External Structural Repairs Exposed to Fire: Navigating Building Code Provisions

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Relevance

- 1. Formal engineering education rarely includes fire science
- 2. On-the-job experience with fire protection is typically limited to new construction
- 3. Few designers have fundamental understanding of assumptions behind available data or actual behavior of materials/structure
- 4. Building codes don't focus on remedial work
- 5. Increased use of fiber reinforced polymer (FRP) and other external strengthening methods has led to many questions

Damaging Effects of Fire

- **Reduction of** strength
- **Reduction of** stiffness
- **Passage of fumes**
- Collapse

Typical Fire Damage to Steel Framing

Landmark Fires

Historic:

- Rome, London, and Dresden
- Chicago and San Francisco

Led to development of building codes

Contemporary (in U.S.):

- First Interstate Bank
- **Neridian Plaza**

Despite long duration neither event led to death or collapse, affirming industry's confidence in ability of codes to protect lives

Heightened Awareness Since 2001

- Three high-rise collapses
- WTC 7 especially troubling
- Undermined confidence in codes

Lessons Learned:

- Dislodging of fireproofing from steel framing
- Effect of thermal expansion on connections
- **Inability of UL tests to predict** actual performance

Source: NIST (2005) and Carmen Taylor AP, (2001)

NIST Findings from WTC-related Studies

- Determination of actual fire performance of structural system is currently not the responsibility of any design professional
- Industry practice does not require design professionals to have qualifications necessary to ensure adequate passive fire resistance of structural system
- Architects typically rely on cataloged UL data to specify passive fire resistance needed to comply with building code
- Codes do not treat fire as a structural load case
- Fire protection engineers typically not involved with passive protection

Presentation Objectives

- Describe effect of elevated temperature on structural materials
- Review current approaches in building codes
- Show examples of external structural repairs
- **Use case histories to illustrate fire science principles**

Effect of Heat on Steel Strength vs. Temperature

Effect of Heat on Concrete Strength vs. Temperature

Design Philosophy – Overall

Objective is life safety

- Allow time for occupants to evacuate
- **Provide time for first responders**
- Code approach does not seek to prevent damage
	- Collapse avoidance is primary structural goal
	- Deflections, cracking, etc. not explicitly considered
- Two fundamental design approaches:
	- **Prescriptive:** historical method in U.S.
	- **Performance:** permitted by building codes

Design Philosophy Prescriptive vs. Performance

Prescriptive:

- A) Protective insulation (e.g., cover over rebar)
- B) UL Designs based on ASTM E119 standard fire
- C) Calculations based on ACI 216.1 using ASTM E119

Performance:

- 1. Determine design fire based on credible fuel load
- 2. Thermal analysis to determine effect of heat on materials
- 3. Structural analysis using reduced material properties and appropriate factor of safety

Building Code Provisions Concrete Construction (New)

Room Temperature

4.11.1 Structural concrete members shall satisfy the fire protection requirements of the general building code.

4.11.2 Where the general building code requires a thickness of concrete cover for fire protection greater than the concrete cover specified in $20.6.1$, such greater thickness

Fire Resistance

This standard describes acceptable methods for determining the fire resistance of concrete and masonry building assemblies and structural elements, including walls, floor and roof slabs, beams, columns, lintels, and masonry fire protection for structural steel columns. These methods shall be used for design and analysis purposes and shall be based on the fire exposure and applicable end-point criteria

IBC Section 703.3 Methods for Determining Fire Resistance

703.3 Methods for determining fire resistance. The application of any of the methods listed in this section shall be based on the fire exposure and acceptance criteria specified in ASTM E 119 or UL 263. The required *fire resistance* of a building element, component or assembly shall be permitted to be established by any of the following methods or procedures:

- 1. Fire-resistance designs documented in approved sources.
- 2. Prescriptive designs of fire-resistance-rated building elements, components or assemblies as prescribed in Section 721.
- 3. Calculations in accordance with Section 722.
- 4. Engineering analysis based on a comparison of building element, component or assemblies designs having *fire-resistance ratings* as determined by the test procedures set forth in ASTM E 119 or UL 263.
- 5. Alternative protection methods as allowed by Section 104.11.

ASTM E119 Standard Test Method for Fire Tests …

Gives requirements for testing components and assemblies

Defines:

- Time-temperature curve
- **Furnace characteristics**
- **Loading criteria**
- **End point criteria**
- End points:
	- **Eailure to sustain load**
	- Rise in surface temperature
	- Passage of gas/flames

Time-temperature Curves ASTM E119 and other criteria

Comparison of Standard Design Fire to "Actual" Fires

UL Testing Sample Tech Data for Slab-on-Metal-Deck

Concrete slab and metal deck assembly tested by manufacturer

Sample:

FLOOR-CEILING ASSEMBLIES WITH COMPOSITE DECK

Decks have been tested by Underwriters Laboratories Inc. for their Fire Resistance Ratings. In as much as new listings are continually being added, please contact the design is not listed below. The cellular decks listed comply with U.L. 209 for use as Electrical Raceways.

UL Design No. D902 Metal Deck

- Details of construction are described in detail in UL Directory
- Designer must incorporate details in drawings or specifications, or make specific reference to UL Design Number

Source: UL Fire Resistance Directory (1999)

ACI 216.1 – Code Requirements for Determining Fire Resistance of Concrete …

Section 4.4 Analytical Methods for Calculating Fire Resistance and Cover Protection

Fig. 4.4.2.3h—Measured temperature distribution at 2 hour fire exposure for semi-lightweight concrete tapered unit.

Representative Nomogram for DT Stem

Shortcomings of E119-based Fire Rating System used in U.S.

- ASTM E119 is a comparative test of products under defined fire exposure
- Was not intended to and does not predict actual behavior
- Relies on lab-size test specimens to fit furnace
- Prevailing method of specifying fire protection in the U.S. and is most familiar to manufacturers, designers, and building officials

Load Factors and Strength-reduction Factors

- Building codes (e.g., IBC, ASCE 7, ACI 318, and AISC 360) specify:
	- 1.2 and 1.6 load factors for D and L, respectively
	- <1.0 strength reduction (i.e., *phi*) factors
- Probability of simultaneous occurrence of peak loading considered
- Above factors developed for room temperature
- Probability of simultaneous occurrence of peak gravity loads and a design fire event is extremely low
- Accordingly, ASTM E119 in conjunction with ACI 216.1 define:
	- 1.0 load factors for D and L
	- 1.0 strength reduction (i.e., *phi*) factor

Myths and Misconceptions about UL Ratings and Fireproofing

- Fire rating predicts how long the structure will maintain its integrity in actual fire
- Only UL-listed assemblies are allowed by Code

 Individual components of a UL-listed assembly are rated

"Fireproofing" means that components will not be damaged

FIRE RESISTANCE RATINGS - ANSI/UL263 (BXUV)-Continued

The prefix numbers with an asterisk (*) and the design numbers indicated as "Reserved" in the above table are for future expansion and to cater to new types of systems developed in the future.

II. GENERAL

The following information is appropriate to all fire resistive designs described in this Directory. It is recommended that the users review this information in addition to the general quidelines provided for specific materials and construction types.

Authorities having jurisdiction should be consulted before construction. Fire resistance ratings apply only to assemblies in their entirety. Except for those separately rated structural members supporting tested assemblies, individual components are not assigned a fire resistance rating and are not intended to be interchanged between assemblies but rather are designated for use in a specific design in order that the ratings of the design may be achieved. All ratings are based on the assumption that the stability of structural members supporting the assembly are not impaired by the effects of fire. The extent of damage of the test assembly at the rating time is not a criteria for the rating.

Common Reasons for Structural Repairs

Accommodate increased loading

- Live load (change in occupancy)
- Lateral load (wind or seismic)
- **Address errors in design or construction**
- Remediate deterioration
	- **Corrosion**
	- Impact/abuse
- Improve serviceability
	- Vibration
	- **•** Deflection

Connection Repairs

Precast connections

- Deck members (e.g., double tees, inverted tees, and spandrels
- Wall panel
- Column

Post-installed anchors

- Original construction
- Remedial construction
- **Adhesive anchors**

Member or System Repairs

Structural Steel Framing

- Sub-framing (span shortening or tributary area reduction)
- **Steel plates (cover plates)**

Concrete Framing

- **Member enlargement**
- Steel plates (bonded or bolted)
- **External post-tensioning (EPT)**
- Fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP)

Steel Connection Repairs – Precast DT Bearing Seat

Steel Connection Repairs – Precast DT Flange-to-Flange Connection

Concrete Beam Shear Reinforcing Steel Hanger Rods¹

1Photo shows work-in-progress. Mortar subsequently applied to encase steel.

External Post-Tensioning 1-way Concrete Slab

External Post-Tensioning 2-way Concrete Slab

External Post-Tensioning Precast Double-tee

External Post-Tensioning Precast Raker Beam

Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP)

Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP)

1Photo shows work-in-progress. Fireproofing subsequently applied over FPR.

Structural Steel Sub-framing (with SFRM)

Fiber Reinforced Polymer (with SFRM)

Fiber Reinforced Polymer (with SFRM)

Building Code Provisions Repairs

Room Temperature:

"New materials to comply with provisions of the IBC"

Fire Resistance:

SECTION 603 FIRE PROTECTION

603.1 General. Repairs shall be done in a manner that maintains the level of fire protection provided.

Other Resources for Repairs

- ACI 440.2R-08: Guide to Design of … Externally Bonded FRP ..
- ACI 562-13: Code Requirements for … Repair of Concrete ...

AISC Fire Facts (Only addresses repair of fire-damaged members)

Case History – Steel Plate Repairs Thermal Analysis to Predict Strength

- Precast concrete double tee beam
- Needs flexural strengthening
- Solution: External bolted steel plates
- Question: Do steel plates need to be fireproofed?

Steel Plate Repair DT Stem Detail

Steel Plate Repair Building Code Criteria for Fire

- Group S-4 Occupancy (UBC 1997)
- Type I Fire-resistive construction
- Table 6-A requires a 2-hour rating

TABLE 6-A-TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION-FIRE-RESISTIVE For details, see occupancy section in Chapter 3, type of construction sections in 1

Steel Plate Repair Methods to Achieve Required Rating

Building Code Provisions

- Section 703 prescribes three methods for showing that required fire-rating has been achieved:
	- Table 7A: Deemed to satisfy ("cover")
	- UL Directory: ASTM E119
	- Calculations: ACI 216.1 and standard fire
- All methods considered acceptable
- None require variance from Building Official

Steel Plate Repair Table 7A Method

- Covers only conventional structural components
- **No guidance for** "hybrid" beams or repaired DTs
- No help to designer

TABLE 7-A-MINIMUM PROTECTION OF STRUCTURAL PARTS BASED ON TIME PERIODS
FOR VARIOUS NONCOMBUSTIBLE INSULATING MATERIALS®-(Continued)

Steel Plate Repair UL Directory Method

- Covers DTs and wide flange beams, but not DTs repaired with steel plates
- Might give basis for SFRM
- Requires interpretation and judgment
- Limited help to designer

Steel Plate Repair Calculation Method

- Allows use of ACI 216.1 to evaluate strength of member
- ACI 216.1 based on ASTM E119 design curve:

$1.1 -$ Scope

This standard describes acceptable methods for determining the fire resistance of concrete and masonry building assemblies and structural elements, including walls, floor and roof slabs, beams, columns, lintels, and masonry fire protection for structural steel columns. These methods shall be used for design and analysis purposes and shall be based on the fire exposure and applicable end-point criteria of ASTM E119

Building code permits alternative design curves

Building Code Alternative Method 3-step Performance-based Approach

- Step 1: Fire Hazard Analysis, to identify maximum credible fire and develop a design time-temperature curve
- Step 2: Thermal Analysis, to calculate temperature of rebar and concrete during exposure to the fire using finite element based heat transfer principles
- Step 3: Structural Analysis, to see if heated member has sufficient strength when exposed to the fire

Performance-based Approach Hazard and Thermal Analysis Model

- 20-ft long delivery vehicle
- Six 17" diam. tires, 100 gals fuel
- Rapid rise to peak temperature
- Fire duration of 15 minutes
- FEA-based heat transfer study

Performance-based Approach Results of Thermal Analysis Model

Performance-based Approach Temperature v. Time (FEA results)

Performance-based Approach Structural Analysis

Steel Plate Repair Summary

- 2-hour rating required using conventional prescriptive method
- Performance-based method approved by Building Official
- Safety demonstrated by FEA-based thermal/structural analysis
- Steel not fireproofed

Performance of FRP When Exposed to Fire

Possible Sources of Information:

- Consensus Industry Documents
	- ACI 440.2R-08: Guide to Design… of Externally Bonded FRP …
	- ACI 562-13: Code Requirements for … Repair of Concrete ...
- Academic Research
	- **Industry sponsored**
- FRP Manufacturers
	- **FALLIA** Technical representatives
	- Product Data Sheet
	- UL test reports

FRP Development Timeline

- Early 1980s: Technology developed in Europe and Japan
- Early 1990s: Introduced to U.S.
- Early-mid 90s: Design guides developed by manufacturers
- Mid 1990s: First large-scale applications in U.S.
- 2002: Publication of ACI 440.2R-02
- 2008: Publication of ACI 440.2R-08
- UL fire testing
	- Mid 1990s: First UL test (column/wall specimens)
	- 2000s early 2010s: UL tests (beam/slab assemblies)

Roadblocks to Adoption of FRP How Industry has Responded

Lack of formal training

- Evolution of specialty engineers
- Growing comfort with delegated design approach
- Absence of non-manufacturer developed design guides
	- **ICC Acceptance Criteria AC-125**
	- Publication of ACI 440.2R
- Unfamiliar construction and testing procedures
	- Development of specialty FRP contractors
	- Evolution of firms with expertise in testing
	- Cost of testing can be significantly higher than expected

Roadblocks to Adoption of FRP Fire Concerns Remain at Top of List

- Many architects still unfamiliar with performance under fire so structural engineers are on their own
- Glass transition temperature (T_g) is around 160F (75C).
- UL-listing of some FRP products can mitigation concerns
- Cost of protective coatings alone in some UL-tested assemblies can exceed cost of installed, un-protected FRP system

Effect of Heat on Steel and FRP Strength vs. Temperature

Sample UL Design for FRP-strengthened Beam Assembly

Unrestrained Beam Rating - 1, 2, 3, and 4 Hr

Williams, Bisby, Kodur, Su, and Green Experimental Study of FRP under Fire

ACI 440.2R – 08 Strengthening Limit and Fire Consideration

 Room Temperature Eq. 9-1: Unrepaired structure needs to be capable of resisting 1.1 (D) + 0.75(L), using normal $f_{\rm y}$ and $f_{\rm c}$

> $(\phi R_n)_{extsting} \ge (1.1S_{DL} + 0.75S_{LL})_{new}$ $(9-1)$

Fire Condition Eq. 9-2: Unrepaired structure needs to be capable of resisting $1.0(D) + 1.0(L)$, using reduced f_{y} and f_{c} due to fire

$$
R_{n\theta} \ge S_{DL} + S_{LL} \tag{9-2}
$$

For certain D/L ratios and fire ratings, an unrepaired structure may have sufficient strength to avoid collapse during a design fire without thermal insulation over FRP

Unprotected FRP-Repaired Structures Currently in Service

Example Application of Eqs. (9-1) & (9-2)

- Existing Load: $D_{old} = 85$ psf, $L_{old} = 60$ psf
- Proposed Load: D_{new} = 90 psf, L_{new} = 80 psf
- Required Fire Resistance: 2 hrs

Step 1: Does proposed strengthening satisfy (9-1)?

 $(\phi R_n)_{extstine} \ge (1.1S_{DL} + 0.75S_{LL})_{new}$

$$
(\phi R_n)_{\text{exist}} = 1.2 (D_{\text{old}}) + 1.6 (L_{\text{old}}) > ? \qquad 1.1 (D_{\text{new}}) + 0.75 (L_{\text{new}})
$$

= 1.2 (85) + 1.6 (60)
= 198 psf \qquad \qquad > \checkmark \qquad 159 psf

Example Application of Eqs. (9-1) & (9-2) (cont'd)

- *Step 2:* Does proposed strengthening satisfy (9-2)? $R_{n\theta} \ge S_{DL} + S_{LL}$ *where Rⁿ is nominal strength at elevated temperature*
	- *a) From ACI 216.1, +A^s bars reach about 750F after 2 hours*
	- *b) From temperature effect on steel data, at 750F, F^y = 78% of Fy(room)*

$$
R_{nv} = \left[\frac{1.2(Dold) + 1.6(Lold)}{\phi}\right] \times 0.78 \quad > ? \quad 1.0 \text{ (Dnew)} + 1.0
$$

$$
\left[\frac{1.2(85) + 1.6(60)}{0.9}\right] x \quad 0.78 \quad 1.0 \text{ (90)} + 1.0 \text{ (80)}
$$
\n
$$
172 \text{ psf} \quad > \checkmark \quad 170 \text{ psf}
$$

∴ *No fireproofing required on FRP*

ACI 440.2R – 08 Other Considerations

- Section 1.3.2: The structural member without FRP should possess sufficient strength to resist all service loads during a fire.
- Section 1.3.2: Smoke generation and flame spread should be determined using ASTM E84 and needs to satisfy building code criteria. This can typically be achieved using a suitable acrylic coating.
- Section 9.2.1: If thermal insulation is applied, overall structural performance of the assembly will be improved due to delayed strength degradation of the steel and concrete from heat. In other words, the insulation will protect the rebar much more than it protects the FRP.

Summary

- Changes over the past two decades require that our buildings be capable of withstanding fire and other extraordinary events
- **Effects of fire on structural repairs are not well understood by** most engineers for the following reasons:
	- Lack of formal training
	- Fire is not a typical design load; it produces a demand but also affects the capacity
	- Fire has a time and space domain -4 th and 5 th dimensions
	- UL Directory can be cumbersome to follow
	- Technical literature uses unfamiliar words
- Architects don't offer much assistance

Conclusions

- Fire protection needs must be assessed on a case-by-case basis:
	- Repairs for serviceability reasons seldom need protection
	- Repairs for structures with redundant load paths or which need a modest increase in load capacity may not need protection
	- Repairs for critical members or which provide significant increase in load capacity may be a candidate for analysis to evaluate need for protection
- Use of FRP presents special challenges due to degradation of epoxy at low temperatures
- **Manufacturers' UL listings should be reviewed carefully to** ensure design being specified complies with test assembly

Selected References

- ACI 440.2R-08, ACI 216.1-14, and ACI 562-13
- AISC 360, *Specifications for Structural Steel Buildings*, Appendix 4 - *Structural Design for Fire Conditions*, 2005
- ASCE 29-05, *Standard Calculation Methods for Structural Fire Protection,* 2005
- ASTM E119-15, *Standard Test Method for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials,* 2015
- *Best Practice Guideline for Structural Fire Resistance Design of Concrete and Steel Buildings*, NIST Tech Note 1681, 2010
- *Structural Engineers Guide to Fire Protection,* CASE Fire Protection Committee, 2008

Questions?

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.