

Flexural Strength of Masonry with Reference to a New Code of Practice for Europe (Eurocode 6)

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Abstract:

In developing the single European market, it was decided in 1985 to harmonize technical requirements and standards. The single European market is intended to be complete by the end of 1992. One of the harmonized standards is the “Eurocode” for the structural design of masonry. It includes rules for the design of masonry walls subjected to lateral loading based largely on British practice. The paper concentrates on the flexural strength aspect of masonry and indicates the design principle embodied in the draft code. The research and testing background to the code is referred to and the opinion that the code contains a restrictive aspect is highlighted. It is concluded that this restriction is not supported by experimental or practical experience. The limitations are, however, less onerous than the current rules in certain European countries.

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