

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE		READ INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING FORM						
1. REPORT NUMBER NRL Memorandum Report 5035	2. GOVT ACCESSION NO.	3. RECIPIENT'S CATALOG NUMBER						
4. TITLE (and Subtitle) ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CRACKING OF HIGH-STRENGTH STEELS IN SEAWATER		5. TYPE OF REPORT & PERIOD COVERED Final report on one phase of a continuing NRL problem.						
		6. PERFORMING ORG. REPORT NUMBER						
7. AUTHOR(s) T. W. Crooker and J. A. Hauser II		8. CONTRACT OR GRANT NUMBER(s)						
9. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME AND ADDRESS Naval Research Laboratory Washington, DC 20375		10. PROGRAM ELEMENT, PROJECT, TASK AREA & WORK UNIT NUMBERS 68-1724-0-3						
11. CONTROLLING OFFICE NAME AND ADDRESS U.S. Coast Guard Minerals Management Service Washington, DC 20593 Reston, VA 22091		12. REPORT DATE March 18, 1983						
		13. NUMBER OF PAGES 23						
14. MONITORING AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS (if different from Controlling Office)		15. SECURITY CLASS. (of this report) UNCLASSIFIED						
		15a. DECLASSIFICATION/DOWNGRADING SCHEDULE						
16. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of this Report) Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.								
17. DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT (of the abstract entered in Block 20, if different from Report)								
18. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES								
19. KEY WORDS (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)								
<table border="0"> <tr> <td>High-strength steels</td> <td>Fracture mechanics</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stress-corrosion cracking</td> <td>Marine corrosion</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Corrosion fatigue</td> <td>Environmental cracking</td> </tr> </table>			High-strength steels	Fracture mechanics	Stress-corrosion cracking	Marine corrosion	Corrosion fatigue	Environmental cracking
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20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number)								
<p>New design concepts are being developed for deep ocean offshore platforms in depths exceeding 1,000 feet (300 meters). One such design is the tension leg platform (TLP). TLP designs contemplate the use of tension members connecting the floating platform to anchors embedded in the sea floor. High-strength steel is the indicated material of choice for the tension legs in order to minimize weight and provide adequate buoyancy. However, the use of high-strength steel members under tension loads in seawater raises serious questions concerning long-term structural integrity owing to the possibility of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Continues)</p>								