

Code feature section

CODES FOR SEISMIC DESIGN OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE

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The seismic resistance of prestressed concrete is receiving attention from code writers as a result of the research being done on this subject both overseas and in New Zealand.

Of particular interest are the activities of the Seismic Commission of the Federation International de Precontrainte (F.I.P.) which reviews information collected from the various parts of the world. The Commission's document "General Principles of Earthquake Resistant Design of Prestressed Concrete Structures" was presented at the Vth Congress of the F.I.P. (Paris, 1966). It is at present being revised for presentation at the VIth F.I.P. Congress, Prague 1970. Drafts of this report are currently being circulated to F.I.P. Seismic Commission members for comment.

The Seismic Design Committee of the New Zealand Prestressed Concrete Institute (N.Z.P.C.I.) prepared a booklet "Seismic Design Recommendations for Prestressed Concrete", published in 1966 and intended to be read in conjunction with New Zealand Standard "Recommendations for Prestressed Concrete Design" (N.Z.S.R. 32), since this latter document does not include seismic design rules. The N.Z.P.C.I. Committee is currently meeting to consider further information now available with the object of formulating rules suitable to recommend for inclusion in N.Z.S.R. 32. The Committee has also had the opportunity of commenting on the latest F.I.P. draft report referred to above.

Research on the seismic behaviour of prestressed concrete is continuing overseas, (e.g. in Russia, Japan and the U.S.A.) and also in New Zealand, and it can be expected that there will be a continuing flow of information. A number of useful references are listed at the end of the paper "Prestressed Concrete Seismic Design" published in this issue.

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