AS 3600—2009 (Incorporating Amendment Nos 1 and 2)

Australian Standard®

Concrete structures



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Standards Australia wishes to acknowledge the participation of the expert individuals that contributed to the development of this Standard through their representation on the Committee and through the public comment period.

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PREFACE

This Standard was prepared by Standards Australia Committee BD-002, *Concrete Structures*, to supersede AS 3600–2001.

This Standard incorporates Amendment No. 1 (November 2010) and Amendment No. 2 (March 2013). The changes required by the Amendment are indicated in the text by a marginal bar and amendment number against the clause, note, table, figure or part thereof affected.

Objective of the Standard

The principal objective of the Standard is to provide users with nationally acceptable unified rules for the design and detailing of concrete structures and members, with or without steel reinforcement or prestressing tendons, based on the principles of structural engineering mechanics. The secondary objective is to provide performance criteria against which the finished structure can be assessed for compliance with the relevant design requirements.

Background to the fourth edition

Amendment No. 1 to the 2001 edition of the Standard was issued in May 2002 to address various editorial errors in the Standard. At the time the committee embarked on a full revision of the Standard to include design rules for advances in concrete design, including the use of high strength concrete as well as a restructure of the design procedures section to align the Standard to the new editions of the AS/NZS 1170 series, *Structural design actions*.

Amendment No. 2 was published in October 2004 to address two matters the committee believed required immediate attention. These matters included the use of low Ductility Class L reinforcement and its limited ability to distribute moments as implied by the simplified analysis. The minimum reinforcement requirements for crack control introduced in the 2001 edition were also amended as they increased the amount of reinforcement required sometimes by up to 50% of that which was required for the minimum strength provisions.

These two Amendments have been incorporated into this revised edition of AS 3600 as well as a number of other changes.

Areas of major change in the Standard are as follows:

- (a) Increase in concrete strength specified in design rules from 65 MPa to 100 MPa. This has resulted in the review of all equations in AS 3600 for strength and has meant, in some instances, modification of equations such as the rectangular stress block model and inclusion of requirements for confinement to the core of columns.
- (b) Section 2, Design procedures, actions and loads, has been revised to align with the editions of AS/NZS 1170 series, *Structural design actions*, and contains additional design check methods for designers to consider.
- (c) Section 3, Design properties of materials, (previously Section 6) has been reviewed to—
 - (i) include new shrinkage equations, which will address autogenous and drying shrinkage; and
 - (ii) revisions to creep calculations, which modify the creep factor by revising the k_2 and k_3 factors and include the addition of environmental and humidity factors.
- (d) Specification of additional severe exposure classifications and requirements for sulfate soils introduced in Section 4 on durability.

- (e) The fire resistance criteria in Section 5, Design for fire resistance, have been reviewed to take into account the latest developments in EN 1992-1-2:2004, Eurocode 2. *Design of concrete structures Part 1-2: General rules—Structural fire design*.
- (f) Section 6, Methods of structural analysis, (previously Section 7) has been completely revised.
- (g) A new Section 7, Strut-and-tie modelling, which provides rules on strut-and-tie modelling, has been included.
- (h) Clause 10.7.3 regarding confinement to the core of columns in Section 10 has been significantly changed due the importance of this issue for high strength concrete.
- (i) Section 11, Design of walls, has been revised to be more consistent with Section 10, Design of columns for strength and serviceability.
- (j) Section 13, Stress development, splicing of reinforcement and coupling of tendons, has been completely revised.
- (k) Section 17, Liquid retaining structures—Design requirements, and Section 18, Marine structures, of the 2001 edition of the Standard have been deleted as they did not provide specific design advice.
- (1) This Standard traditionally used the terms 'tie' and 'fitment' interchangeably. The word 'tie' is now used only in the strut-and-tie analysis section while the term 'fitment' is used for units such as stirrups and ligatures that perform various functions, such as restraining the longitudinal reinforcement and resisting shear.

Statements expressed in mandatory terms in notes to tables are deemed to be requirements of this Standard.

The terms 'normative' and 'informative' have been used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which they apply. A 'normative' appendix is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an 'informative' appendix is only for information and guidance.

CONTENTS

1.1 SCOPE AND APPLICATION 8 1.2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES 9 1.3 EXISTING STRUCTURES 9 1.4 DOCUMENTATION 9 1.5 CONSTRUCTIONS 10 1.7 NOTATION 10 1.7 NOTATION 10 1.7 NOTATION 10 1.7 NOTATION 16 SECTION 2 DESIGN PROCEDURES, ACTIONS AND LOADS 2.1 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH 28 2.3 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH 28 2.4 ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS 33 2.4 ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS 35 SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS 31 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF REINFORCEMENT 43 3.3 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURAB	SECTIO	N 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL	
1.2 NORMATIVE REFERENCES 9 1.3 EXISTING STRUCTURES 9 1.4 DOCUMENTATION 9 1.5 CONSTRUCTION 9 1.6 DEFINITIONS 10 1.7 NOTATION 16 SECTION 2 DESIGN PROCEDURES, ACTIONS AND LOADS 21 2.1 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH 28 2.2 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH 28 2.3 DESIGN FOR SERVICEABILITY 33 2.4 ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS 35 SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS 31 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.3 EQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE	1.1	SCOPE AND APPLICATION	8
1.3 EXISTING STRUCTURES. .9 1.4 DOCUMENTATION .9 1.5 CONSTRUCTION .9 1.6 DEFINITIONS .10 1.7 NOTATION .16 SECTION 2 DESIGN PROCEDURES, ACTIONS AND LOADS 2.1 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH .28 2.2 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH .28 2.3 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH .33 2.4 ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS .35 SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS .37 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE .37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS .44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS .46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS .49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY .41 4.1 GENERAL .50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE .50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION .50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE .51 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE .54	1.2	NORMATIVE REFERENCES	9
1.4 DOCUMENTATION	1.3	EXISTING STRUCTURES	9
1.5 CONSTRUCTION 9 1.6 DEFINITIONS 10 1.7 NOTATION 16 SECTION 2 DESIGN PROCEDURES, ACTIONS AND LOADS 21 2.1 DESIGN PROCEDURES, ACTIONS AND LOADS 28 2.2 DESIGN PRO STRENGTH 28 2.3 DESIGN FOR SERVICEABILITY 33 2.4 ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS 35 SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS 31 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 4.1 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 51 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55	1.4	DOCUMENTATION	9
1.6 DEFINITIONS	1.5	CONSTRUCTION	9
1.7 NOTATION	1.6	DEFINITIONS	10
SECTION 2 DESIGN PROCEDURES, ACTIONS AND LOADS 2.1 DESIGN PROCEDURES	17	NOTATION	16
SECTION 2 DESIGN PROCEDURES, ACTIONS AND LOADS 2.1 DESIGN PROCEDURES	1.7		
2.1 DESIGN PROCEDURES 28 2.2 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH. 28 2.3 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH. 33 2.4 ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS 35 SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS 31 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREZZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5	SECTIO	N 2 DESIGN PROCEDURES ACTIONS AND LOADS	
2.2 DESIGN FOR STRENGTH	21	DESIGN PROCEDURES	28
2.3 DESIGN FOR SERVICEABILITY	2.1	DESIGN FOR STRENGTH	28
2.4 ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS 35 SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS 35 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 55 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTIO	2.2	DESIGN FOR SERVICEABILITY	33
2.4 ACTIONS AND COMDINATIONS OF ACTIONS 35 SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS 37 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF REINFORCEMENT 43 3.3 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 54 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE	2.3 2.4	ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS	35
SECTION 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS 3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF REINFORCEMENT 43 3.3 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 50 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.1 SCOPE 60 5.2 DEFINITIONS 60 5.3 DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA 62 5.4 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS 63 5.5 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS 66 5.6 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS 72	2.4	ACTIONS AND COMBINATIONS OF ACTIONS	. 55
3.1 PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE 37 3.2 PROPERTIES OF REINFORCEMENT 43 3.3 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.2 <t< td=""><td>SECTIO</td><td>N 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS</td><td></td></t<>	SECTIO	N 3 DESIGN PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS	
3.2 PROPERTIES OF REINFORCEMENT 43 3.3 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.3 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.4 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS 6	3 1	PROPERTIES OF CONCRETE	37
3.3 PROPERTIES OF TENDONS 44 3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TENDONS 46 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.1 SCOPE 60 5.2 DEFINITIONS 62 5.4 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS 63 5.5 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS 66	3.1	PROPERTIES OF REINFORCEMENT	
3.3 FRODERTIES FOR TENDONS	2.2		
3.4 LOSS OF PRESTRESS IN TERMONS 40 3.5 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS 40 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 41 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.1 SCOPE 60 60 5.2 DEFINITIONS 60 62 5.4 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS 63 5.5 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLAB	2.4	LOSS OF DESTRESS IN TENDONS	. 44
5.3 MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTORAL ANALYSIS 49 SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.1 GENERAL 50 4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.1 SCOPE 60 5.2 DEFINITIONS 60 5.3 DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA 62 5.4 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS 63 5.5 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR VALLS 69 5.7 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS	5.4 2.5	LUSS OF PRESIRESS IN TENDONS	40
SECTION 4 DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 4.1 GENERAL	5.5	MATERIAL PROPERTIES FOR NON-LINEAR STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS	49
4.1 GENERAL	SECTIO	N 4 DESIGN FOR DUR A DILITY	
4.1 GENERAL	SECTIO	OENEDAL	50
4.2 METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY 50 4.3 EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 50 4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.1 SCOPE 60 5.2 DEFINITIONS 60 5.3 DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA 62 5.4 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS 63 5.5 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR COLUMNS 69 5.6 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS 72 5.8 INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS 72 5.8 INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF 75	4.1	VENERAL	50
4.3EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION504.4REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATIONS A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 AND C2534.5REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U544.6ABRASION544.7FREEZING AND THAWING544.8AGGRESSIVE SOILS554.9RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE574.10REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS57SECTION 5DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE605.1SCOPE605.2DEFINITIONS605.3DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA625.4FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS635.5FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS665.6FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF75	4.2	METHOD OF DESIGN FOR DURABILITY	50
4.4 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATIONS A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 AND C2 53 4.5 REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U 54 4.6 ABRASION 54 4.7 FREEZING AND THAWING 54 4.8 AGGRESSIVE SOILS 55 4.9 RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE 57 4.10 REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57 SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE 60 5.1 SCOPE 60 5.2 DEFINITIONS 60 5.3 DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA 62 5.4 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS 63 5.5 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS 66 5.6 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS 72 5.8 INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS 72 5.8 INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF INSULATING MATERIALS 75	4.3	EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION	50
CLASSIFICATIONS A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 AND C2534.5REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U544.6ABRASION544.7FREEZING AND THAWING544.8AGGRESSIVE SOILS554.9RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE574.10REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS57SECTION 5DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE605.1SCOPE605.2DEFINITIONS605.3DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA625.4FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS635.5FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS665.6FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF INSULATING MATERIALS75	4.4	REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE	
4.5REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U		CLASSIFICATIONS A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 AND C2	53
4.6ABRASION	4.5	REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE FOR EXPOSURE CLASSIFICATION U	54
4.7FREEZING AND THAWING544.8AGGRESSIVE SOILS554.9RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE574.10REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS57SECTION 5DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE605.1SCOPE605.2DEFINITIONS605.3DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA625.4FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS635.5FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS665.6FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR COLUMNS695.7FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS75	4.6	ABRASION	54
4.8AGGRESSIVE SOILS	4.7	FREEZING AND THAWING	54
4.9RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE.574.10REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS57SECTION 5DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE605.1SCOPE.605.2DEFINITIONS.605.3DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA625.4FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS.635.5FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS665.6FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR COLUMNS695.7FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS.725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF INSULATING MATERIALS75	4.8	AGGRESSIVE SOILS	. 55
4.10REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS 57SECTION 5DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE5.1SCOPE	4.9	RESTRICTIONS ON CHEMICAL CONTENT IN CONCRETE	. 57
SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE5.1 SCOPE	4.10	REQUIREMENTS FOR COVER TO REINFORCING STEEL AND TENDONS	57
SECTION 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE605.1 SCOPE			
5.1SCOPE	SECTIO	IN 5 DESIGN FOR FIRE RESISTANCE	
5.2DEFINITIONS605.3DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA625.4FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS635.5FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS665.6FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR COLUMNS695.7FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF INSULATING MATERIALS75	5.1	SCOPE	60
5.3DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA625.4FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS635.5FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS665.6FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR COLUMNS695.7FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS725.8INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF INSULATING MATERIALS75	5.2	DEFINITIONS	60
5.4FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS	5.3	DESIGN PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	62
 5.5 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS	5.4	FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR BEAMS	63
 5.6 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR COLUMNS	5.5	FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR SLABS	66
 5.7 FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS	5.6	FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR COLUMNS	69
5.8 INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF INSULATING MATERIALS	5.7	FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) FOR WALLS	72
INSULATING MATERIALS	5.8	INCREASE OF FIRE RESISTANCE PERIODS (FRPs) BY USE OF	. —
	2.0	INSULATING MATERIALS	75

SECTIC	N 6 METHODS OF STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS	
6.1	GENERAL	
6.2	LINEAR ELASTIC ANALYSIS	
6.3	ELASTIC ANALYSIS OF FRAMES INCORPORATING SECONDARY	
	BENDING MOMENTS	
6.4	LINEAR ELASTIC STRESS ANALYSIS	
6.5	NON-LINEAR FRAME ANALYSIS	
6.6	NON-LINEAR STRESS ANALYSIS	
6.7	PLASTIC METHODS OF ANALYSIS	
6.8	ANALYSIS USING STRUT-AND-TIE MODELS	
6.9	IDEALIZED FRAME METHOD OF ANALYSIS	
6.10	SIMPLIFIED METHODS OF FLEXURAL ANALYSIS	
SECTIC	ON 7 STRUT-AND-TIE MODELLING	
7.1	GENERAL	
7.2	CONCRETE STRUTS	
7.3	TIES	
7.4	NODES	
7.5	ANALYSIS OF STRUT-AND-TIE MODELS	100
7.6	DESIGN BASED ON STRUT-AND-TIE MODELLING	100
SECTIC	N & DECIGN OF DEAMS FOR STRENGTH AND SERVICE ADD ITY	
	STDENCTH OF DEAMS FOR STRENGTH AND SERVICEADILIT I	101
0.1 8 2	STRENGTH OF DEAMS IN GUEAD	106
0.2 0.2	STRENGTH OF DEAMS IN SHEAK	110
0.5	LONGITUDINAL SUEAD IN COMPOSITE AND MONOLITUIC DEAMS	112
8.4 9.5	LUNGITUDINAL SHEAK IN COMPOSITE AND MONOLITHIC BEAMS.	112
8.J 9.C	CRACK CONTROL OF DEAMS	117
8.0		110
8./	VIBRATION OF BEAMS	119
8.8	I-BEAMS AND L-BEAMS	119
8.9	SLENDERNESS LIMITS FOR BEAMS	120
SECTIC	N 9 DESIGN OF SLABS FOR STRENGTH AND SERVICEABILITY	
9.1	STRENGTH OF SLABS IN BENDING	121
9.2	STRENGTH OF SLABS IN SHEAR	124
9.3	DEFLECTION OF SLABS	128
9.4	CRACK CONTROL OF SLABS	131
9.5	VIBRATION OF SLABS	134
9.6	MOMENT RESISTING WIDTH FOR ONE-WAY SLABS SUPPORTING	
	CONCENTRATED LOADS	134
9.7	LONGITUDINAL SHEAR IN COMPOSITE SLABS	134
an ama		
SECTIC	IN 10 DESIGN OF COLUMNS FOR STRENGTH AND SERVICEABILITY	105
10.1		135
10.2		135
10.3	DESIGN OF SHOKT COLUMNS	136
10.4	DESIGN OF SLENDEK COLUMNS	137
10.5	SLENDEKNESS	138
10.6	STRENGTH OF COLUMINS IN COMBINED BENDING AND	142
10.7	REINFORCEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COLUMNS	142 1/15
10./	TRANSMISSION OF AXIAL FORCE THROUGH ELOOD SVSTEMS	143
10.0	TRADUIDSION OF TRADE FORCE THROUGH FLOOR STSTEMS	

Page

SECTIC	N 11 DESIGN OF WALLS	
11.1	GENERAL	154
11.2	DESIGN PROCEDURES	154
11.3	BRACED WALLS	155
11.4	EFFECTIVE HEIGHT	155
11.5	SIMPLIFIED DESIGN METHOD FOR WALLS SUBJECT TO VERTICAL	
	COMPRESSION FORCES	156
11.6	DESIGN OF WALLS FOR IN-PLANE SHEAR FORCES	156
11.7	REINFORCEMENT REOUIREMENTS FOR WALLS	157
SECTIC	N 12 DESIGN OF NON-FLEXURAL MEMBERS, END ZONES AND	
	BEARING SURFACES	
12.1	GENERAL	159
12.2	STRUT-AND-TIE MODELS FOR THE DESIGN OF NON-FLEXURAL	
	MEMBERS	159
12.3	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUOUS CONCRETE NIBS	103
12.3	AND CORBELS	161
12.4	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR STEPPED JOINTS IN BEAMS AND	
12.1	SLABS	161
12.5	ANCHORAGE ZONES FOR PRESTRESSING ANCHORAGES	161
12.5	BEARING SURFACES	163
12.0		105
12.7	CRACK CONTROL	105
SECTIC	IN 13 STRESS DEVELOPMENT OF REINFORCEMENT AND TENDONS	
13.1	STRESS DEVELOFMENT IN REINFORCEMENT	164
12.1	STRESS DEVELOT MENT IN REINTORCEMENT	170
13.2	STDESS DEVELODMENT IN TENDONS	170
13.5	COUDI ING OF TENDONS	172
13.4	COOPEING OF TENDONS	173
SECTIC	N 14 IOINTS EMBEDDED ITEMS AND FIXINGS	
14 1	IOINTS	174
14.1	FMREDDED ITEMS	175
14.2	FIVINGS	175
14.5		173
SECTIC	N 15 PLAIN CONCRETE PEDESTALS AND FOOTINGS	
15.1	IN 15 I LAIN CONCRETE I EDESTALS AND FOOTINGS	
13.1	GENIERAL	177
15 2	GENERAL	177
15.2	GENERAL DURABILITY	177 177
15.2 15.3	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS	177 177 177
15.2 15.3 15.4	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS	177 177 177 177
15.2 15.3 15.4	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS	177 177 177 177
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS 'N 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL	177 177 177 177
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS PN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDER ATIONS	177 177 177 177 177
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS N 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS	177 177 177 177 177 179 179
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS N 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS	177 177 177 177 177 179 179
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3	GENERALDURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS IN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS	177 177 177 177 177 179 179 179
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3 SECTIC	GENERALDURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS PN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS PN 17 MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS	177 177 177 177 179 179 179
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3 SECTIC 17.1	GENERALDURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS PN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS PN 17 MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE AND CROUT	177 177 177 177 177 179 179 179
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3 SECTIC 17.1	GENERALDURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS PN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS PN 17 MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE AND GROUT	177 177 177 177 177 179 179 179
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3 SECTIC 17.1 17.2	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS PN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS PN 17 MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE AND GROUT MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR REINFORCING	177 177 177 177 179 179 179 180 3
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3 SECTIC 17.1 17.2	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS PN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS PN 17 MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE AND GROUT MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR REINFORCING STEEL	177 177 177 177 177 179 179 179 180 G
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3 SECTIC 17.1 17.2 17.3	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS IN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS IN 17 MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE AND GROUT MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR REINFORCING STEEL MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESTRESSIN	177 177 177 177 177 179 179 179 180 G
15.2 15.3 15.4 SECTIC 16.1 16.2 16.3 SECTIC 17.1 17.2 17.3	GENERAL DURABILITY PEDESTALS FOOTINGS PN 16 SLAB-ON-GROUND FLOORS, PAVEMENTS AND FOOTINGS GENERAL DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOOTINGS PN 17 MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONCRETE AND GROUT MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR REINFORCING STEEL MATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESTRESSIN DUCTS, ANCHORAGES AND TENDONS	177 177 177 177 177 179 179 179 180 G 182 G 185

17.4	CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS FOR JOINTS AND EMBEDDED	
	ITEMS	
17.5	TOLERANCES FOR STRUCTURES AND MEMBERS	
17.6	FORMWORK	
APPENI	DICES	
А	REFERENCED DOCUMENTS	
В	TESTING OF MEMBERS AND STRUCTURES	
С	REQUIREMENTS FOR STRUCTURES SUBJECT TO EARTHQUAKE	
	ACTIONS	
BIBLIO	GRAPHY	

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard Concrete structures

SECTION 1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE AND APPLICATION

1.1.1 Scope

This Standard sets out minimum requirements for the design and construction of concrete building structures and members that contain reinforcing steel or tendons, or both. It also sets out minimum requirements for plain concrete pedestals and footings.

NOTES:

- 1 The general principles of concrete design and construction and the criteria embodied in this Standard may be appropriate for concrete structures other than buildings, members not specifically mentioned herein and to materials outside the limits given in Clause 1.1.2.
- 2 It is intended that the design of a structure or member to which this Standard applies be carried out by, or under the supervision of, a suitably experienced and competent person.
- 3 For guidance on the design of maritime structures, refer to AS 4997.

This Standard is not intended to apply to the design of mass concrete structures.

1.1.2 Application

This Standard applies to structures and members in which the materials conform to the following:

- (a) Concrete with—
 - (i) characteristic compressive strength at 28 days (f'_c) in the range of 20 MPa to 100 MPa; and
 - (ii) with a saturated surface-dry density in the range 1800 kg/m^3 to 2800 kg/m^3 .
- (b) Reinforcing steel of Ductility Class N in accordance with AS/NZS 4671. NOTE: These reinforcing materials may be used, without restriction, in all applications referred to in this Standard.
- (c) Reinforcing steel of Ductility Class L in accordance with AS/NZS 4671—
 - (i) may be used as main or secondary reinforcement in the form of welded wire mesh, or as wire, bar and mesh in fitments; but
 - (ii) shall not be used in any situation where the reinforcement is required to undergo large plastic deformation under strength limit state conditions.

NOTE: The use of Ductility Class L reinforcement is further limited by other clauses within the Standard.

(d) Prestressing tendons complying with AS/NZS 4672.1 and tested in accordance with AS/NZS 4672.2.

1.1.3 Exclusions

The requirements of this Standard shall not take precedence over design requirements and material specifications set out in other Australian Standards that deal with specific types of structures, such as concrete residential slabs and footings, and swimming pools.