# Study on the Applicability of Steel Deck Plate Splices with High-Strength Countersunk Head Bolted Single Frictional Joints



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Flattening of Steel Deck Plate Joints using high-strength countersunk head bolts

## BACKGROUND

As shown in Fig.1, the protrusion of bolt heads may lead to reduced corrosion resistance and pavement durability. Therefore, the use of single-surface friction-type joints employing countersunk bolts, as shown in Fig.2, is being considered.

The Main plate

Fig.2 High-Strength Countersunk

Head Bolted Single Frictional Joints

The connecting plate

Pavement

cover thickness



Fig.1 Steel Deck Plate Joints

#### Purpose:

To investigate the performance and fatigue durability of countersunk high-strength bolts under wheel loads.

#### METHOD

The analysis model is shown in Fig.3. The deformation performance and stress range under wheel loading at the longitudinal joint were compared for each joint configuration.



### RESULTS

- Fig.5 shows the vertical displacement increment at the deck's central section. The countersunk bolt joint's vertical displacement decreased by 4.4% (single friction) and 3.3% (double friction) compared to the hexagonal bolt joint.
- Fig.6 shows that the maximum stress range of the countersunk bolt joint decreased by 9 N/mm<sup>2</sup> compared to the hexagonal bolt joint, and the one-sided joint increased by 10 N/mm<sup>2</sup> compared to the double-sided joint.
- ➢ Fig.7 shows that the stress range in the countersunk machined area and bolts is greater for the one-sided joint than the double-sided joint. No significant stress concentration was observed, with the maximum stress range around 20 N/mm<sup>2</sup> for the onesided joint.



Fig.5 Deck Vertical Displacement Increment





Fig.7 Principal Stress Increment Contour of Countersunk Area and Countersunk Bolt

#### SUMMARY

- > 3–4% reduction under wheel loading regardless of connection surface number.
- ▶ 15% lower maximum stress at deck joint with countersunk bolts.
- > 20 N/mm<sup>2</sup> stress in machined area and bolt.
- $\rightarrow$  No significant stress concentration.