Amendment 1 - April 1992
" 2 - August 1994

Australian Standard®

Masonry in buildings (known as the SAA Masonry Code)—Commentary

(Supplement 1 to AS 3700—1988)

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

This Australian Standard was prepared by Committee BD/4, Masonry Structures. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 28 December 1990 and published on 4 March 1991.

The following interests are represented on Committee BD/4:

Association of Consulting Engineers, Australia

Australian Uniform Building Regulations Coordinating Council

~~Brick Development Research Institute~~ SEE AMENDMENT 1

Building Management Authority, W.A.

Calcium Silicate Brick Manufacturers

Cement and Concrete Association of Australia

Clay Brick and Paver Institute SEE AMENDMENT 1

Concrete Masonry Association of Australia Co-op Limited

Confederation of Australian Industry

CSIRO, Division of Building, Construction and Engineering

Deakin University

Joint Committee P.W.D./A.C.S.E. of New South Wales

Master Builders—Construction and Housing Association Australia

Public Works Department, N.S.W.

Royal Australian Institute of Architects

University of Melbourne

University of Newcastle

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Amendment No. 2 to AS 3700 Supplement 1—1991 Masonry in buildings (known as the SAA Masonry Code)—Commentary (Supplement to AS 3700—1988)

REVISED TEXT

The 1991 edition of AS 3700 Supplement 1 is amended as follows; the amendments should be inserted in the appropriate place.

SUMMARY: This Amendment applies to Clause C3.1.3 and Appendix CB.

Published on 15 August 1994.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Amendment No. 1
to
AS 3700 Supp1—1991
SAA Masonry Code—Commentary

REVISED TEXT

The 1991 edition of AS 3700 Supp1 is amended as follows; the amendments should be inserted in the appropriate places.

SUMMARY: This Amendment applies to the inside front cover, the Preface and Paragraphs C2.4.1, C5.3.3.3, C5.7.1(b), C7.3, C8.4.2, CB3.1 and References.

Published on 16 April 1992.

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Inside Front Cover

Add to the interests represented on Committee BD/4 the following:

Clay Brick and Paver Institute

and *delete* the following:

Brick Development Research Institute

Australian Standard®

Masonry in buildings (known as the SAA Masonry Code)—Commentary

(Supplement 1 to AS 3700—1988)

First published as AS 3700 Supp1—1991.

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PREFACE

This Commentary was prepared by the Standards Australia Committee on Masonry Structures to assist in the interpretation and correct application of the provisions of the SAA Masonry Code, by outlining the background to various requirements of the Standard.

The Commentary does not aim to give a comprehensive text-book treatment of the requirements of the Standard. In particular, the Commentary seeks to avoid repeating technical content that is already covered in detail in:

(a) 'Masonry Code of Practice', published in 1984 by a joint committee of the Public Works Department, N.S.W. and the Association of Consulting Structural Engineers, N.S.W.

(b) Current technical publications published by:

(i) Brick Development Research Institute.

(ii) Concrete ~~Manufacturers~~ Masonry Association of Australia Co-op Limited. SEE AMENDMENT 1

(iii) CSIRO, Division of Building, Construction and Engineering.

(iv) National Building Technology Centre (formerly, Experimental Building Station).

The layout of this Commentary is identical to that of the Standard. The numbering differs only in that its Clauses are prefixed by the letter 'C', e.g. Clause C3.2.1 of this Commentary refers to Clause 3.2.1 of the Standard. Where there is no commentary to a Clause of the Standard the Clause number does not appear. Therefore the Clause numbers in this commentary are not consecutive. References are listed as the last item of the Section or Appendix in which they occur.

Figures and Tables herein are prefixed by the letter 'C' when they refer to a Clause in this Commentary.

AMDT No. 1 APR. 1992

Preface Paragraph (b)(ii)

Delete 'Manufacturers' and *substitute* 'Masonry'.

CONTENTS

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Australian Standard
Masonry in buildings

SECTION C1 SCOPE AND GENERAL

C1.1 SCOPE It is expected that those applying and using the provisions of the Standard will be adequately qualified and experienced in their areas of responsibility. It is expected that, in their hands, careful and experienced application of these provisions will result in safe, sound and serviceable masonry construction.

Some of the Clauses in the Standard (mainly to be found in the structural design Sections 4, 5 and 6) are written with the expectation that their application is to masonry members in the form of walls and piers whose bed joints are horizontal.

No specific guidance is given on prestressed and prefabricated masonry or composite action. However, the Standard is not intended to prevent the use of these forms of construction.

C1.3 ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS AND METHODS

C1.3.1 General It is important that the soundness of any innovation, or of any departures from the requirements of the Standard, should be adequately demonstrated. It will be necessary to obtain the approval of the relevant authority for the use of alternative materials or methods.

C1.4 INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED ON DOCUMENTS

C1.4.1 General It cannot be expected that satisfactory masonry will be built if those actually building it are not adequately informed on all of the relevant design requirements for that masonry. This information needs to be set out clearly on the documents—preferably on the drawings—that are actually used on site by those carrying out that construction.

C1.5 DEFINITIONS

C1.5.1 Application Clause 1.5 contains only those definitions that are considered necessary for the purposes of this Standard, and is not a comprehensive listing of all terms currently used in connection with masonry construction.

C1.5.3 Technical definitions The term 'masonry' is a generic term covering any or all of brickwork and blockwork in clay, concrete and calcium silicate, and square-dressed natural stone.

C1.6 NOTATION The notation for this Standard has been designed so that, with few exceptions, the same notation can be used in computer applications as in other applications. To this end, this notation does not use Greek letters. The present notation continues to use the character (′) to designate characteristic value, although international practice favours the use of the letter k for this purpose.

Certain equations in the Standard are dimensionally inconsistent and in these cases the units have been specified.