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# Development of ANSYS Finite Element Models for SST and DST Tanks

Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy  
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management

**CH2MHILL**  
*Hanford Group, Inc.*

Richland, Washington

Contractor for the U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of River Protection under Contract DE-AC06-99RL14047

## Development of ANSYS Finite Element Models for SST and DST Tanks

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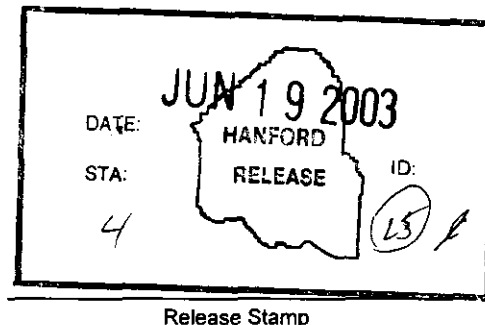
**Key Words:** single-shell tanks, finite element, dome load, double-shell tanks, ANSYS

**Abstract:** Summary report of ANSYS finite element models developed for dome load analysis of Hanford 100-series single-shell tanks and double-shell tanks. Document provides user interface for selecting proper tank model and changing of analysis parameters for tank specific analysis.

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# Development of ANSYS Finite Element Models for SST and DST Tanks

L. J. Julyk / T. C. Mackey  
CH2MHILL Hanford Group, Inc.

Xianghong Li / Jim Radochia  
JLR The Engineering Solutions Company

Date Published  
May 2003

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Document Reviewed: RPP-16414, Rev. 0, Development of ANSYS Finite Element  
Models for SST and DST Tanks


Analysis performed by: Xianghong Li / Jim Radochia  
JLR The Engineering Solutions Company

- Design Input\*
- Basic Assumption
- Approach/Design Methodology
- Related Information
- Conclusion/Result Interpretation

\*Default values of changeable parameters in model are for example only. User of model must confirm proper input of parameter values for specific application of model.

An electronic version of model is available from undersigned. See attached ERATA sheet for any known problems with model.

Reviewer/Approver (print) L. J. Julyk / Design Engineering

Reviewer/Approver (signature)  4/17/03  
Date

**CHECKLIST FOR INDEPENDENT REVIEW**

Document Reviewed: RPP-16414, Rev. 0, Development of ANSYS Finite Element Models for SST and DST Tanks

Author: Xianghong Li / Jim Radochia  
JLR The Engineering Solutions Company

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>N/A</u>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Problem completely defined.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Necessary assumptions explicitly stated and supported.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer codes and data files documented.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data used in calculations explicitly stated in document.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data checked for consistency with original source information as applicable.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mathematical derivations checked including dimensional consistency of results.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Models appropriate and used within range of validity or use outside range of established validity justified.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hand calculations checked for errors.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Code run streams correct and consistent with analysis documentation.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Code output consistent with input and with results reported in analysis documentation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	Acceptability limits on analytical results applicable and supported. Limits checked against sources.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *	Safety margins consistent with good engineering practices.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conclusions consistent with analytical results and applicable limits.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Results and conclusions address all points required in the problem statement.

\* Sample Calculation / Model Development

B. V. Winkel (M&D)

Reviewer

6-10-03

Date

L. J. Julyk (CHG)

Reviewer

6/17/03

Date



## ERRATA

<b>ANSYS Macro</b>	<b>Tracking #</b>	<b>Issue Description</b>	<b>Recommended Action</b>
See specific model	1	Material properties are set at default values that may or may not be appropriate for specific analysis.	Verify material input values appropriate for specific analysis.
	2	Concrete creep coefficients not listed or incorrectly specified for implicit user-defined creep. Solid65 elements can only use explicit creep.	See RPP-13990 for proper creep coefficient specification and usage.
	3	Resulting section force and moment plot/list may only be valid for 0 degrees in 360 degree full model. Path distances may not be correct; short by the sine of the angle at which the results are requested.	Verify proper operation for other than 0 degree position.

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Checker	Jim Radochia <i>JR</i>	Date	<u>5/16/03</u>

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Current dome load restrictions for the Hanford Site underground waste storage tanks are based on existing analyses of record (AOR) that evaluated the tanks for a specific set of design load conditions. However, greater flexibility is required in controlling dome loadings applied to the tanks due to day-to-day operations and waste retrieval activities. This requires the development of an analytical model with sufficient detail to evaluate various dome loading conditions not specifically addressed in the AOR.

## 2.0 Parametric ANSYS Finite Element Models

Parametric ANSYS finite element models for five 100-Series Single-Shell Tank (SST) designs and one Double-Shell Tank (DST) design are developed and verified with sample AOR loadings. The five SSTs include the million gallon tanks A, AX, and SX; the three-quarter million gallon tank S (same as TX, BY, and TY tank designs); and the half-million gallon tank BX (same as B, C, T, and U tank designs). The DST model is for the AY tank design (similar to AN, AW, AP, AZ, and SY tank designs). Differences between the DST designs can be accounted for by modifying parameters in the AY model macros.

Three different models, axisymmetric linear model, slice model, and full 360-degree model, are available based on the tank analyzed. The axisymmetric linear model assumes a) no liner or waste present in the tank, b) no friction/contact at the soil/tank interface, c) no rebar, d) elastic soil modulus, and e) Poisson's ratio of 0.27 for soil. These assumptions are verified in document RPP-14249 [Ref-1] to be reasonable for the purpose of the linear model, which is to provide a quick evaluation of the effect of axisymmetric loading conditions on the global behavior of the tanks. A more accurate evaluation of the tank behavior under axisymmetric loading conditions can be achieved using the slice model by including the contact effect between the tank and soil, and the soil plasticity. For arbitrary loading conditions, the full 360-degree model should be used. The full model also takes the contact and soil plasticity into consideration. The availability of the models for each tank is listed in Table 1, and the detailed information about the model can be found in the report for each individual model, which is also listed in Table 1.

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Table 1. Summary of CHG Tank Analyses

Tank	Available Model	Report of AOR Loading
SST-A	Linear Model	RPP-13997 [Ref-2]
	Slice Model	RPP-13995 [Ref-3]
SST-AX	Linear Model	RPP-13998 [Ref-4]
	Slice Model	RPP-13996 [Ref-5]
SST-S (BY, TX, TY)	Linear Model	RPP-14000 [Ref-6]
	Slice Model	RPP-14002 [Ref-7]
SST-SX	Linear Model	RPP-13991 [Ref-8]
	Slice Model	RPP-13992 [Ref-9]
	360-degree Model	RPP-14004 [Ref-10]
SST-BX (B, C, T, U)	Slice Model	RPP-13999 [Ref-11]
DST-AY (AN, AP, AW, AZ, SY)	Slice Model	RPP-13990 [Ref-12] * RPP-14001 [Ref-13]
	360-degree Model	RPP-13990 [Ref-12] *

\* See RPP-14001 for AOR loading.

For SSTs, the parameters defining the model dimensions and the magnitude of loads are stored in a parameter file with name of **parm\_xx.mac**, where xx indicates the tank to which the parameter file is applid. Parameter file **set\_parms.mac** is for the DST-AY tank. For each model, many parameters can be redefined by the user through a MS Windows Interface. There are three group of parameters, namely, parameters for soil size surrounding the tank, parameters for material properties, and parameters for common loadings. By default, the loading conditions and soil dimensions are set for AOR loadings.

Because all analyses will be run via a Windows interface using the ANSYS batch mode, the SST postprocessing macros were modified from those used in the original reports. Table 2 lists all modified/new macros. These will generate proper plots from the batch mode.

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Table 2. Modified and Additional Files

File Name	Status	Notes
Plpng.mac	Updated	Rewritten to output png image file under batch mode
Pst_proc_a.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_proc_ax.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_proc_s.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_proc_sx.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_a_slice.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_ax_slice.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_s_slice.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_sx_slice.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_bx_slice.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Pst_sx_360.mac	Updated	Modified for plot positioning and using new plpng.mac file in batch mode
Soil.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-A tank
Tank.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-A tank
Soil_ax.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-AX tank
Tank_ax.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-AX tank
Soil_s.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-S tank
Tank_s.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-S tank
Soil_sx.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-SX tank
Tank_sx.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-SX tank
Soil_sx_360.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-SX full model
Tank_sx_360	Added	Position setting for SST-SX full model
Soil_bx.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-BX tank
Tank_bx.plt	Added	Position setting for SST-BX tank

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## 3.0 WINDOWS INTERFACE

## 3.0.1 Introduction to Windows Interface

A Windows interface was written by JLR using Visual Basic.Net. The Visual Basic interface allows users who are not familiar with the ANSYS finite element analysis package to easily select the tank of interest and modify key input parameters such as soil dimensions, material properties, analysis options, and loads. The interface in its initial stage is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Windows interface in its initial format

The interface is divided into six regions, the working directory, tank selection, model selection, soil dimension definition, loading definition, and material property definition. The directory shown in the initial format is the directory from which the interface is launched. The procedure to run an ANSYS analysis using the Windows interface is detailed in the following section.

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### 3.0.2 Using the Windows Interface

Setting up an analysis is straightforward with the Windows interface. It involves the following steps.

#### A. Installation

The installation consists of two part, one is for ANSYS macro files, and the other is for the actual Windows interface.

#### Installation of Macros

The deliverable package includes the macros.zip file which includes all ANSYS macros zipped within appropriate folders. Users need to create a working directory, say D:\CHG Tank, for these macros, then extract all files to the directory. When unzipping, remember to set the WinZip configuration so that the macros will be extracted to individual folders for a specific tank. To do this, click "*option*" in WinZip interface, select "*Configuration*", set *Extract folder* to *Open archive folder*. Noting that the **parm\_xx.mac** (for SST) or **set\_parms.mac** (for DST) file are renamed to **parm\_xx\_def.mac** or **set\_parms\_def.mac** compared with the macros in early versions, these files contain all parameters needed for the specific analysis in their default values. Once the parameters are modified in the windows interface, the interface program will look for **parm\_xx\_def.mac** or **set\_parms\_def.mac** file, append the modified parameters at the end of the file, and save the file as **parm\_xx.mac** or **set\_parms.mac**, which will then be loaded into an ANSYS analysis. This will ensure that the original parameter values will not be changed to avoid potential modeling problems that could result from modifying these original values. A new file **runall.mac** is added to the deliverable package for each model of each tank. **Runall.mac** is the input file for the ANSYS batch run, including all commands to carry out the analysis, and post processing if needed. The **runall.mac** file can be changed manually by users, and serves as a dividing line between the Windows interface and actual ANSYS analysis.

#### Installation of Windows Interface

Included in the deliverable package is a zip file called CHGSetup.zip. Make sure that WinZip is installed on the user's computer, then double click the CHGSetup.zip. In the WinZip interface, double click setup.exe, the setup wizard will guide you through the installation of the Windows interface. Once the interface is installed, make sure the ANSYS launch command (ansys70 for ANSYS70) is in the search path

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of the operating system. One way to check is to type "ansys70" in a DOS window. If the path is set up right, ANSYS should run no matter where ANSYS is launched.

#### ***B. Load the interface***

The interface can be launched by running the program CHG Tank Analysis.exe.

#### ***C. Define Working Directory***

Type or copy-and-paste the working directory containing all ANSYS macros for the tank to be analyzed if the interface is not launched there. The initial directory shown is the directory the interface is launched from.

#### ***D. Select a tank***

Select a tank to be analyzed by clicking a proper radio button. Once a tank is selected, the finite element models available for the selected tank are shown, and the parameters are set to values for its AOR loading condition. Note that every time you click a tank, the parameters are set to its AOR values, even after you have changed the values for the specific tank. Figure 2 shows the interface after selecting a tank.

#### ***E. Select a model***

After selecting a tank, select a finite element model for the tank by clicking one of the available models, 2-D model, slice model, or 360-degree model.

#### ***F. Define Soil Dimensions***

The volume of soil included in the analysis can be defined by setting the backfill depth, soil radius, and soil depth below the tank. Values for AOR loadings are loaded when a tank is selected.

#### ***G. Define Loadings***

Common loads can be defined, including a uniform pressure load, a concentrated load, and a vacuum pressure. The AOR loadings are the default values.

#### ***H. Define Material Properties***

Material properties for soil, structural concrete (including creep, cracking, and crushing), rebar, insulating concrete, and liner steel can be specified.



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**I. Save The Parameters**

After verifying the parameter values, click the SAVE button. The newly modified parameters will be appended to a file containing all default parameter values and saved as the parameter file which will be loaded into ANSYS later. Once the parameters are saved, the Run ANSYS button will be lit, as shown in Figure 4.

**J. Run ANSYS**

After saving the parameters, click the Run ANSYS button to start the tank analysis. By clicking the Run ANSYS button, ansys70 will be called and run in batch mode. The ANSYS input file is **runall.mac**, and the ANSYS output file is **output.txt**. Upon normal termination, a message box with "The job is complete!" will appear.

Figure 2. Interface after selecting a tank; only the 2D linear model and slice model are available for SST-A tank

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CHG Tank Analysis

Working Directory: C:\Program Files\Common Files\System\Map\1033

**Select Tank**

Single Shell Tank

☒ SST-A

☐ SST-AX

☐ SST-S

☐ SST-SX

☐ SST-BX

Double Shell Tank

☐ DST-AY

**Select Model**

☒ 2D Linear Model

☐ Slice Model

☐ 3D Linear Model

**Soil Dimensions**

Backfill Depth: 8.45 (ft)

Soil Radius: 80 (ft)

Soil Depth Below Tank: 40 (ft)

**Material Properties**

Top Soil | Mid Soil | Bottom Soil | Structural Concrete | Rebar Steel | Steel Liner | Insulating Concrete

Young's Modulus: 7000 (psi)

Poisson's Ratio: 0.27

Density: 125 (lb/ft<sup>3</sup>)

Angle of Internal Friction: 35.4 Degree

Thermal Conductivity: 1 BTU/sec-in-F

**Loading**

SST Load | DST Load

Surface Pressure (lb/ft<sup>2</sup>): 40

Concentrated Load (lb): 200000

Vacuum Pressure (psi): -0.217

Save Run Cancel

Figure 3. Interface appearance after selecting a model

CHG Tank Analysis

Working Directory: e:\temp\test1

**Select Tank**

Single Shell Tank

☐ SST-A

☐ SST-AX

☒ SST-S

☐ SST-SX

☐ SST-BX

Double Shell Tank

☐ DST-AY

**Select Model**

☒ 2D Linear Model

☐ Slice Model

☐ 3D Linear Model

**Soil Dimensions**

Backfill Depth: 10.53 (ft)

Soil Radius: 80 (ft)

Soil Depth Below Tank: 40 (ft)

**Material Properties**

Top Soil | Mid Soil | Bottom Soil | Structural Concrete | Rebar Steel | Steel Liner | Insulating Concrete

Young's Modulus: 7000 (psi)

Poisson's Ratio: 0.27

Density: 125 (lb/ft<sup>3</sup>)

Angle of Internal Friction: 35.4 Degree

Thermal Conductivity: 1 BTU/sec-in-F

**Loading**

SST Load | DST Load

Surface Pressure (lb/ft<sup>2</sup>): 40

Concentrated Load (lb): 200000

Vacuum Pressure (psi): -0.217

Save Run ANSYS Cancel

Figure 4. Run ANSYS button is lit after saving parameters

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## 4.0 REFERENCES

- Ref-1 M&D Professional Services, "Dome Load Evaluation for Hanford 241-C Farm 100-Series Tanks", Document Number RPP-14249, January 14, 2003.
- Ref-2 JLR The Engineering Solutions Company, "Sample AOR Calculation using ANSYS Axisymmetric Parametric Model for Tank SST-A", Document Number RPP-13997, March 11, 2003
- Ref-3 JLR The Engineering Solutions Company, "Sample AOR Calculation using ANSYS Slice Parametric Model for Tank SST-A", Document Number RPP-13995, May 1, 2003
- Ref-4 JLR The Engineering Solutions Company, "Sample AOR Calculation using ANSYS Axisymmetric Parametric Model for Tank SST-AX", Document Number RPP-13998, March 11, 2003
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