

Introducing the Computer-Aided Tap Tester (CATT)



The CATT system improves the time-proven NDT practice of tap test by collecting quantitative data and displaying the information in a graphical format for easy review and archiving.

When used with the inspection cart, the CATT system offers the potential for significant improvements in inspection productivity.

Some Uses of the CATT System

- **Detects and characterizes:**
 - ✓ **disbonds between facesheet and honeycomb core.**
 - ✓ **crushed core due to impact or overload.**
 - ✓ **voids, inclusions and delaminations in composite repairs.**
 - ✓ **core splice and thickness change, potting, ply drop-off.**
 - ✓ **doublers, ribs, spars location.**
 - ✓ **composite repairs on fan cowling, flaps.**

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Features and Advantages

- **Image based** -- “C-scans” reveal size and shape of flaw and damage, as well as normal substructure.
- **Quantitative** -- Provides images of percentage stiffness reduction due to flaw and damage.
- **Highly portable** -- Uses no AC power, uses no scanning frame, deployable on curved surface.
- **Absolute** -- Provides local stiffness of tapped area in engineering units.
- **Simple to use** – Requires little operator training and runs on IBM compatible PC with Microsoft Excel.
- **Effective** -- Works on both metal honeycomb and composite structures with honeycomb or foam core.
- **Economical** – Reasonably priced and easy to justify based on productivity improvement.



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