Instron® TechNotes

Getting the most up-to-date information on materials testing

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Study Reveals Benefits of Video Extensometers

Recently, we conducted a study to better understand the extensometry needs of our customers. We found that many of our customers experienced common issues while testing strain with clip-on extensometers. Included are a few solutions from that study, along with information about an alternative to clip-on extensometers.

From those surveyed, our study revealed:

Problem: 77% of those testing fragile, expensive, or delicate specimens (including tendons and sutures) struggled to capture strain without damaging their sample. These customers reported that the weight of a clip-on extensometer influenced the sample's behavior under test.
Solution: Since video extensometers do not come in contact with the specimen, it makes them less damaging to the samples. They can also be used with in vivo testing of biomedical samples.

Problem: Customers testing specimens that break violently were unable to use a clip-on extensometer through failure. They also reported problems with broken extensometers and felt uneasy about lab operators removing a clip-on device while the specimen was under load.
Solution: Video extensometers offer lab operators the convenience of capturing strain through failure since they do not need to be removed.

Problem: Many of our customers testing at high and low temperatures struggled to find traditional extensometry solutions that worked well with chambers.
Solution: 86% of those who used chambers preferred video extensometers over traditional clip-on styles.

…Conclusion: We discovered that, of our customers who have used both traditional-style and video extensometers, 77% preferred the video technology. Learn more about non-contact video extensometry, or contact an applications specialist.

What do you think? Tell us!

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