Wind Tunnel Studies of Buildings and Structures



Wind Tunnel Studies of Buildings and Structures

Task Committee on Wind Tunnel Testing of Buildings and Structures Aerodynamics Committee Aerospace Division

Contributors:

J.E. Cermak, A.G. Davenport, F.H. Durgin, P.A. Irwin, N. Isyumov, J.A. Peterka, S.R. Ramsay, T.A. Reinhold R.H. Scanlan, T. Stathopoulos, A.C. Steckley, H. Tieleman, and P.J. Vickery

> Editor: Nicholas Isyumov

> > Published by

ASCE American Society
of Civil Engineers

1801 Alexander Bell Drive Reston, Virginia 20191-4400 Abstract: This Manual of Practice provides guidelines to assist architects, building code officials, engineers, town planners, and others who become involved with the wind tunnel model testing of buildings and structures and/or the evaluation and use of information from such tests. Many Codes of Practice now permit such studies as alternative approaches for the design against wind action. Part 1 updates the Manual, which was first published in 1987, to reflect new developments in wind engineering and adds a chapter on atmospheric dispersion of exhausts and pollutants around buildings and in built-up areas. Part 2 is a Commentary which contains detailed information on specific methodologies of wind tunnel testing and the use of such data to predict the performance of full-scale buildings and structures. Rigorous model similitude requirements must be followed in order to assure that the findings of wind tunnel model studies are representative. A Glossary and an extensive list of references are included. This Manual has been prepared by a special Task group of the Aerodynamics Committee of the Aerospace Division and includes contributions from some of North America's leading wind engineering experts and laboratories.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Wind tunnel studies of buildings and structures / Aerospace Division of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

p. cm.—(ASCE manuals and reports on engineering practice; no. 67) Includes bibliographical references and index.

1. Wind pressure. 2. Buildings—Aerodynamics—Testing. 3. Wind tunnels. I. American Society of Civil Engineers. Aerospace Division. II . Series. IN PROCESS

624.1'75---dc21

ISBN 0-7844-0319-8

98-44103 CIP

The material presented in this publication has been prepared in accordance with generally recognized engineering principles and practices, and is for general information only. This information should not be used without first securing competent advice with respect to its suitability for any general or specific application.

The contents of this publication are not intended to be and should not be construed to be a standard of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and are not intended for use as a reference in purchase of specifications, contracts, regulations, statutes, or any other legal document

No reference made in this publication to any specific method, product, process, or service constitutes or implies an endorsement, recommendation, or warranty thereof by ASCE.

ASCE makes no representation or warranty of any kind, whether express or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, suitability, or utility of any information, apparatus, product, or process discussed in this publication, and assumes no liability therefore.

Anyone utilizing this information assumes all liability arising from such use, including but not limited to infringement of any patent or patents.

Photocopies: Authorization to photocopy material for internal or personal use under circumstances not falling within the fair use provisions of the Copyright Act is granted by ASCE to libraries and other users registered with the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) Transactional Reporting Service, provided that the base fee of \$8.00 per chapter plus \$.50 per page is paid directly to CCC, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923. The identification for ASCE Books is 0-7844-0319-8/99/\$8.00 + \$.50 per page. Requests for special permission or bulk copying should be addressed to Permissions & Copyright Department, ASCE.

Copyright © 1999 by the American Society of Civil Engineers. All Rights Reserved. Library of Congress Catalog Card No: 98-44103 ISBN 0-7844-0319-8 Manufactured in the United States of America

MANUALS AND REPORTS ON ENGINEERING PRACTICE

(As developed by the ASCE Technical Procedures Committee, July 1930, and revised March 1935, February 1962, and April 1982)

A manual or report in this series consists of an orderly presentation of facts on a particular subject, supplemented by an analysis of limitations and applications of these facts. It contains information useful to the average engineer in his everyday work, rather than the findings that may be useful only occasionally or rarely. It is not in any sense a "standard," however; nor is it so elementary or so conclusive as to provide a "rule of thumb" for non-engineers.

Furthermore, material in this series, in distinction from a paper (which expressed only one person's observations or opinions), is the work of a committee or group selected to assemble and express information on a specific topic. As often as practicable the committee is under the direction of one or more of the Technical Divisions and Councils, and the product evolved has been subjected to review by the Executive Committee of the Division or Council. As a step in the process of this review, proposed manuscripts are often brought before the members of the Technical Divisions and Councils for comment, which may serve as the basis for improvement. When published, each work shows the names of the committees by which it was compiled and indicates clearly the several processes through which it has passed in review, in order that its merit may be definitely understood.

In February 1962 (and revised in April 1982) the Board of Direction voted to establish:

A series entitled "Manuals and Reports on Engineering Practice," to include the Manuals published and authorized to date, future Manuals of Professional Practice, and Reports on Engineering Practice. All such Manual or Report material of the Society would have been refereed in a manner approved by the Board Committee on Publications and would be bound, with applicable discussion, in books similar to past Manuals. Numbering would be consecutive and would be a continuation of present Manual numbers. In some cases of reports of joint committees, bypassing of Journal publications may be authorized.

MANUALS AND REPORTS OF ENGINEERING PRACTICE

No.	Title	No.	Title
13	Filtering Materials for Sewage Treatment Plants	69	Sulfide in Wastewater Collection and Treatment Systems
14	Accommodation of Utility Plant	70	Evapotranspiration and Irrigation
	Within the Rights-of-Way of Urban		Water Requirements
	Streets and Highways	71	Agricultural Salinity Assessment and
34	Definitions of Surveying and		Management
	Associated Terms	72	Design of Steel Transmission Pole
35	A List of Translations of Foreign	-	Structures
	Literature on Hydraulics	73	Quality in the Constructed Project: A
37	Design and Construction of Sanitary		Guide for Owners, Designers, and
	and Storm Sewers		Constructors
40	Ground Water Management	74	Guidelines for Electrical Transmission
	Plastic Design in Steel: A Guide and		Line Structural Loading
	Commentary	75	Right-of-Way Surveying
45	Consulting Engineering: A Guide for		Design of Municipal Wastewater
	the Engagement of Engineering		Treatment Plants
	Services	77	Design and Construction of Urban
46	Pipeline Route Selection for Rural and		Stormwater Management Systems
	Cross-Country Pipelines	78	Structural Fire Protection
47	Selected Abstracts on Structural	79	Steel Penstocks
	Applications of Plastics	80	
49	Urban Planning Guide	81	Guidelines for Cloud Seeding to
50	Planning and Design Guidelines for		Augment Precipitation
	Small Craft Harbors	82	Odor Control in Wastewater
51	Survey of Current Structural		Treatment Plants
	Research	83	Environmental Site Investigation
52	Guide for the Design of Steel Transmission Towers		Mechanical Connections in Wood Structures
53	Criteria for Maintenance of Multilane	85	Quality of Ground Water
	Highways		Operation and Maintenance of
54	Sedimentation Engineering		Ground Water Facilities
55	Guide to Employment Conditions for	87	Urban Runoff Quality Manual
	Civil Engineers	88	Management of Water Treatment
57	Management, Operation and		Plant Residuals
	Maintenance of Irrigation and	89	Pipeline Crossings
	Drainage Systems	90	
59	Computer Pricing Practices	91	Design of Guyed Electrical
60	Gravity Sanitary Sewer Design and		Transmission Structures
	Construction	92	Manhole Inspection and
62	Existing Sewer Evaluation and Rehabilitation	93	Rehabilitation Crane Safety on Construction Sites
63	Structural Plastics Design Manual		Inland Navigation: Locks, Dams, and
	Manual on Engineering Surveying		Channels
65	Construction Cost Control	95	Urban Subsurface Drainage
	Structural Plastics Selection Manual	96	
67	Wind Tunnel Studies of Buildings		Performance of Electric Power
	and Structures		Systems
68	Aeration: A Wastewater Treatment	97	Hydraulic Modeling: Concepts and
	Process		Practice

FOREWORD

The first edition of the Manual of Practice for Wind Tunnel Studies of Buildings and Structures was published in 1987. The wind engineering field continues to evolve, and this update of that manual emphasizes the circumstances under which tests might be needed, the types of tests that might be performed and the physical principles that need to be followed to ensure meaningful results.

This edition of the Manual has two parts. Part 1 is an updated version of *ASCE Manual 67* with an added section on Atmospheric Dispersion Around Buildings. Part 2 is a Commentary, which provides supporting information on the methodologies needed and examples of typical tests. It also includes a bibliography.

This Manual has been prepared by a Task Committee formed under the auspices of the Aerodynamics Committee of the Aerospace Division of the ASCE. Members of this Task Committee, who have contributed to the preparation of this Manual are:

Frank H. Durgin, Chairman Wright Brothers Wind Tunnel M.I.T., Building 17-110 Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A. 02139

Tel: (617) 253-2270 FAX: (617) 258-7566 Nicholas Isyumov, Vice-Chair and Editor Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory The University of Western Ontario London, Ontario N6A 5B9, Canada Tel: (519) 661-3338 FAX: (519) 661-3339 Jack E. Cermak
Fluid Dynamics and Diffusion
Laboratory
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, Colorado, U.S.A. 805243
Tel: (970) 221-3371
FAX: (970) 221-3124

Alan G. Davenport
Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel
Laboratory
The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario N6A 5B9, Canada
Tel: (519) 661-3338
FAX: (519) 661-3339

Peter A. Irwin Rowan Williams Davies & Irwin Inc. 650 Woodlawn Road West Guelph, Ontario N1K 1B8, Canada Tel: (519) 823-1311 FAX: (519) 823-1316

Jon A. Peterka Cermak Peterka Petersen Inc. 1415 Blue Spruce Drive Fort Collins, Colorado, U.S.A. 80524 Tel: (970) 221-3371 FAX: (970) 221-3124

Stephen R. Ramsay U.S. Filter 1370-885 W. Georgia Street Vancouver, British Columbia V6C 3E8, Canada Tel: (604) 669-4422 FAX: (604) 669-5951

Timothy A. Reinhold Department of Civil Engineering Clemson University 110 Lowry Hall Clemson, South Carolina, U.S.A. 29631 Tel: (864) 656-3326 FAX: (864) 656-2670 Robert H. Scanlan
Dept. of Civil Engineering
G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering
202 Latrobe Hall
The Johns Hopkins University
Homewood Campus
Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. 21218-2686
Tel: (410) 516-7138
FAX: (410) 516-7473

Theodore Stathopoulos Centre for Building Studies Concordia University 1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. West Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8, Canada Tel: (514) 848-3186 FAX: (514) 848-7965

Andrew C. Steckley QuantumLynx 202 Michael Grove Avenue Bozeman, Montana, U.S.A. 59718 Tel: (406) 582-9745 FAX: (406) 582-9745

Henry Tieleman
Department of Engineering Science
and Mechanics
Virginia Polytechnical Institute and
State University
Blacksburg, Virginia, U.S.A. 24061
Tel: (540) 231-6651
FAX: (540) 231-4574

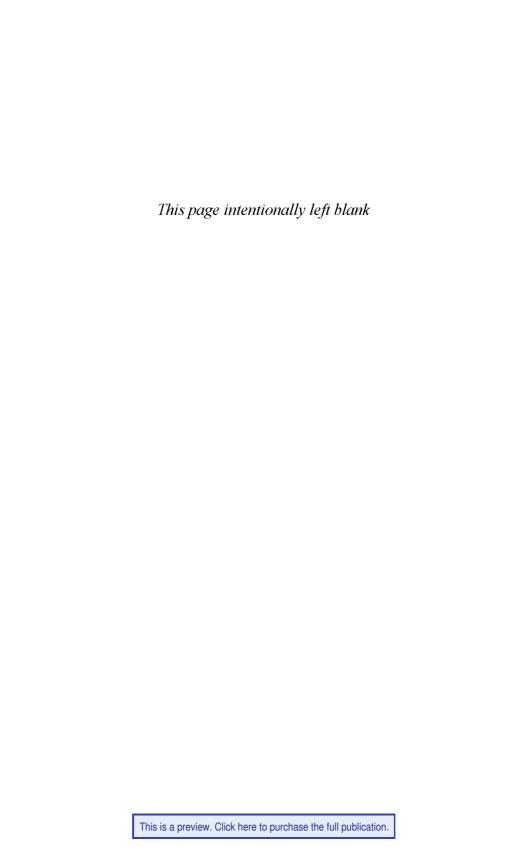
Peter J. Vickery Applied Research Associates 811 Spring Forest Road, Suite 100 Raleigh, North Carolina, U.S.A. 27609 Tel: (919) 876-0018 FAX: (919) 878-3672

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Task Committee for the Manual has received many valuable suggestions and comments over the past several years. Many came from other members of the Aerodynamics Committee of the Aerospace Division of the ASCE. Others came as a result of presentations of the Manual at ASCE Conferences, and its circulation to members of the wind engineering and wind tunnel testing communities and to interested engineers and architects. The contributions received are too numerous to permit specific mention. The Committee would therefore like to take this opportunity to extend its thanks and appreciation to all contributors.

Also acknowledged are the many valuable suggestions and comments by members of the ASCE Blue Ribbon Review Panel who reviewed this document and generously shared their experience and viewpoints with the Committee. These very much appreciated reviews and scrutiny have greatly improved this Manual.

Finally, the Committee and, in particular, the Editor of the Manual would like to acknowledge the contributions of Mrs. Tanya Spruyt of the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory of The University of Western Ontario, who typed the contributions from various Committee members and who helped to assemble the document. This involved several iterations over a number of years and included numerous cycles of corrections and improvements. Her patience and special effort are very much appreciated.



CONTENTS

FO	REWORD	v
AC	CKNOWLEDGMENTS	. vii
	WIND TUNNEL STUDIES OF BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
1	INTRODUCTION	3
	1.1 Objectives	3
	1.2 Areas of Application	4
	1.3 Common Techniques	4
2	MODELING THE WIND	9
	2.1 Wind and Its Origin	9
	2.2 Wind Tunnel Simulation of the Atmospheric Boundary Layer (ABL)	
	2.3 Approach Wind	10
	2.4 Topographic Models	11
	2.5 Near Field	
	2.6 Influence of Specific Structures	12
	2.7 Selection of Geometric Scale	12
	2.7.1 Consistent Modeling of All Lengths	12
	2.7.2 Blockage Considerations	
	2.8 Selection of Velocity Scale	
	2.9 Reynolds Number Scaling	
3	PEDESTRIAN LEVEL WINDS	17
4	LOCAL AND PANEL WIND LOADS	19
	4.1 General	
	4.2 External Pressures	20
	4.2.1 Local Pressures	20
	4.2.2 Panel Wind Loads	21
	4.3 Internal Pressures	22
	4.4 Roof Pressures	23