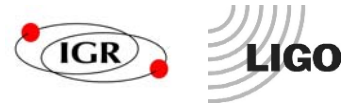


Use of GEO 600 Mass Catcher



FIBRE PREPARATION

This involves the following (in general terms):

- PULL FIBRE (2 stage process)
- INSERT FIBRE INTO JIG
- APPLY TEFLON COATING TO FIBRE
- FIBRE CHARACTERISATION (Violin Modes & Vertical Bounce)
- CUT FIBRE TO LENGTH (and sometimes introduce handles to the fibre using silica cut cuts – these must be removed after welding which is a highly skilled job)



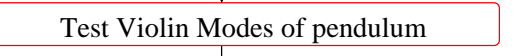
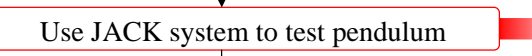
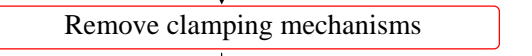
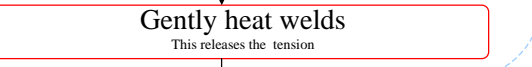
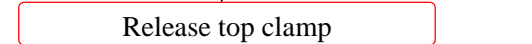
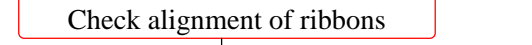
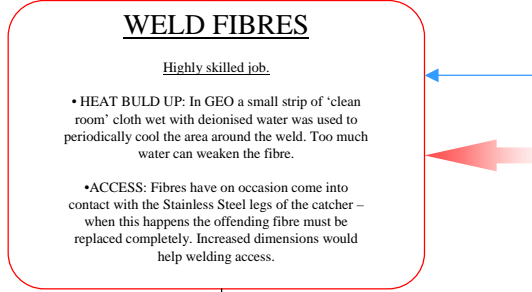
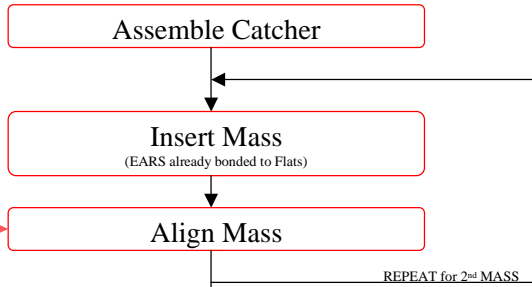
No tools were designed to assist alignment of GEO masses in the catcher.

Alignment was done by hand.

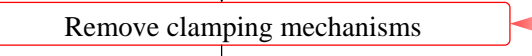
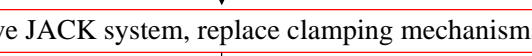
A ruler was used to ensure distances from tips of ears to a horizontal surface (for bottom mass) were equal.

The tips of the ears on the top mass were in turn referenced from those on the clamped bottom mass.

\*VIRGO use an optical system to align masses.



If too high, apply more Teflon coating to fibres



WELDING PROCESS

