

# News about associations and national groups of IABSE

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## 2. News about associations and national groups of IABSE

### 2.1 CIB Structural Timber Design Code

At the meeting of Working Commission II in London, 7th September 1981, the 5th draft edition of this international "code for codewriters" was discussed. The code is the result of several years of work within CIB-W18, i.e. the Working Group W18 "Timber Structures" of the International Council for Building Research Studies and Documentation.\*) The code contains rules for the design of different kinds of timber structures. Although Chapter 3 "Basic Design Rules" is based on the method of partial coefficients the rest of the code is also applicable to ordinary, deterministic methods, provided suitable values for material properties and safety factors are introduced in the design calculations. The code assumes that characteristic values for material strength and modulus of elasticity are known and defines three moisture classes and five load-duration classes. There are chapters on material requirements, design of basic members, joints, design of glued and mechanically jointed components, construction, and fire resistance.

Since the Code is a "Code for Code-writers", its primary purpose is to provide an agreed background for the international bodies and national committees responsible for formulating timber codes in order to ensure a reasonable and consistent quality of timber structures.

The code relates to the structural use of timber and wood based materials and is intended for use in the design, execution and appraisal of structural elements made from timber or wood products and of structures containing such elements.

The Code contains rules peculiar to the design of timber and wood-based structures, and recommendations which define their validity. It does not contain values of safety factors, partial factors of loads, since it is recognized that these are the responsibility of national public authorities.

\*) (The official French name is Conseil International du Bâtiment (CIB))

To adequately cover the material properties of the extremely varied worldwide range of timber species a system of strength classes is defined in the Code. It is not intended that this system should preclude the use of properties for individual species and grades; these may be included in annexes to the Code.

It is the intention of CIB-W18 that their Code should be presented to ISO/TC 165 — Timber Structures as the basis for a Draft International Standard.

One main difficulty during the drafting of the code was the proper definition of strength classes for timber. There are so many different species of wood all over the world and it seems to be very difficult to find a final system that could be accepted by all member countries.

It is the wish of WC II that IABSE should provide a forum for the international exchange of research results and practical applications. Therefore the existence of "model codes" such as the CIB Timber Code should be brought to the knowledge of all members of IABSE. On the other hand it was agreed upon that the general policy of IABSE concerning international model codes ought to be

- (1) to encourage the drafting of model codes and similar documents (e.g. by providing collaborators, publicity, guidance, etc.) but that
- (2) it could not be a task for IABSE to officially endorse the end product — the code itself.

For further information on the work of CIB-W18 and the Timber Design Code please write to

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## 2.2 Recommendations for the Calculation of Wind Effects on Buildings and Structures

234 x 156 mm, 167pp. paper bound.  
Price: 50 Dutch Guilders.  
ECCS Secretariat, Av. Louise 326, Bte 52,  
B-1050 Brussels.

These recommendations are the result of the work of an ad-hoc ECCS Committee and apply to all types of structures. They give methods for the calculation of the wind effects on complete buildings and structures, on their constituent parts and on the users' comfort. They contain a wind map of Western Europe with the basic design wind speed of 50 years' return period.

These recommendations are completed by three appendices:

- Appendix 1: Pressure and force coefficients.
- Appendix 2: Calculation of national frequencies of oscillation.
- Appendix 3: General account and justification of the method of calculation of wind effects on structures.

## 2.3 Draft Model Code for Composite Structures

234 x 156 mm, 200 pp.  
ISBN 0 86095 872 8 Hardcover £ 17.50 (British Pounds)  
The Construction Press — London and New York.  
ECCS Secretariat, Av. Louise 326, Bte 52,  
B-1050 Brussels.

This Model Code has been prepared by an international joint committee with the active participation of the CEB, ECCS, FIP and members of IABSE; it deals with the design and construction of composite structures and has been worked out in view of being used as a reference for national and international codes or specifications.

The basic aspects of the design of composite structures are treated in agreement with the latest knowledge resulting from research and constructional practice and in consistency with the recommendations of the participating international bodies for steel and concrete structures.

## 2.4 The Czechoslovak National Group of IABSE announces the celebration, in 1982, of the 275th Anniversary of the Technical University of Prague

The Technical University of Prague was established on January 18th, 1707 and it is therefore one of the oldest Engineering Institutes in the world. Now it consists of 5 faculties (Faculty of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Electrotechnical Engineering, Faculty of Eng. Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Faculty of Architecture) and many institutes, with about 18 000 students.

The main celebration will take place in Prague in the period of June 21st-25th and the following week

(June 28th-July 2nd). An international scientific conference will be held with 22 sections and 58 subsections involving all scientific and technical disciplines of the University.

All guests wishing to participate either in the celebration or in the conference are sincerely welcome.

*J. Pechar*  
*Vice-President of IABSE*