

# Strengthening of Concrete Members using Fabric Reinforced Cementitious Matrix

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# Outline

- **Review of Reinforced Concrete Strengthening Methods**
- **Introduction to Fabric Reinforced Cementitious Matrix Systems**
- **FRCM Application Process & Considerations**
- **FRCM Design & Testing**
- **Project Profile**



# Review of Concrete Strengthening Methods



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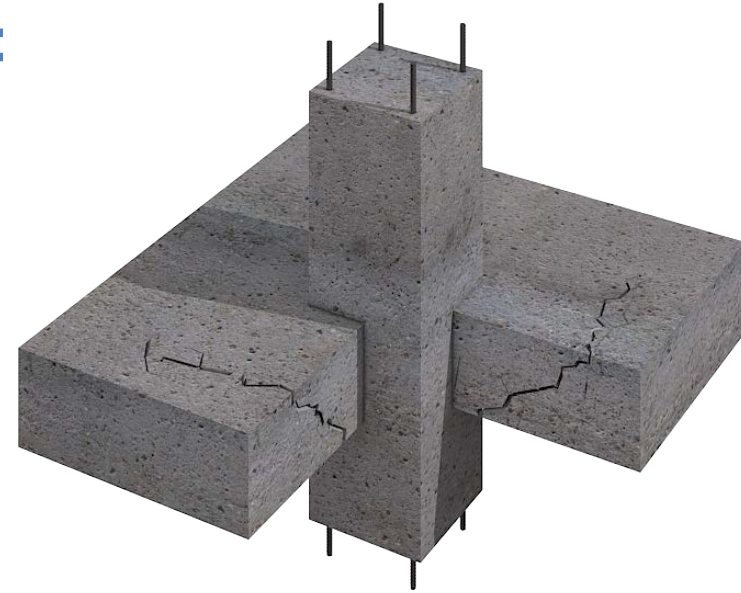


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# Reinforced Concrete

## Potential Reasons for Strengthening:

- Corrosion / Deterioration
- Change of Use / Loading
- Structural Modifications
- Seismic Retrofit
- Construction Errors / Omissions



# Traditional Strengthening Methods

## Bonded Steel Plate



## Section Enlargement



## Drawbacks

- × Accessibility
- × Labor intensive
- × Increase dead load supported by structure
- × Encroaches on useable space



# Strengthening using Composites

Composites are relatively new to the construction market

## FRP Laminate

(Pre-cured carbon laminate is adhered to building with epoxy paste)

## FRP Fabric

(Carbon / eGlass fabric is saturated in epoxy and then wrapped around column)



# Why use Composites?

- Lightweight
- High tensile strength
- Low impact
- Conform to existing shapes
- Resistance to corrosion
- Ease of installation
- Cost-effective alternative



# A New Externally Bonded Composite

FRP Fabric



FRP Laminate



FRCM





# Fabric-Reinforced Cementitious Matrix

(cement-like) (mortar)

FRCM is in the same family as FRP, but it differs in its installation and application benefits.



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# FRCM Components

Fabric-Reinforced  
Cementitious Matrix  
(FRCM) Systems

=

Carbon-Fiber Grid

+

Cementitious  
Matrix



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# FRCM Placement



# Benefits - FRCM v. FRP

- High tensile strength
- Low impact
- Conform to existing shapes
- Fast installation
- Cost-effective solution
- Matches substrate
- Elevated temperature
- Provides protective barrier
- Repairs as it adds strength  
(minimal surface prep needed)



*Note that these benefits are the same as FRP.*



*Note that these benefits are unique to FRCM.*



# FRCM Application Process & Considerations



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# FRCM Components

## Cementitious Matrix



## Carbon-Fiber Grid

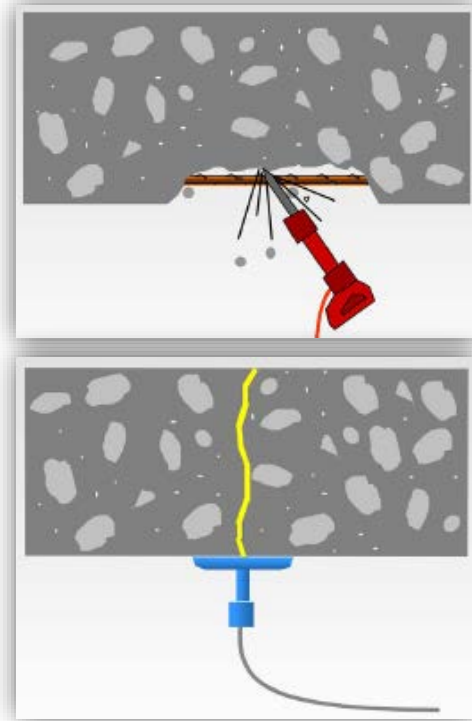


# Single-Layer Grid Installation

## *Prior to application:*

Repair deterioration per ICRI Guideline No. 310.1R

- Remove delaminated concrete
- Clean/coat exposed steel
- Inject/seal cracks



# Single-Layer Grid Installation

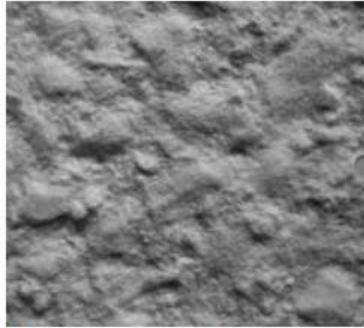
*Prior to application:*

Concrete surface profile should be between **CSP 6-9 (ICRI)**

*This means you can repair surface inconsistencies as you add strength.*



*Fig. 6.6: CSP 6  
(medium scarification)*



*Fig. 6.7: CSP 7  
(heavy abrasive blast)*



*Fig. 6.8: CSP 8  
(scabbled)*



*Fig. 6.9: CSP 9  
(heavy scarification—  
rotomilled)*





# Single-Layer Grid Installation

## *Prior to application:*

Be sure the surface has been wet to ensure a saturated surface-dry (SSD) condition per ICRI guidelines.



# Single-Layer Grid Installation

1. Apply first layer of cementitious matrix (CSS-CM), being sure to completely coat area at  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick



# Single-Layer Grid Installation

2.

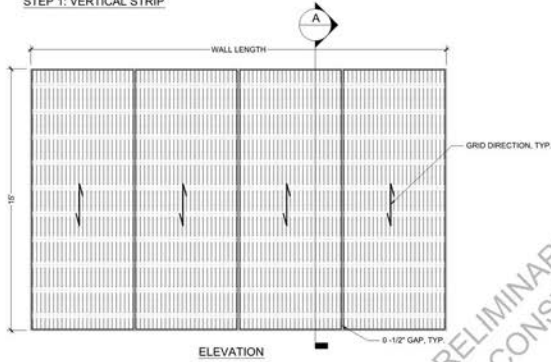
## Grid Alignment

### Why so important?

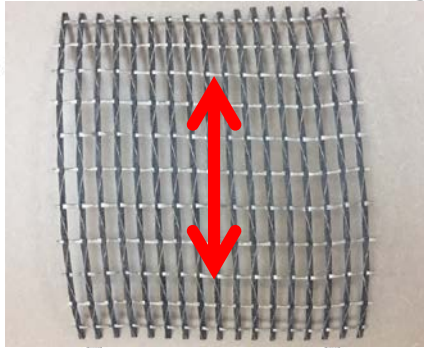
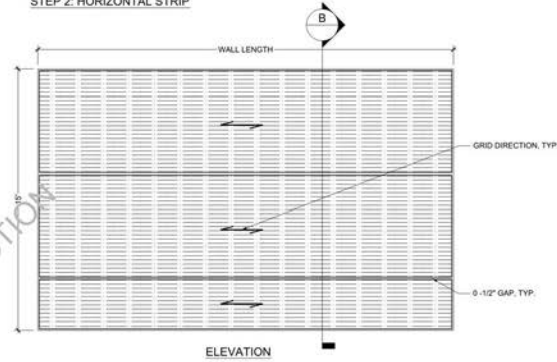
- Grid is designed to resist load in tension
- 5 degree tolerance (1 inch per foot slope max)
- Avoid kinks, folds, waves



FRCM WALL STRENGTHENING CSS-UGG  
STEP 1: VERTICAL STRIP



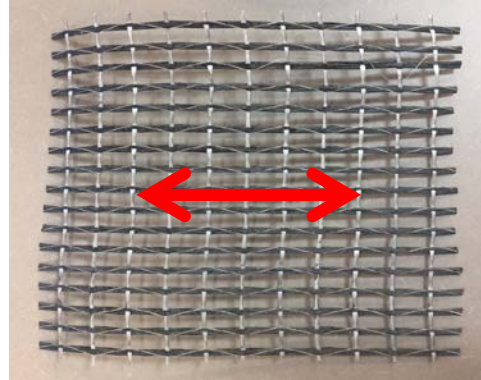
STEP 2: HORIZONTAL STRIP



SECTION A  
(BOTH SIDES)

SECTION A  
(ONE SIDE)

PRELIMINARY  
FOR CONSTRUCTION



SECTION B  
(BOTH SIDES)

SECTION B  
(ONE SIDE)

9-UGG, FULL  
SHEATHED VERTICALLY  
FR WALL, TYP.  
TABLE 1 FOR FRP

CG, FULL COVERAGE,  
INITIALLY ON THE  
TYP. SIDE FOR FRP

NO.	DATE	REVISION

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 WITH CARBON FIBER  
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 FIBER  
 (GFRP)  
**NAPA HISTORIC COURTHOUSE**  
 825 BROWN STREET  
 NAPA, CA 94950

NAME: G.S.  
 DATE: 10-23-2017  
 SCALE: N.T.S.  
 SHEET:  
**FRP**  
 14 OF 17 SHEETS  
 JOB NO: 15-17496D



# Single-Layer Grid Installation

3. Apply second layer of cementitious matrix at  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to  $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick



# Single-Layer Grid Installation

4. Screed and trowel to desired finish
5. Allow for full cure by keeping wet for 3-5 days after installation
6. Finish coat as desired



# Multiple-Layer Grid Installation

Repeat steps 2 and 3 as specified

2. Place grid into wet matrix and embed using a trowel or float

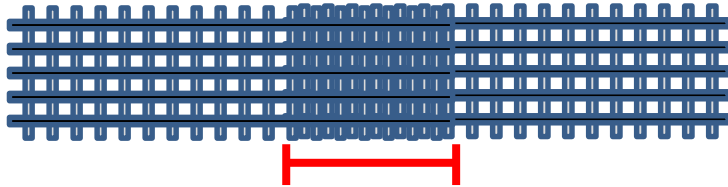


3. Apply additional layer(s) of cementitious matrix at 1/4" to 1/2" thick

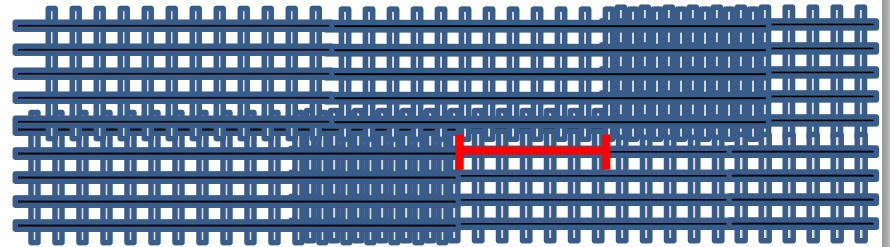


# Overlapping and Staggering

Overlapping is determined by drawings and specifications, minimum 12" overlap



Stagger Laps





# Traditional Shotcrete vs. FRCM

## Traditional Shotcrete Repair



## FRCM Repair



## Traditional Shotcrete Repair

- ❑ Specialty contractor to tie rebar cage
- ❑ Specialty contractor to spray shotcrete
- ❑ Rebar installation time-intensive
- ❑ Additional 1.5"–3" shotcrete cover over rebar
- ❑ Additional weight needs to be calculated into total building loads
- ❑ Shotcrete typical psi at 4,000

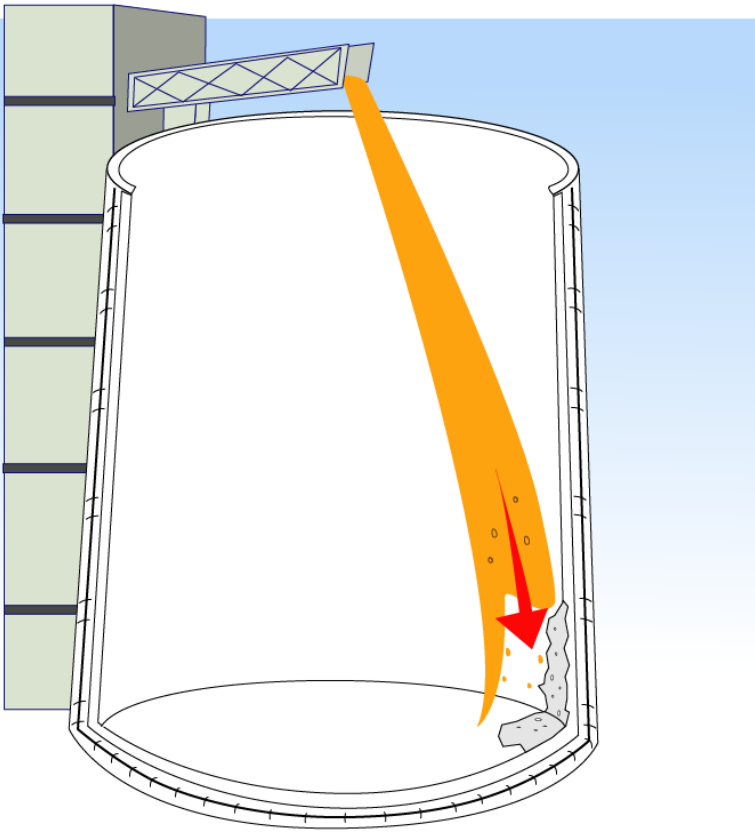
## FRCM Repair

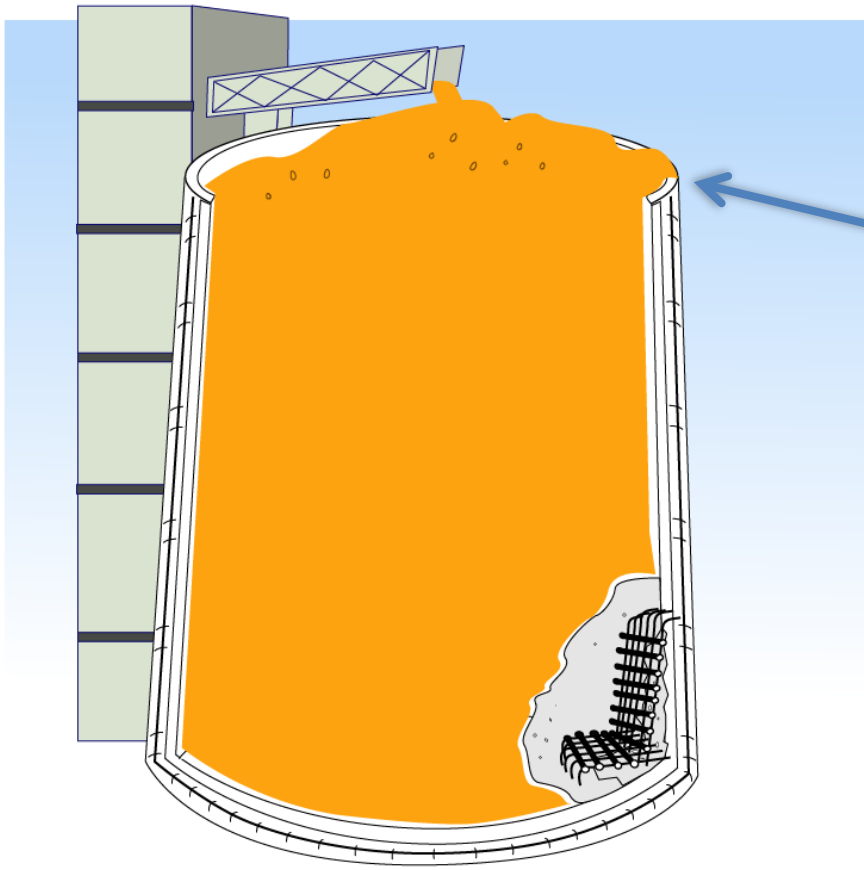
- ✓ Same contractor installs FRCM system
- ✓ Carbon-fiber grid installs in minutes, saving time and money
- ✓ No steel = no cover requirements. Only  $\approx 1$ " volume change in total repair.
- ✓ Adds negligible weight to structure
- ✓ Cementitious matrix is a high-performance mortar with psi at 7,500



## Grain Concrete Silo Needs Repair

- ✓ Concrete on the side of the grain silo has deteriorated
- ✓ Damage was caused by grain abrasion
- ✓ Repair and additional strengthening is needed

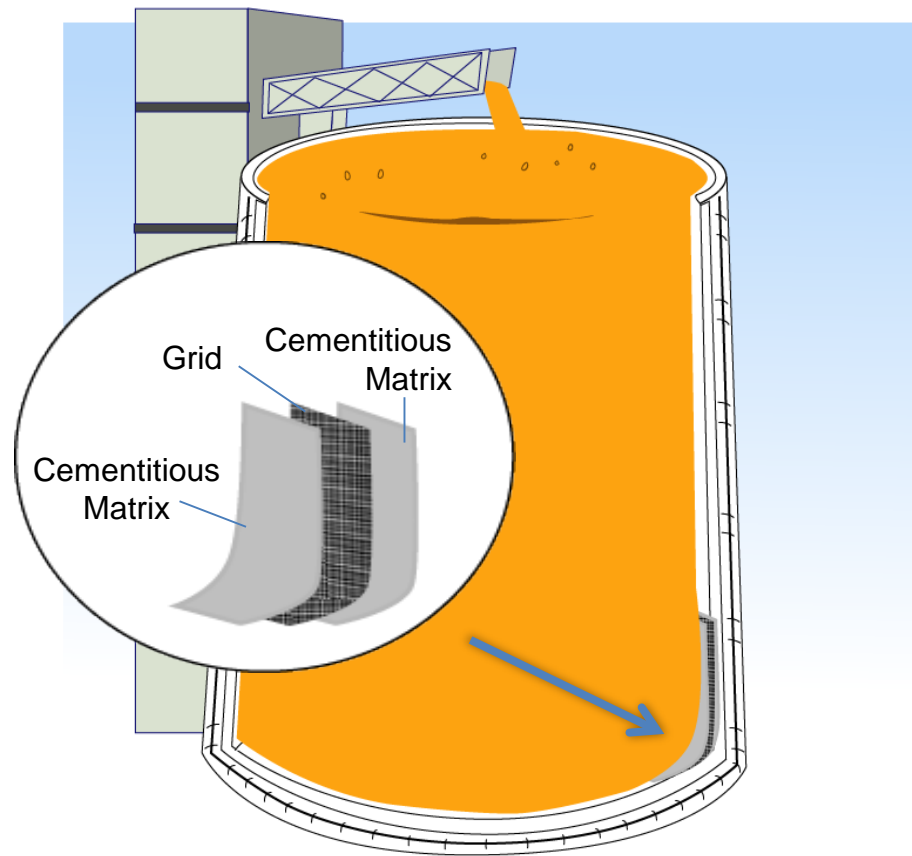




## Shotcrete Repair Method

- ✓ Considerable volume change results in grain displacement
- ✓ More subcontractors needed
- ✓ Repair takes longer to install (+28 days until fully cured)





## FRCM Repair Method

- ✓ Low impact = little to no grain displacement
- ✓ Cementitious matrix matches the base material (benefit when compared to FRP)
- ✓ Quick installation time.



# Where can I use FRCM?



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# Project Types

For projects with large, overhead and vertical surface areas



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# Project Types

For projects where traditional FRP is excessive



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# Potential Project Types

For projects that require surface repair in addition to strengthening



# Potential Project Types

For projects that require higher level of heat resistance



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# Potential Project Types

For projects that can't afford a significant reduction in useable space



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# Potential Project Types

For projects that requires water to be transmitted



# Ideal Application: Tunnels and Mines



Substrate damage needs repair

No room for significant enlargement

With FRCM, repair and strengthen at the same time



# FRCM Design & Testing



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# Design Standards

American  
Concrete  
Institute (ACI)

**549.4R-13:** Guide to Design and Construction of Externally Bonded Fabric-Reinforced Cementitious Matrix (FRCM) Systems for Strengthening Concrete and Masonry Structures

**562-16:** Code Requirements for Evaluation, Repair, and Rehabilitation of Concrete Buildings

International  
Code Council  
Evaluation  
Service (ICC-ES)

**AC434:** Acceptance Criteria for Masonry and Concrete Strengthening Using Fabric-Reinforced Cementitious Matrix (FRCM) Composite Systems



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# Design Considerations

Existing Capacity  
Demands

Exposure  
Coefficients

Serviceability

ACI 562-13 Equation 5.51:

$$(\phi R_n)_{\text{existing}} \geq (1.2S_{DL} + 0.5S_{LL})_{\text{new}}$$

*meaning...*

ACI 562-13 Equation 5.51:

Unstrengthened member should be  $\geq 120\%$  of service dead load and 50% of service live load





# Design Considerations

## APPENDIX B—DESIGN LIMITATIONS

Parameter	Concrete			Masonry	
	Flexure	Shear	Axial	Out-of-plane	In-plane
$\epsilon_{fe}$ or $\epsilon_{fd}$	Less than 0.012	Less than 0.004	Less than 0.012 and $\epsilon_{ccu}$ less than 0.01	Less than 0.012	Less than 0.004
$\phi$	0.9 to 0.65 based on $\epsilon_t$	0.75	0.9 to 0.65 based on $\epsilon_t$	0.6 for flexure 0.8 for shear	0.75
$f_f/f_{fd}$	0.2 to 0.55 based on fiber	NA	NA	NA	NA
Allowable maximum enhancement*	50 percent	50 percent	20 percent	URM: 6000 lbf./ft (87.6 kN/m); Reinforced masonry: 50 percent	50 percent

\*Allowable maximum enhancement is above existing capacity. ACI 562-13 supersedes when limits are lower than as listed in this table.



# Design Considerations

Existing Capacity  
Demands

Exposure  
Coefficients

Serviceability

- ✓ Ambient and surface temperatures between 41°F and 86°F
- ✓ Wet-cure completed FRCM application



# Design Considerations

Existing Capacity  
Demands

Exposure  
Coefficients

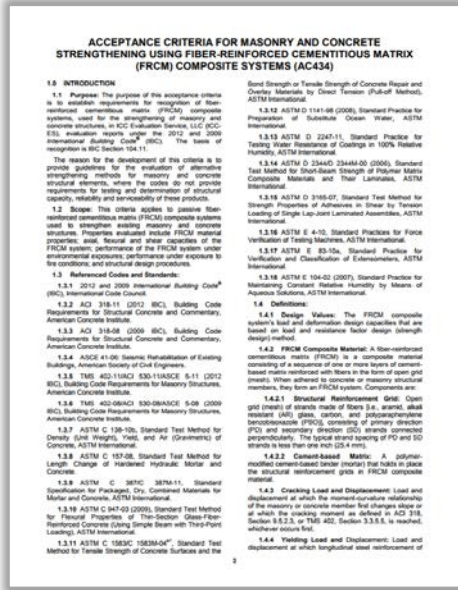
Serviceability



The service stresses in the steel must be checked for the desired performance.



# ICC-ES A C434 Testing for Code Report



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# Structural Testing: Beams



# Structural Testing: Column Testing Results



**Control**  
**285,000 lb.**



**1 Layer**  
**485,000 lb.**



**2 Layers**  
**650,000 lb.**



# Quality Control and Assurance

## Daily Inspection

- Date and time of installation
- Ambient temperature, relative humidity, and weather conditions
- Substrate surface temperature
- Surface preparation method and ICRI concrete surface profile
- Surface cleanliness description
- Grid batch numbers
- Matrix batch numbers, mix ratios, and mixing times



# Field Testing

## Pull-Off Test

(ASTM C1583)

- Adhesion test should exceed 200 psi
- When failure at grid-matrix interface, strength computed on net matrix area should be at least 400 psi



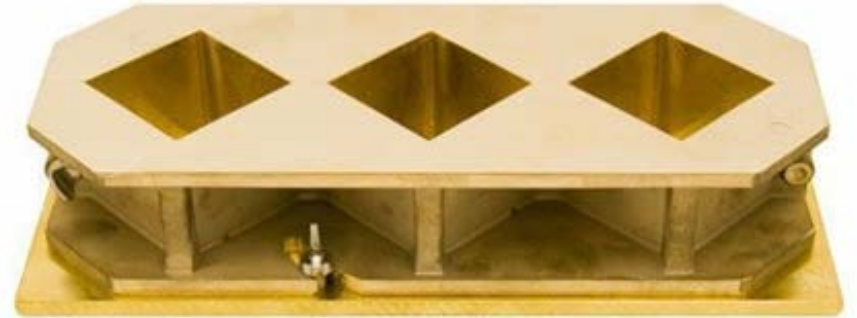


# Lab Testing

## Mortar Cubes Test

(ASTM C109)

- Brass cubes filled with CM
  - Test at 7 and 28 days
- Compressive strength of 9,000 psi at 28 days



# Lab Testing

## Tension Test with Witness Panels

(AC434 Annex A)

- *Only required in strengthening applications*
  - 2 per day, twice daily
- Panels sent to third-party lab for testing



# Specification

## Specifying FRCM is very similar to specifying FRP

FRCM becomes another option to specify when:

- Lower levels of strengthening required
- Elevated temperatures preclude use of FRP
- Excessive moisture precludes use of FRP
- Concrete repair is also required in addition to adding strength



# Project Profile

## Freeborn County Grandstand



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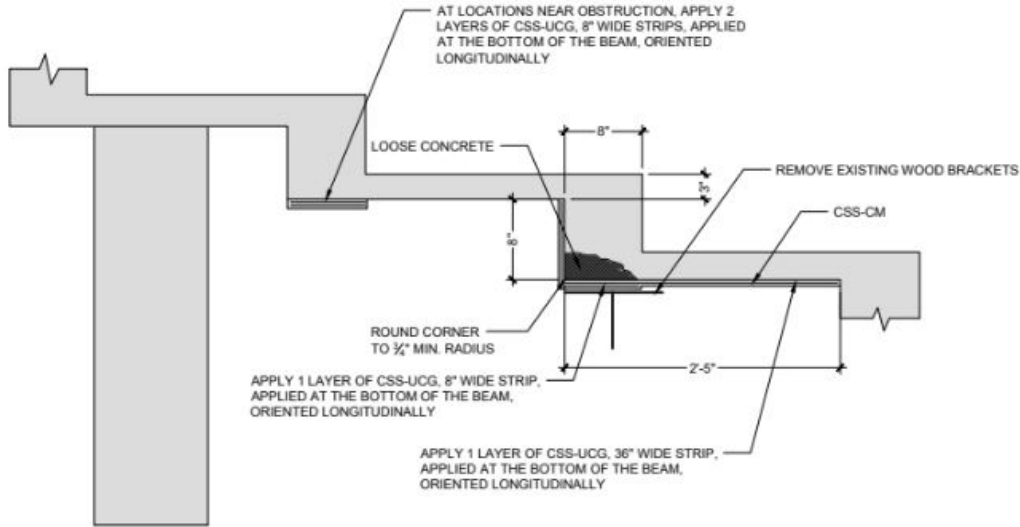


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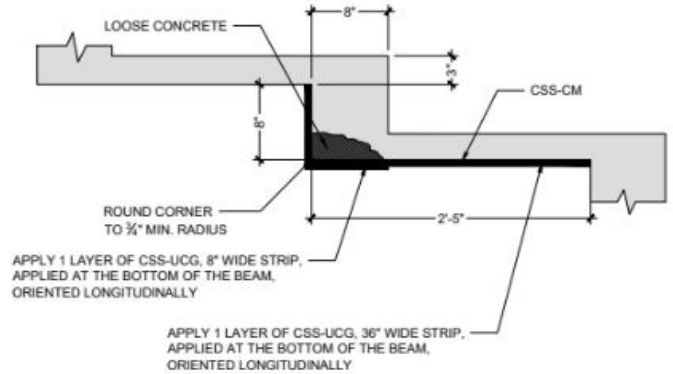
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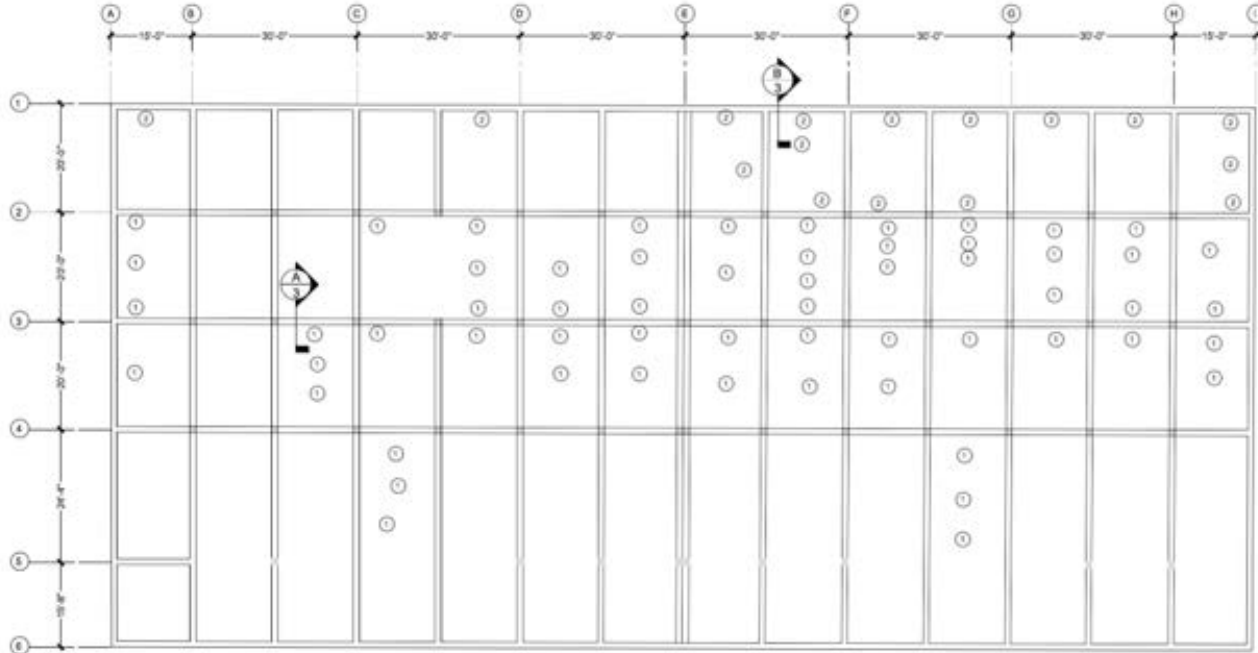
**SECTION A**  
**(TYPE 1)**



**SECTION B**  
**(TYPE 2)**







① RISER JOIST WITH WOOD BRACKET (58 LOCATIONS); SEE PAGE 3 FOR FROM DETAIL

② EXPOSED LONGITUDINAL BARS (16 LOCATIONS); SEE PAGE 3 FOR FROM DETAIL

**NOTE:**

AT REPAIR LOCATIONS ADJACENT TO WALL OR OTHER OBSTRUCTION,  
SEE SECTION A TYPE 1 BEAM AT LEFT FOR FROM STRENGTHENING

**PLAN VIEW**





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# How Can Manufacturers Help?

## Feasibility Studies

Work with EOR to determine if Composites are an option

## Budget Estimates

Engage local trained contractors to provide ROM pricing

## Specifications

Fine-tune to meet project-specific requirements

## Drawing Details

Develop preliminary sketches & shop drawings

## Calculations

Provide for EOR's reference during submittal review



# Thank You



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