

AS 1170.4 Supplement 1—1993

**Minimum design loads on
structures**

**Part 4: Earthquake loads—
Commentary**

(Supplement to AS 1170.4—1993)

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee BD/6, Loading on Structures. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 21 May 1993 and published on 16 August 1993.

The following interests are represented on Committee BD/6:

Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia
Association of Consulting Structural Engineers, N.S.W.
AUBRCC
Australian Clay Brick Association
Australian Construction Services—Department of Administrative Services
Australian Federation of Construction Contractors
Australian Institute of Steel Construction
AUSTROADS
Bureau of Meteorology
Bureau of Steel Manufacturers of Australia
CSIRO, Division of Building, Construction and Engineering
Electricity Supply Association of Australia
Engineering and Water Supply Department, S.A.
James Cook University of North Queensland
Master Builders Construction and Housing Association, Australia
Monash University
Public Works Department, N.S.W.
University of Melbourne
University of Newcastle

Additional interests participating in preparation of this Standard:

Australian Geological Survey Organization
Cement and Concrete Association of Australia
Department of Housing and Construction, S.A.
Department of Mines and Energy, S.A.
Department of Resource Industries, Qld.
Institution of Engineers, Australia
Insurance Council of Australia
Phillip Institute of Technology, Vic.
Steel Reinforcement Institute of Australia
University of Adelaide
University of Queensland

Review of Australian Standards. To keep abreast of progress in industry, Australian Standards are subject to periodic review and are kept up to date by the issue of amendments or new editions as necessary. It is important therefore that Standards users ensure that they are in possession of the latest edition, and any amendments thereto.

Full details of all Australian Standards and related publications will be found in the Standards Australia Catalogue of Publications; this information is supplemented each month by the magazine 'The Australian Standard', which subscribing members receive, and which gives details of new publications, new editions and amendments, and of withdrawn Standards.

Suggestions for improvements to Australian Standards, addressed to the head office of Standards Australia, are welcomed. Notification of any inaccuracy or ambiguity found in an Australian Standard should be made without delay in order that the matter may be investigated and appropriate action taken.

AS 1170.4 Supplement 1—1993[®]

Minimum design loads on structures (known as the SAA Loading Code)

Part 4: Earthquake loads— Commentary

(Supplement to AS 1170.4—1993)

First published as part of AS 2121—1979.
Revised and redesignated in part as
AS 1170.4 Supplement 1—1993.

Incorporating:
Amdt 1—1994

PUBLISHED BY STANDARDS AUSTRALIA
(STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA)
1 THE CRESCENT, HOMEBUSH, NSW 2140

PREFACE

This Commentary was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee for Loading on Structures as a Supplement to AS 1170, SAA Loading Code, *Minimum design loads on structures*, Part 4: *Earthquake loads*.

The Supplement provides background material for and guidance to the requirements of the Standard.

The clause numbers of this Commentary are prefixed by the letter 'C' to distinguish them from references to the Standard clauses to which they directly relate. The Commentary clause numbers are not sequential because if no explanation of the Standard clause is necessary that clause number is not included.

Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand are moving towards harmonization of Standards in both countries and the harmonization of the building codes is taking place first. Further changes to the Standard are therefore expected but not before 1995.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge and thank the following members who have contributed significantly to this Commentary.

Mr W Boyce
Mr G Capetanakis
Mr G Gibson
Dr M Griffith
Mr G Horoschun
Prof G Hutchinson
Mr D Love
Mr K McCue
Dr L Pham
Mr R J Potter
Mr J W Woodside

© Copyright — STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Users of Standards are reminded that copyright subsists in all Standards Australia publications and software. Except where the Copyright Act allows and except where provided for below no publications or software produced by Standards Australia may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system in any form or transmitted by any means without prior permission in writing from Standards Australia. Permission may be conditional on an appropriate royalty payment. Requests for permission and information on commercial software royalties should be directed to the head office of Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will permit up to 10 percent of the technical content pages of a Standard to be copied for use exclusively in-house by purchasers of the Standard without payment of a royalty or advice to Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will also permit the inclusion of its copyright material in computer software programs for no royalty payment provided such programs are used exclusively in-house by the creators of the programs.

Care should be taken to ensure that material used is from the current edition of the Standard and that it is updated whenever the Standard is amended or revised. The number and date of the Standard should therefore be clearly identified.

The use of material in print form or in computer software programs to be used commercially, with or without payment, or in commercial contracts is subject to the payment of a royalty. This policy may be varied by Standards Australia at any time.