to connect the strap to the hydraulic cylinder, and a load cell was positioned inline. A string potentiometer was used to measure the deflection at the load point, 42" above the deck surface.

## **11. TEST PROCEDURE**

A horizontal concentrated load test was applied at the test location. The load was applied at an approximate rate of 2" per minute until a force of 500 lbf was reached, which was held for 60 seconds. Loading was then continued until a failure occurred. Deflection readings were not taken after 500 lbf.

## **12. TEST REQUIREMENTS**

Allowable deflection limit at 200 lbf is 3.5".

$$\text{Post height } 42" / 12 = 3.5"$$

## **13. TEST RESULTS**

Average deflection at 200 lbs. = 0.827"

Average Maximum Load = 851 lbf.

All samples reached 500 lbf load, and held it for a minimum of 60 seconds.

## **14. CONCLUSION**

USA Vinyl, LLC 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" LCAL-POST-2.5xx\_V2 Deck Post, when installed to the ACAL-POSTBASE-2.5\_V2 Post Base with eight (8) ELCO EAF886 screws, has met the structural requirements for section 6.2.4.2 of ASTM D7032. This test report does not purport to address the post anchorage.

Date: 3/22/2018

Client: USA Vinyl LLC

Specimen: 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" Aluminum Guardrail Post

Temperature: 70° F

Rel. Humidity: 35%

End-Use Adjustment Factor: N/A

Guardrail Height (in): 42

Load Hold Time: 60 Seconds

Test Order	ASTM D7032 Section 6 - Test Information					Test Results				
	Sample No.	Loading Location	<sup>1</sup> Design Load	<sup>2</sup> Required Ultimate Load	<sup>3</sup> Allowable Deflection @ Design Load	Deflection @ Design Load	Maximum Load Applied	Deflection @ Max. Load	Comments or Observations	Pass / Fail
1	Post Test-1	42" Above Deck Surface	200 lbf	500 lbf	3.50"	0.849"	847 lbf	N/A	The sample held the required load for 60 seconds. Load increased until failure occurred. The screws which secured the post to the post base failed in tension on the opposite load side.	PASS
2	Post Test-2	42" Above Deck Surface	200 lbf	500 lbf	3.50"	0.842"	873 lbf	N/A	The sample held the required load for 60 seconds. Load increased until failure occurred. The screws which secured the post to the post base failed in tension on the opposite load side.	PASS
3	Post Test-3	42" Above Deck Surface	200 lbf	500 lbf	3.50"	0.789"	834 lbf	N/A	The sample held the required load for 60 seconds. Load increased until failure occurred. The screws which secured the post to the post base failed in tension on the opposite load side.	PASS
See attached charts for load versus deflection										

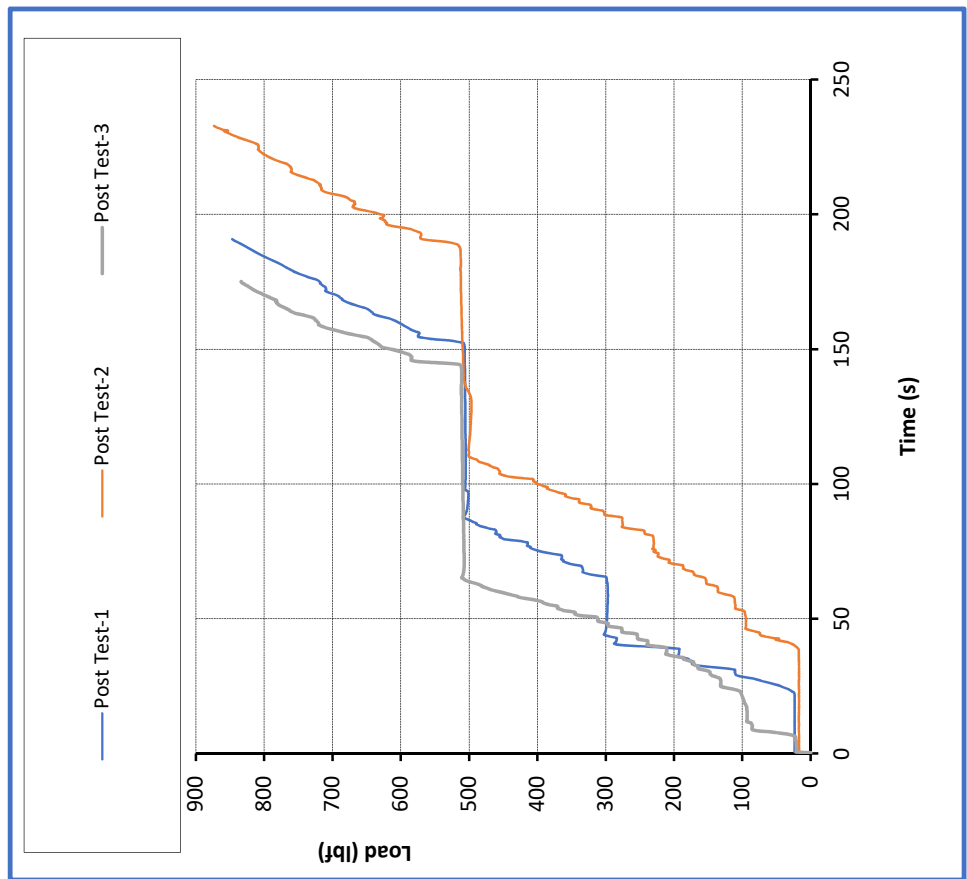
<sup>1</sup> Minimum code requirements prescribed in 2009 IBC Section 1607.7.1, IRC Section R301.5 and/or ASTM D7032 Section 6.2.

<sup>2</sup> The Concentrated Load Requirement is 500 pounds, applied at the maximum guardrail height per section 6.2.4 of ASTM D7032.

<sup>3</sup> The Allowable Deflection is based on the equation  $(L/96 + h/24)$  found in ASTM D7032.

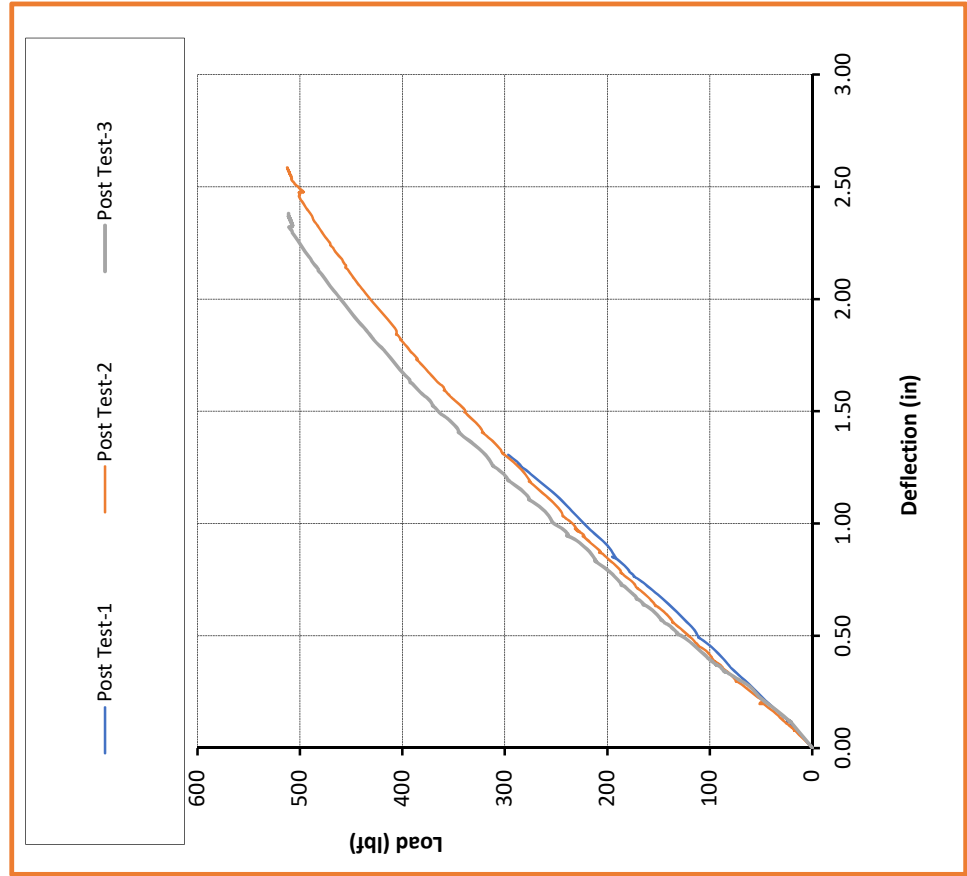
**Date:** 3/22/2018  
**Client:** USA Vinyl LLC  
**Specimen:** 2-1/2" x 2-1/2" Aluminum Guardrail Post

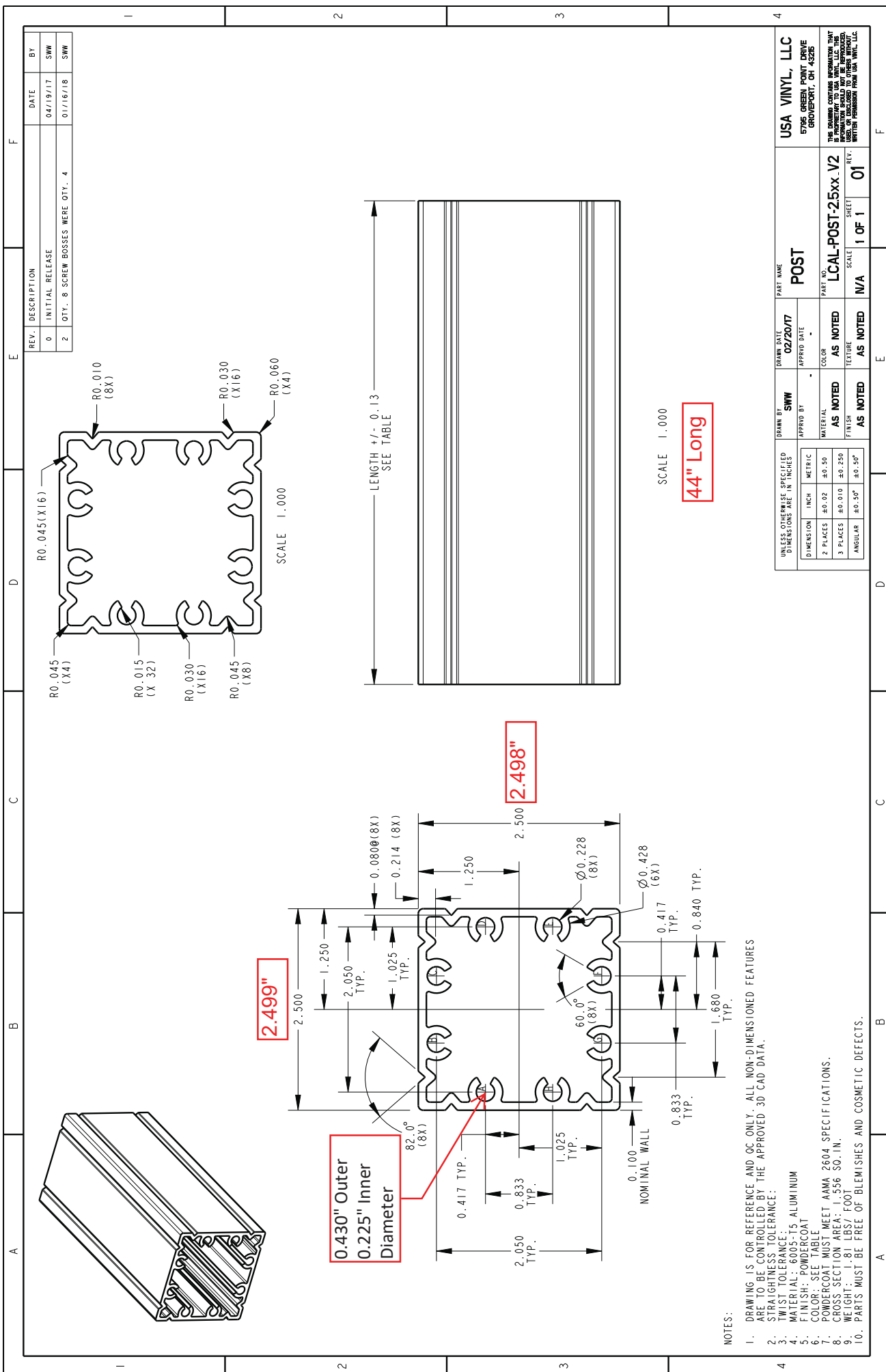
**Load versus Time**

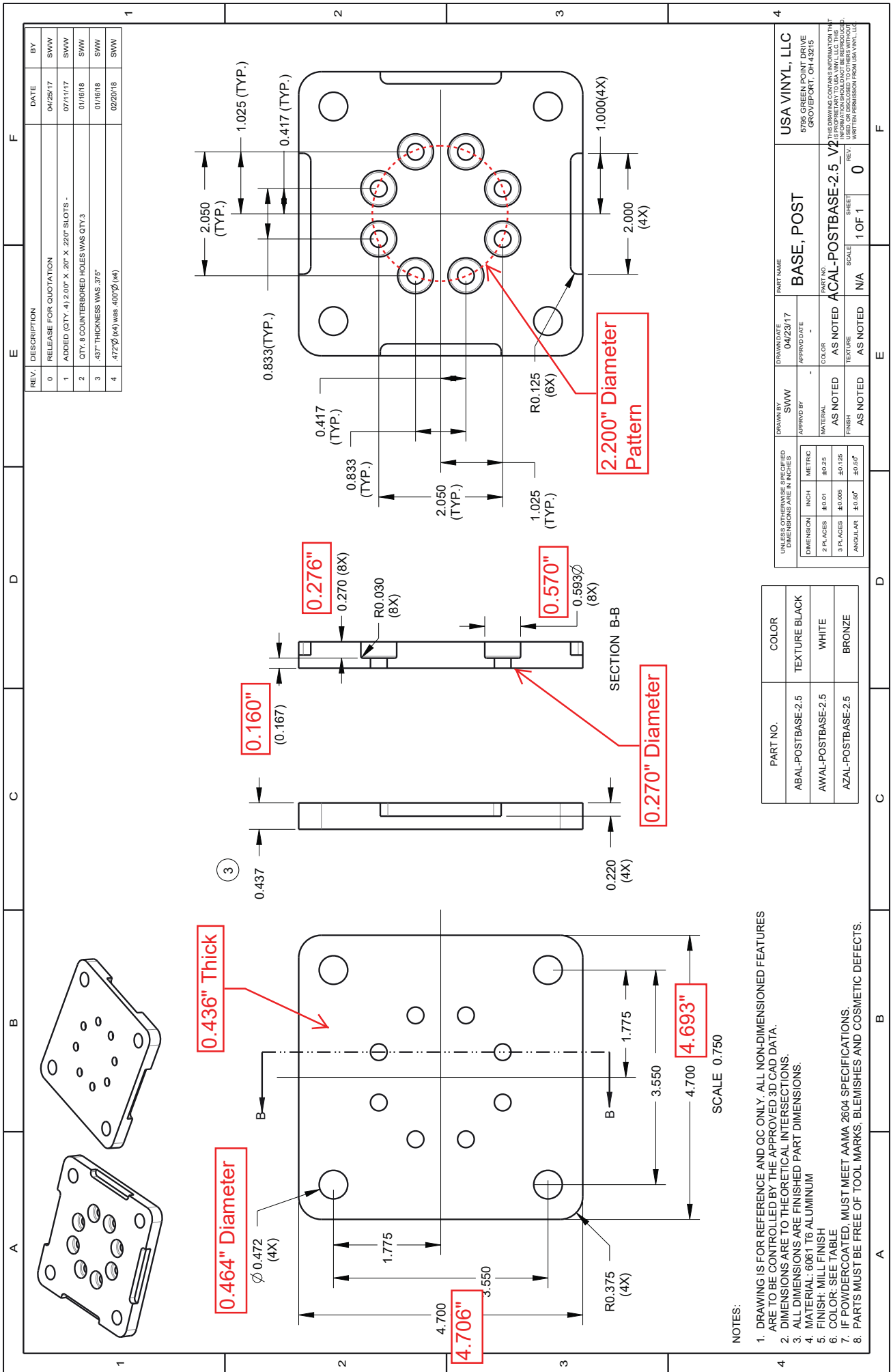


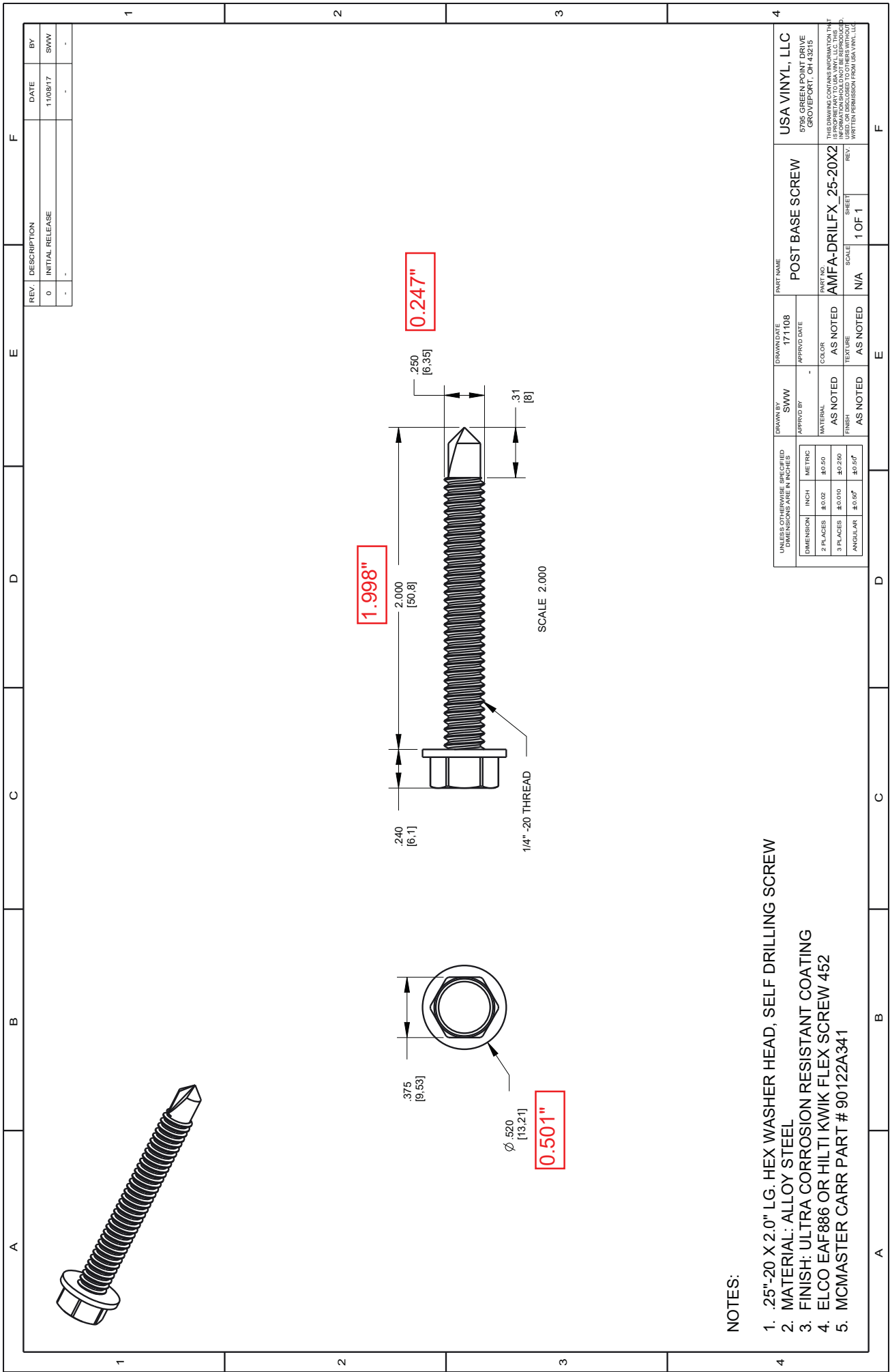
Note: All deflection values are Net Deflection and do not include post deflection.

**Load versus Deflection**

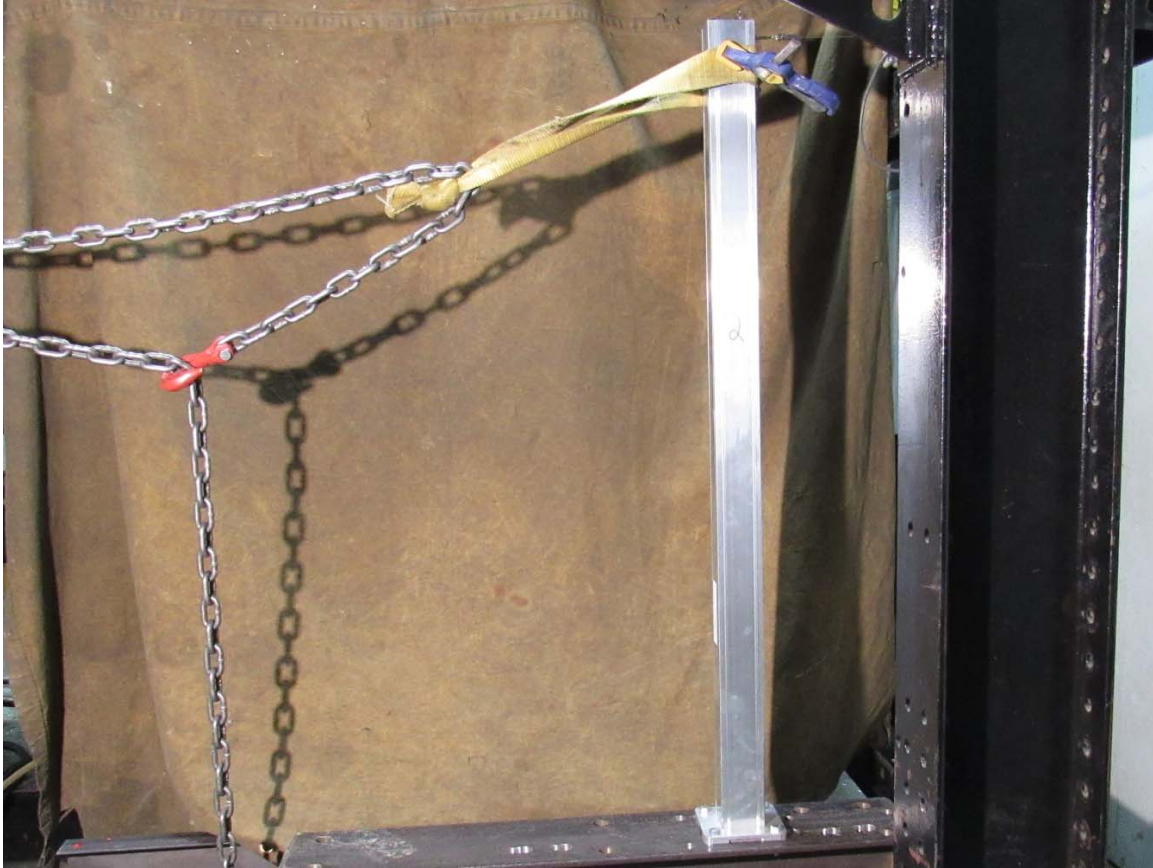




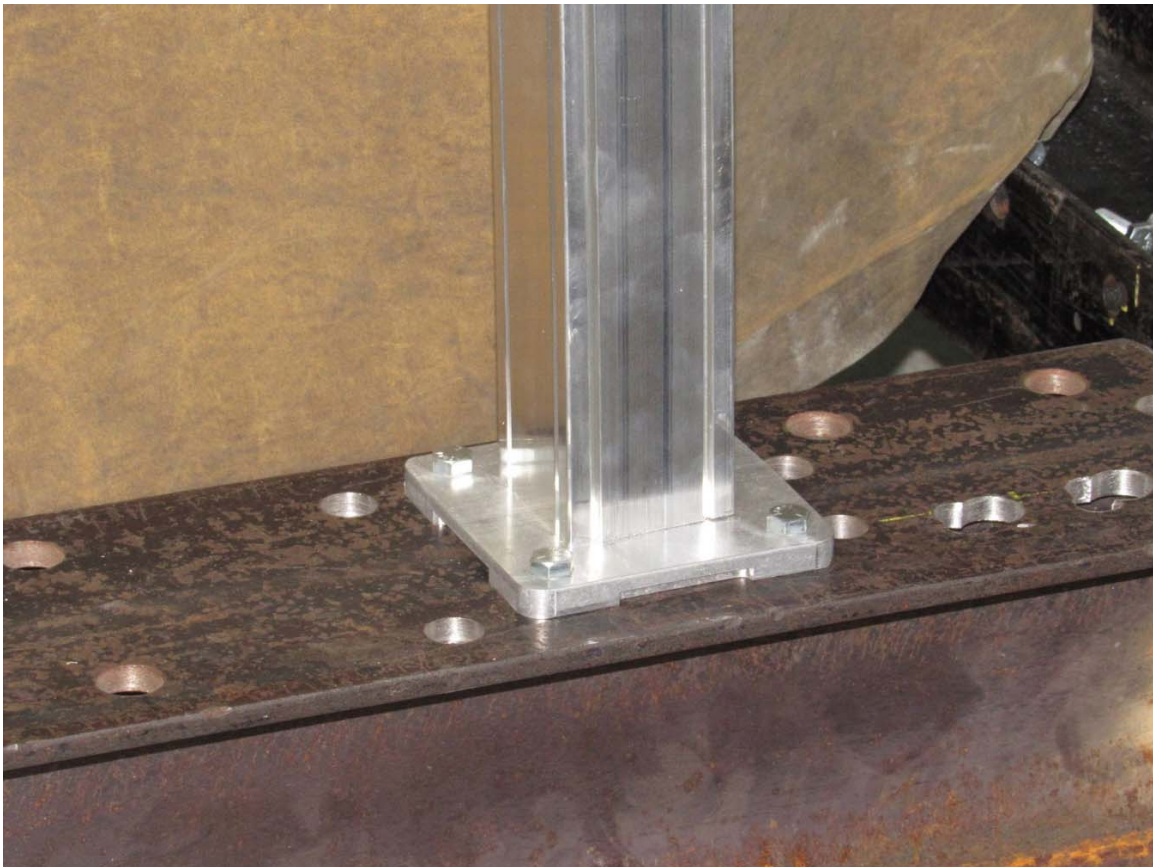








Guardrail Post Test Setup

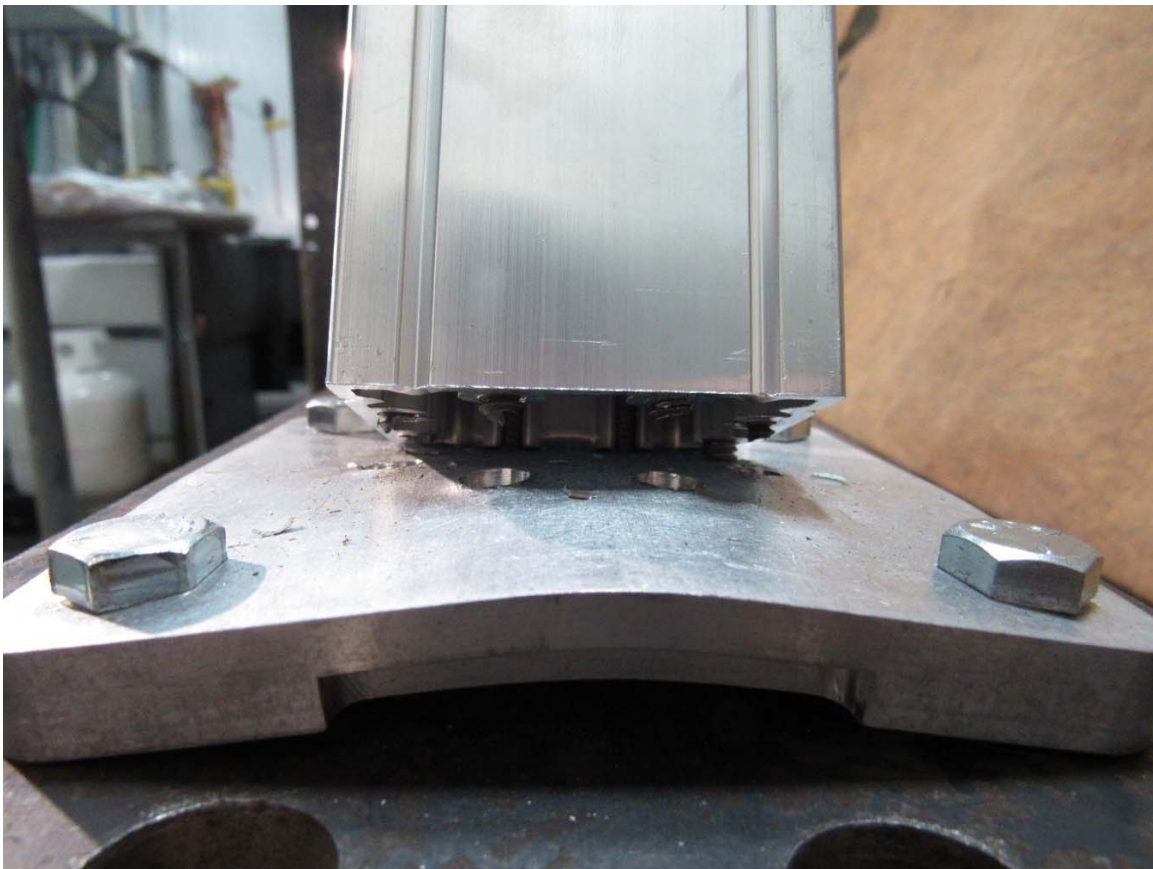


Attachment to Rigid Fixture

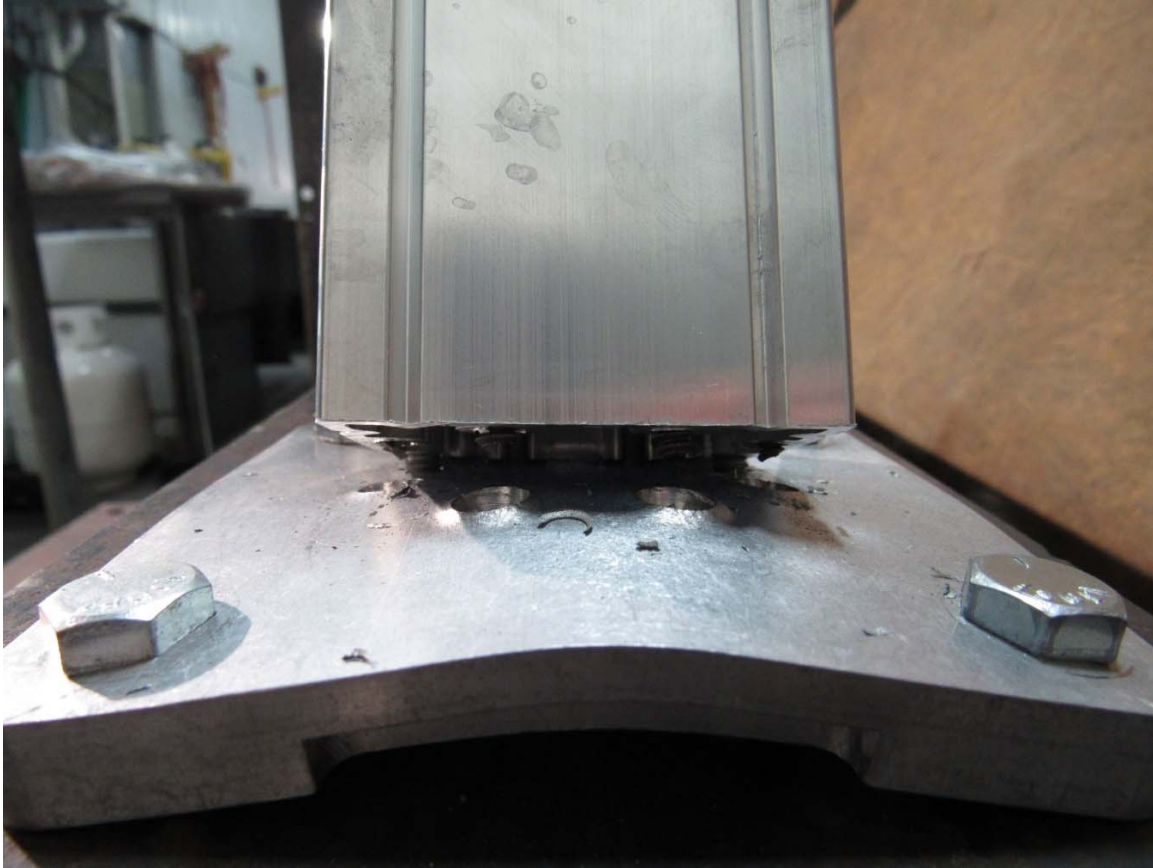




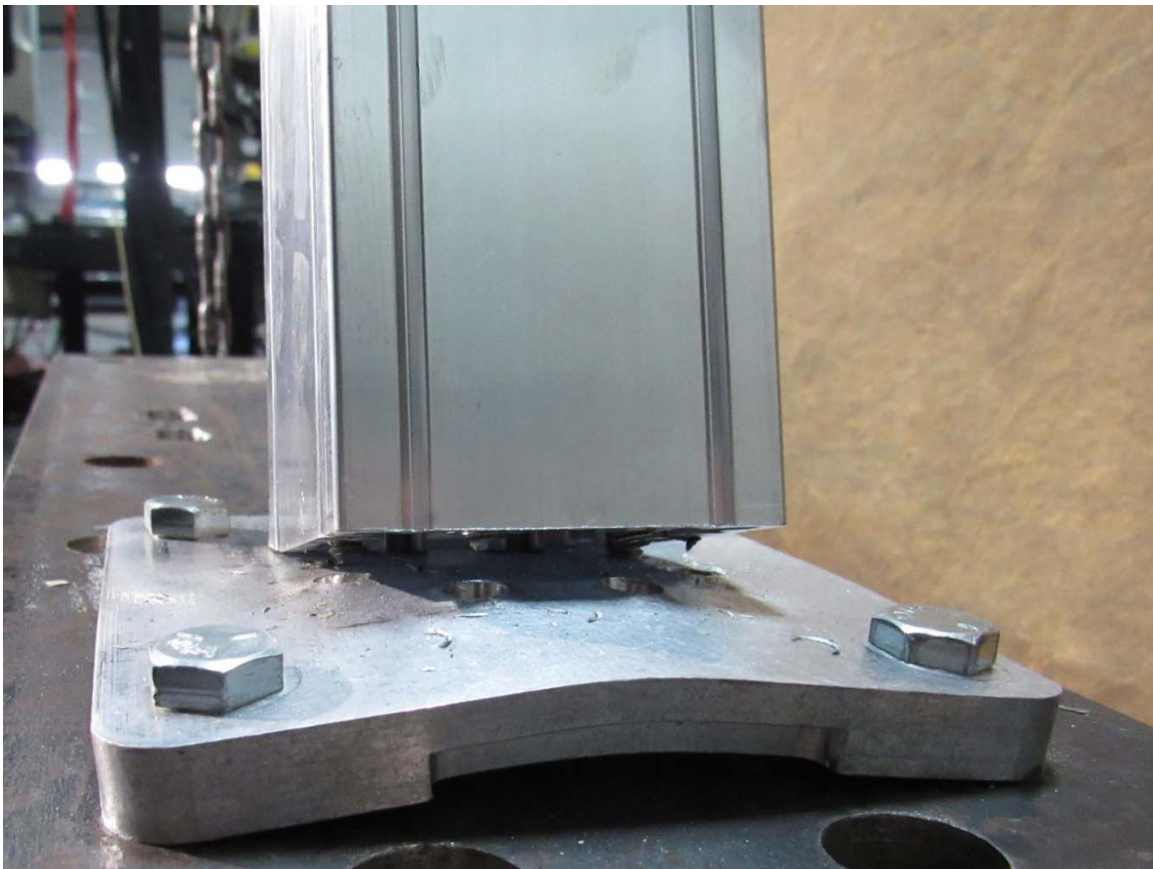
Typical Sample During Loading



Post Test-1 Failure Picture



Post Test-2 Failure Picture



Post Test-3 Failure Picture