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Supersedes CP 109: 1961

BRITISH STANDARD 449 : 1959

(Incorporating British Standard Code of Practice CP 113)

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# THE USE OF STRUCTURAL STEEL IN BUILDING

BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION



BRITISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION

THE USE OF  
STRUCTURAL STEEL  
IN BUILDING

(incorporating British Standard  
Code of Practice CP 113, The structural use of  
steel in buildings)

B.S. 449 : 1959

Price 15/- net

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THIS BRITISH STANDARD, having been approved by the Building Divisional Council and the Council for Codes of Practice, was published by the authority of the General Council on 27th May, 1959.

First published, April, 1932.

First revision, December, 1935.

Second revision, July, 1937.

Third revision, July, 1948.

Fourth revision (incorporating B.S. C.P. 113), May, 1959

The Institution desires to call attention to the fact that this British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract.

In order to keep abreast of progress in the industries concerned, British Standards are subject to periodical review. Suggestions for improvements will be recorded and in due course brought to the notice of the committees charged with the revision of the standards to which they refer.

This standard makes reference to the following British Standards and Codes of Practice:

B.S. 4 Dimensions and properties of channels and beams for structural purposes.

B.S. 15 Structural steel for bridges, etc., and general building construction.

B.S. 153 Steel girder bridges.

B.S. 275 Dimensions of rivets ( $\frac{1}{2}$  in. to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. diameter).

B.S. 499 Glossary of terms (with symbols) relating to the welding and cutting of metals.

B.S. 548 High tensile structural steel for bridges, etc., and general building construction.

B.S. 592 Carbon steel castings for general engineering purposes (incorporated in B.S. 3100—Steel castings for general engineering).

B.S. 639 Covered electrodes for metal arc welding wrought iron and mild steel.

B.S. 648 Schedule of unit weights of building materials.

B.S. 693 Oxy-acetylene welding as applied to steel structures.

B.S. 785 Rolled steel bars and hard drawn steel wire for concrete reinforcement.

B.S. 916 Black bolts, screws and nuts.

B.S. 938 General requirements for the metal arc welding of structural steel tubes. *to B.S. 1775*

B.S. 968 High-tensile (fusion welding quality) structural steel for bridges, etc., and general building construction. *See Amendment No 3.*

B.S. 1083 Precision hexagon bolts, screws, <sup>and</sup> nuts and plain washers.

B.S. 1719 Classification of covered electrodes for the metal-arc welding of mild steel and of medium-high-tensile steels of welding quality.

B.S. 1768 Unified precision hexagon bolts, screws, nuts (UNC and UNF threads) and plain washers—normal series.

B.S. 1775 Steel tubes for mechanical, structural and general engineering purposes.

B.S. 1856 General requirements for the metal-arc welding of mild steel.

B.S. 1881 Methods of testing concrete.

B.S. 2466 Black taper washers.

B.S. 2549 Covered electrodes for the metal-arc welding of medium-high tensile structural steel.

B.S. 2642 General requirements for the metal-arc welding of medium tensile weldable structural steels to B.S. 968, Type a.

B.S. 2645 Tests for use in the approval of welders.

B.S. 2708 Unified black square and hexagon bolts, screws and nuts (UNC and UNF threads) and plain washers. Normal series.

B.S. 2762 Notch ductile steel for general structural purposes.

B.S. 2767 High strength friction grip bolts for structural engineering.

CP.3. Chapter IV. Precautions against fire.

CP.3. Chapter V. Loading.

*In course of preparation.*

B.S. 3410 Metal washers for general engineering purposes. *British Standards are revised, when necessary, by the issue of amendment slips or revised editions. It is important that users of British Standards should ascertain that they are in possession of the latest amendments or editions.*

B.S. 2994 Cold rolled steel sections

B.S. 3294 *Use of high strength friction grip bolts in structural steel work Part 1. General grade bolts.*

The following B.S.I. references relate to the work on this standard: Committee reference B/20 Draft for comment C1(B) 9926

B.S. 449. *Amendment No 1.*

*[Amendment No 2]*



## CONTENTS

Co-operating organizations	Page 9	21. Bending stresses (cased beams)	35
Foreword	10	22. Bearing stress	36
Economy in design	11	23. Shear stresses	36
Metric conversions	11	24. Effective span of beams	40
		25. Maximum slenderness ratio of compression flanges	41
		26. Effective length of compression flanges for beams and girders	41
		27. Beams with solid webs including plate girders	45
		28. Web stiffeners	48
		29. Filler joists	51
		C. DESIGN OF COMPRESSION MEMBERS	
		30. Axial stresses in struts	53
		31. Effective length of compression members	56
		32. Design details	57
		33. Maximum slenderness ratio of struts	58
		34. Eccentricity for stanchions and solid columns	58
		35. Lacing and battening	59
		36. Battened compression members	61
		37. Compression members composed of two components back-to-back	63
		38. Stanchions and column bases	63
		39. Base plates and bearing plates	65
		40. Grillage foundations	65
		D. DESIGN OF TENSION MEMBERS	
		41. Axial stresses in tension	65
		42. Tensile stresses for angles and tees	66
		E. CONSTRUCTIONAL DETAILS	
		43. Braced frames and trusses	67
		44. Roof trusses	67
		45. Purlins	68
		46. Side and end sheeting rails	68
		47. Steel castings	68
		48. Connections	69
		49. Lug angles	70
		F. RIVETING AND BOLTING	
		50. Allowable stresses in rivets and bolts	71

Co-operating organizations	Page 9
Foreword	10
Economy in design	11
Metric conversions	11

### SPECIFICATION

1. Scope	12
----------	----

### Part 1: DEFINITIONS

2. Definitions	12
----------------	----

### Part 2: MATERIALS

3. Structural steel and electrodes	14
4. Other materials	15
5. Standard dimensions	15

### Part 3: LOADS

6. Dead loads and imposed loads	16
7. Dynamic loads	16
8. Temperature range	17

### Part 4: DESIGN AND DETAILS OF CONSTRUCTION

#### A. GENERAL

9. Steel framework	18
10. Resistance to horizontal forces	19
11. Foundations	20
12. Minimum thickness of metal	20
13. Stresses due to wind forces	21
14. Combined stresses	21
15. Deflection of beams	23
16. Overhang of walls	23
17. Sectional areas	23
18. Separators and diaphragms	24

#### B. DESIGN OF MEMBERS SUBJECT TO BENDING

19. Bending stresses (beams other than plate girders)	25
20. Bending stresses (plate girders)	29

51. Rivets and riveting	Page 72
52. Bolts and bolting	73
G. WELDING	
53. Allowable stresses in welds	74
54. Design of welds	77
Part 5: FABRICATION AND ERECTION	
55. Inspection	79
H. WORK OFF SITE	
56. Straightness	79
57. Clearances	79
58. Cutting	79
59. Holing	79
60. Assembly	80
61. Riveting	80
62. Bolting	81
63. Welding	81
64. Qualification and testing of welders	81
65. Flattened ends of tubes	81
66. Machining of butts, caps and bases	82
67. Slab bases and caps	82
68. Solid round steel columns	82
69. Marking	82
70. Painting	82
J. WORK ON SITE	
71. Plant and equipment	83
72. Storing and handling	83
73. Setting out	83
74. Security during erection	83
75. Painting after erection	83
76. Bedding of stanchion bases, bedding and encasing of grillage beams and bearings of beams and girders	84
Part 6: TESTS FOR USE IN THE APPROVAL OF WELDERS	
77. Tests	86

78. Changes of welding procedure requiring re-qualification of welders	Page 86
79. Extent of qualification of welders	87

## APPENDICES

A. Loading tests	90
B. Formula from which Table 17 has been derived	92
C. Determination of the length of the curve of intersection of a tube with another tube or with a flat plate	93
D. Effective length of stanchions	94
E. General recommendations for steelwork tenders and contracts	109
F. Drafting committee for CP 113	113

## TABLES

1. Maximum allowable equivalent stress $p_e$	22
2. Allowable stresses in bending	26
3. Allowable stresses in bending (ton/sq.in.) for beams of steel to B.S. 15 and B.S. 2762	27
4. Allowable stresses in bending (ton/sq.in.) for beams of steel to B.S. 548 and B.S. 968	28
5. Values of factor $K_1$	30
6. Values of factor $K_2$	31
7. Values of A and B to calculate $C_s$	32
8. Allowable working stress $p_{bc}$ for different values of $C_s$	34
9. Allowable bearing stress	36
10. Allowable maximum shear stress $p_q$	37
11. Allowable average shear stress $p_q'$ in webs	37
12. Allowable average shear stress $p_q'$ in stiffened webs of steel to B.S. 15 or B.S. 2762	38
13. Allowable average shear stress $p_q'$ in stiffened webs of steel to B.S. 548 and B.S. 968	39
14. Maximum outstand of flanges	46
15. Bending moment values for fillet joists	51
16. Spacing of filler joists	52
17. Allowable stresses $p_c$ in gross section for axial compression	54



	Page
18. Assumed eccentricity of loads on stanchions and solid columns	58
19. Allowable tensile stresses in axial tension	66
20. Allowable stresses in rivets and bolts	71
21. Edge distance of holes	72

## CO-OPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

The Technical Committee of the Building Divisional Council responsible for the revision of this British Standard (now incorporating the British Standard Code of Practice CP 113: 1948—'The structural use of steel in buildings'), consists of representatives from the following departments and scientific and industrial organizations, and of additional members nominated to represent the Institution of Structural Engineers Committee, under whose supervision CP 113: 1948 was prepared (see Appendix F):—

Admiralty  
Air Ministry  
Association of Municipal Corporations  
British Constructional Steelwork Association  
British Iron and Steel Federation  
British Railways, The British Transport Commission  
British Welding Research Association  
Building Committee in Scotland  
Crown Agents for Oversea Governments and Administrations  
Department of Scientific and Industrial Research  
District Surveyors Association  
Institute of Builders  
Institute of Welding  
Institution of Civil Engineers  
Institution of Municipal Engineers  
Institution of Structural Engineers  
London County Council  
Ministry of Housing and Local Government  
Ministry of Works  
National Federation of Building Trades Employers  
Royal Institute of British Architects  
War Office  
Individual manufacturers and consultants

# BRITISH STANDARD SPECIFICATION FOR THE USE OF STRUCTURAL STEEL IN BUILDING

(incorporating British Standard Code of Practice  
CP 113, 'The structural use of steel in buildings')

## FOREWORD

B.S. 449 was first issued in 1932 and was revised in December 1935, July 1937 and July 1948. Reconsideration of the standard has since led to numerous amendments which are embodied in the present revised standard, now published under the authority of the Building Divisional Council and the Council for Codes of Practice.

When a programme of Codes of Practice for Buildings was drawn up in 1942 under the aegis of the Ministry of Works, a Code of Practice for the structural use of steel in buildings was included in a series for all types of building construction: this was later (1948) issued as CP 113. Much of the information given in B.S. 449 and in CP 113 was the same and with the formation of the Codes of Practice Council within the B.S.I. it was decided that the two documents should be amalgamated and issued as a single publication under the main reference B.S. 449.

Apart from the alterations necessitated by amalgamation with CP 113, the main differences between the present revised standard and the 1948 issue can be summarized as follows:

- (1) The clauses of Part 3 on dead and imposed loads have been omitted, and reference made to the Code of Practice CP 3 : Ch. V—Loading, which covers the loading requirements recommended for structures of all types. This Code of Practice has now been amended to include wind loads on unclad structures.
- (2) In Part 4, 'Design and details of construction', the clauses for members subject to *bending*, *axial compression* and *axial tension* have been rearranged in separate groups, each containing the basic information necessary for design.
- (3) The use of tubular members in building, covered by Addendum No. 1, PD 1953, is now dealt with within the text of the standard.
- (4) The design clauses for welds and welding have been curtailed, and reference has been made instead to the appropriate British Standards. An important addition consists of a section, based on B.S. 2645, specifying the tests to be used for the approval of welders for general and special structural work.

Users of this British Standard should satisfy themselves that effective compliance is secured with local bye-laws and regulations and, for insurance purposes, with any requirements of insurance companies.

The attention of users is also called to the importance of making provision, where necessary, for water, gas, electricity and other services, having particular regard to Clause 21 *e* of this standard for cased beams and Clause 30 *c* (iv) for cased struts.

## ECONOMY IN DESIGN

This British Standard stipulates limits of stress and gives rules for design, with the twofold purpose of ensuring normal safety and economy in the use of structural steel. While the stresses and other requirements are to be regarded as limiting values, the purpose in design should be to reach these limits in as many parts of the structure as possible and to adopt a layout such that maximum structural efficiency is attained for a minimum use of steel. Careful consideration should therefore be given to the semi-rigid basis and fully rigid basis of design.

## METRIC CONVERSIONS

For the convenience of countries using the metric system, the following conversion factors are provided.

They are calculated from the basic factors:

1 inch (in.)	=	25.4 millimetre (mm) (exactly)
1 pound (lb)	=	0.453 592 37 kilogramme (kg)

and have been rounded to enable converted metric values of sufficient accuracy for general purposes to be obtained.

Conversion tables of greater accuracy are given in B.S. 350, 'Conversion factors and tables'.

1 inch (in.)	=	25.4 millimetre (mm) (exactly)
1 foot (ft)	=	0.3048 metre (m) (exactly)
1 pound (lb)	=	0.4536 kilogramme (kg)
1 ton = 2240 lb	=	1.016 metric tonne
1 lb/sq.in.	=	1016 kg
1 ton/sq.in.	=	0.070 kg/mm <sup>2</sup>
	=	1.575 kg/mm <sup>2</sup>

Moment of inertia (inch<sup>4</sup>) × 41.62 = Moment of inertia (cm<sup>4</sup>)

Modulus of section (inch<sup>3</sup>) × 16.39 = Modulus of section (cm<sup>3</sup>)