

Container questions

The visit to the encapsulation facility may be used to take up some questions related to canister fabrication and QA issues. For instance:

- The primary SKB document that might give insight in the process that led to the decision to construct the container in the way that is proposed today is not available in English. The same applies for technology of canister fabrication
- It seems SKB has not yet worked all the details out on inspecting the canister and the canister inserts. If this is correct, what are the technical bases SKB used to determine the probability that a “defective” canister or insert would not be detected by the yet-to-be-selected NDE methods? Was human error (for example, human error in NDE inspection) also considered when developing the probabilities.
- Regarding the treatment of maximum tolerated deviation of weld discontinuities one can observe that, from the experimental welds and from the process parameters for the friction stir welding, a maximum of expected discontinuities was derived. Yet the acceptance criterion was set higher. There are two aspects concerning this point: Either the process with the parameters described is safe in respect to the maximum defect extension, then this way of handling the parameters is comprehensible, or one gives a sort of a safety margin to reduce the number of potential outliers, and this might be problematic. Is the margin of 10 mm for the maximum dimension of a discontinuity in accordance to the minimal wall thickness of the canister of 45 mm?