



## Permissible Intervals

### Question:

Is there any maximum period where tendons can be left at site?

### Answer:

As per AASHTO LRFD Bridge Construction Specifications at 10.4.2.2.1/Protection of steel after installation:

The permissible interval between tendon installation and grouting without use of a corrosion inhibitor for various exposure conditions shall be taken as follows:

Very Damp Atmosphere or over saltwater (Humidity > 70%)	7 days
Moderate Atmosphere (Humidity from 40% to 70%)	15 days
Very Dry Atmosphere (Humidity < 40%)	20 days

As per PTI/ASBI M.50.3 Specification for Multistrand and Grouted Post Tensioning at Table 11.1:

The permissible interval between prestressing steel installation and grouting as follows:

Time limits for grouting exposure permissible intervals between prestressing steel installation and grouting without use of corrosion protection	
Very Damp Atmosphere or over saltwater (Humidity > 70%)	7 days
Moderate Atmosphere (Humidity from 40% to 70%)	20 days
Very Dry Atmosphere (Humidity < 40%)	40 days

As per EN 13670/Execution of Concrete Structures at D.7.7.3:

If the penetration of water or excessive humidity can be prevented, and if provisions at the construction site do not specify otherwise, the following construction periods are recommended:

- Maximum of 12 weeks between fabrication of tendons and grouting
- Maximum of 4 weeks in the formwork before casting of concrete
- Approximately 2 weeks in the tensioned condition before applying the protective measures

If the period above between tensioning and grouting is exceeded, temporary protection should be maintained by an approved method. At appropriate intervals, flushing of the ducts with dried air or nitrogen can provide a suitable means of protection.