

ASCE STANDARD

ASCE/SEI

59-22

Blast Protection of Buildings

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PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: American Society of Civil Engineers, author.

Title: Blast protection of buildings / American Society of Civil Engineers.

Description: Reston, Virginia : American Society of Civil Engineers, [2022] | "ASCE STANDARD" – t.p. | Includes bibliographical references and index. | Summary: "Standard ASCE/SEI 59-22 provides minimum requirements for planning, design, construction, and assessment of new and existing buildings subject to the effects of accidental or malicious explosions"– Provided by publisher.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022059934 | ISBN 9780784415719 (soft cover) |

ISBN 9780784483336 (PDF)

Subjects: LCSH: Building, Bombproof–Standards–United States. | Buildings–Blast effects.

Classification: LCC TH1097 .A6 2022 | DDC 693.8/540973–dc23/eng/20230112

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2022059934>

Published by American Society of Civil Engineers

1801 Alexander Bell Drive

Reston, Virginia, 20191-4382

www.asce.org/bookstore | ascelibrary.org

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Errata: Errata, if any, can be found at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1061/9780784415719>.

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ISBN 978-0-7844-1571-9 (soft cover)

ISBN 978-0-7844-8333-6 (PDF)

Manufactured in the United States of America.

27 26 25 24 23 1 2 3 4 5

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CONTENTS

PREFACE	xiii
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xv
1 GENERAL	1
1.1 Scope	1
1.2 Definitions	1
1.3 Symbols and Notation	3
1.4 Qualifications	4
1.5 Information Sensitivity	4
1.6 Consensus Standards and Other Referenced Documents	4
2 DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS	7
2.1 Scope	7
2.2 Risk Assessment	7
2.2.1 Consequence Analysis	7
2.2.2 Threat Analysis	7
2.2.3 Vulnerability Analysis	7
2.2.4 Risk Analysis	7
2.3 Risk Reduction	7
2.3.1 Consequence Reduction	7
2.3.2 Threat Reduction	7
2.4 Risk Acceptance	8
3 PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	9
3.1 Scope	9
3.2 Design Objectives	9
3.2.1 Limit Structural Collapse	9
3.2.2 Maintain Building Envelope	9
3.2.3 Minimize Flying Debris	9
3.3 Levels of Protection	9
3.3.1 Structural Damage	9
3.3.2 Component Damage	9
3.3.3 Glazing Behavior	9
3.3.4 Door Behavior	10
3.4 Response Limits	10
3.4.1 Flexural Members	10
3.4.2 Compression Members	11
3.5 Member or Element Strength	12
3.5.1 Strength Increase Factors	12
3.5.2 Strength Reduction Factors	12
3.5.3 Remaining Strength	12
4 BLAST LOADS	15
4.1 General	15
4.1.1 Scope	15
4.1.2 Permitted Procedures	15
4.2 Basic Procedure for External Blast	15
4.2.1 Scope	15
4.2.2 Directly Loaded Surfaces	15
4.2.3 Indirectly Loaded Surfaces	17

4.3	Basic Procedure for Internal Blast	17
4.3.1	Scope	17
4.3.2	Procedure	20
4.4	Other Procedures	20
5	FRAGMENTATION	21
5.1	General	21
5.1.1	Scope	21
5.2	Design Requirements	21
5.2.1	Fragmentation Impact Effects	21
5.2.2	Secondary Fragment Sources	21
5.3	Analytical Procedures	21
5.3.1	Acceptable Analytical Methods	21
5.3.2	Limits on Analytical Procedures	22
5.3.3	Complex Modeling Methods	22
6	STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS	23
6.1	General Provisions	23
6.1.1	Purpose	23
6.1.2	Scope and Application	23
6.2	Structural Modeling and Analysis	23
6.2.1	Analytical Methods	23
6.2.2	Materials	23
6.2.3	Modeling of Members	24
6.2.4	Connections and Joints	25
6.2.5	Application of Loads	25
6.2.6	Mass	26
6.3	Structural Design	26
6.3.1	Structural Systems	26
6.4	Response Characteristics	27
6.4.1	Close-In Effects	27
6.4.2	Far-Range Effects	27
7	PROTECTION OF SPACES	29
7.1	General Provisions	29
7.2	Walls and Slabs Isolating Internal Threats	29
7.2.1	Scope	29
7.2.2	Threat Locations for Buildings with Controlled Access	29
7.2.3	Design Provisions for Walls and Slabs Isolating Internal Threats	29
7.2.4	Stairwell Enclosures	29
7.2.5	Hardened Plenums	29
7.3	Safe Havens	29
7.3.1	Design Considerations	29
7.3.2	Applicable Loads and Performance	29
7.3.3	Resistance to Progressive Collapse	30
7.3.4	Location within Building	30
7.3.5	Accessibility to Egress	30
7.3.6	Fire Rating	30
8	EXTERIOR ENVELOPE	31
8.1	Design Intent	31
8.1.1	General	31
8.1.2	Exterior Structural Components	31
8.2	Design Procedures	31
8.2.1	General	31
8.2.2	Response Criteria	31
8.2.3	Analytical Methods	31
8.2.4	Balanced Design	31
8.2.5	Flying Fragments	31

8.3	Fenestration	31
8.3.1	General	31
8.3.2	Blast-Mitigating Window Systems	31
8.3.3	Curtain Wall Systems	32
8.3.4	Skylights	32
8.3.5	Operable Windows	32
8.3.6	Doors	32
8.4	Non-Load-Bearing Exterior Walls	33
8.4.1	General	33
8.4.2	Cast-in-Place, Precast, and Tilt-Up Concrete Walls	33
8.4.3	Pretensioned and Posttensioned Concrete Wall Panels	33
8.4.4	Masonry Walls	33
8.4.5	Steel Wall Systems	33
8.4.6	Other Wall Systems	33
8.5	Roof Systems	33
8.5.1	General	33
8.5.2	Flat Slabs	34
8.5.3	Metal Deck	34
8.5.4	Composite Construction	34
8.5.5	Steel Joists and Joist Girders	34
8.5.6	Other Roof Systems	34
8.6	Other Exterior Envelope Elements	34
8.7	Hazard-Mitigating Retrofits	34
8.7.1	General	34
8.7.2	Security Window Films	34
8.7.3	Blast Curtains	34
8.7.4	Catch Bar Systems	34
8.7.5	Secondary Window System	34
8.7.6	Window Replacement	34
8.7.7	Geotextile Fabrics	34
8.7.8	Fiber-Reinforced Polymers	34
8.7.9	Secondary Wall System	34
8.7.10	Other Retrofits	35
8.8	Amplification and Reduction of Blast Loads	35
8.8.1	Building Shape and Site	35
8.8.2	Venting	35
9	MATERIALS DETAILING	37
9.1	General	37
9.1.1	Scope	37
9.1.2	Structural Interaction	37
9.1.3	Materials	37
9.1.4	Detailing	37
9.1.5	Controlling Loads	37
9.1.6	Achieving Design Intent	37
9.1.7	Use of Reference Documents	37
9.1.8	Special Inspection	37
9.2	Concrete	37
9.2.1	Scope	37
9.2.2	General Reinforced Concrete Detailing Requirements	37
9.2.3	Columns	38
9.2.4	Beams	38
9.2.5	Beam-Column Joints	38
9.2.6	Slabs	38
9.2.7	Walls	39
9.3	Structural Steel	39
9.3.1	Scope	39
9.3.2	General Structural Steel Requirements	39
9.3.3	Connections	39
9.3.4	Open Web Steel Joists	40
9.4	Steel/Concrete Composite	40
9.4.1	Scope	40
9.4.2	Concrete Slab on Metal Deck	40

	9.4.3	Composite Columns	40
	9.4.4	Steel-plate Composite Walls	41
9.5		Masonry	41
	9.5.1	Scope	41
	9.5.2	General Design Requirements	41
	9.5.3	General Material Requirements	41
	9.5.4	General Detailing Requirements	41
	9.5.5	Walls	41
9.6		Fiber Reinforced Polymer Composite	42
	9.6.1	Scope	42
	9.6.2	General	42
	9.6.3	Material Properties	42
	9.6.4	Strengthening of Structural Members	42
	9.6.5	Confinement of Structural Members	42
9.7		Other Materials	42
	9.7.1	Aluminum	43
	9.7.2	Wood	43
	9.7.3	Cold-Formed Steel	43
10		PERFORMANCE QUALIFICATION	45
	10.1	Scope	45
	10.2	Peer Review	45
	10.3	Site Perimeter Components	45
	10.3.1	Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	45
	10.3.2	Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design	45
	10.4	Building Structural Components	45
	10.4.1	Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	45
	10.4.2	Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design	46
	10.5	Shielding Structures	46
	10.5.1	Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	46
	10.5.2	Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design	46
	10.6	Building Façade Components	46
	10.6.1	Glazing and Glazing Systems	46
	10.6.2	Doors	47
	10.7	Building Nonstructural Components	48
	10.7.1	Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	48
	10.7.2	Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design	48

COMMENTARY FOR BLAST PROTECTION OF BUILDINGS

C1		GENERAL	49
	C1.1	Scope	49
	C1.4	Qualifications	49
C2		DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS	51
	C2.1	Scope	51
	C2.2	Risk Assessment	51
	C2.2.1	Consequence Analysis	51
	C2.2.2	Threat Analysis	51
	C2.2.3	Vulnerability Analysis	52
	C2.2.4	Risk Analysis	52
	C2.3	Risk Reduction	52
	C2.3.1	Consequence Reduction	52
	C2.3.2	Threat Reduction	53
	C2.4	Risk Acceptance	55
C3		PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	57
	C3.2	Design Objectives	57
	C3.2.1	Limit Structural Collapse	57
	C3.2.2	Maintain Building Envelope	57

	C3.2.3	Minimize Flying Debris	57
C3.3		Levels of Protection	58
	C3.3.1	Structural Damage	58
	C3.3.2	Component Damage	58
C3.4		Response Limits	58
	C3.4.1	Flexural Members	58
	C3.4.2	Compression Members.	62
C3.5		Member or Element Strength	63
	C3.5.1	Strength Increase Factors	63
	C3.5.2	Strength Reduction Factors	63
	C3.5.3	Remaining Strength	64
C4		BLAST LOADS	67
	C4.1	General	67
	C4.2	Basic Procedure for External Blast	67
		C4.2.1 Scope	67
		C4.2.2 Directly Loaded Surfaces	67
		C4.2.3 Indirectly Loaded Surfaces.	67
	C4.3	Basic Procedure for Internal Blast.	67
	C4.4	Other Procedures	68
C5		FRAGMENTATION	69
	C5.1	General	69
		C5.1.1 Scope	69
	C5.2	Design Requirements.	69
		C5.2.1 Fragment Impact Effects.	69
		C5.2.2 Secondary Fragment Sources	71
	C5.3	Analytical Procedures	71
		C5.3.1 Acceptable Analytical Methods	71
		C5.3.2 Limits on Analytical Procedures.	75
		C5.3.3 Complex Modeling Methods	75
C6		STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS	77
	C6.1	General Provisions	77
		C6.1.1 Purpose	77
		C6.1.2 Scope and Application.	77
	C6.2	Structural Modeling and Analysis	78
		C6.2.1 Analytical Methods	78
		C6.2.2 Materials	80
		C6.2.3 Modeling of Members	80
		C6.2.4 Connections and Joints	83
		C6.2.6 Mass	84
	C6.3	Structural Design.	84
		C6.3.1 Structural Systems	84
	C6.4	Response Characteristics.	85
		C6.4.1 Close-In Effects	85
		C6.4.2 Far-Range Effects	86
C7		PROTECTION OF SPACES.	87
	C7.2	Walls and Slabs Isolating Internal Threats	87
		C7.2.3 Design Provisions for Walls and Slabs Isolating Internal Threats	87
		C7.2.4 Stairwell Enclosures	87
	C7.3	Safe Havens	87
		C7.3.1 Design Considerations	87
		C7.3.2 Applicable Loads and Performance	87
		C7.3.4 Location within Building	88
C8		EXTERIOR ENVELOPE	89
	C8.1	Design Intent	89
	C8.2	Design Procedures	89

	C8.2.1	General	89
	C8.2.2	Response Criteria	90
	C8.2.3	Analytical Methods	90
	C8.2.4	Balanced Design	90
	C8.2.5	Flying Fragments.	90
C8.3		Fenestration.	90
	C8.3.1	General	90
	C8.3.2	Blast-Mitigating Window Systems	91
	C8.3.3	Curtain Wall Systems	96
	C8.3.4	Skylights	96
	C8.3.5	Operable Windows.	96
	C8.3.6	Doors	97
C8.4		Non-Load-Bearing Exterior Walls	97
	C8.4.1	General	97
	C8.4.2	Cast-in Place, Precast, and Tilt-Up Concrete Walls.	98
	C8.4.3	Pretensioned and Posttensioned Concrete Wall Panels	98
	C8.4.4	Masonry Walls	98
	C8.4.5	Steel Wall Systems.	98
C8.5		Roof Systems.	99
	C8.5.2	Concrete Slab Roofs	99
	C8.5.3	Metal Deck.	99
	C8.5.4	Composite Slab Construction	99
	C8.5.5	Steel Joists and Joist Girders	99
	C8.5.6	Other Roof Systems	99
C8.7		Hazard-Mitigating Retrofits	99
	C8.7.2	Security Window Films	99
	C8.7.5	Secondary Window Systems.	100
	C8.7.8	Fiber-Reinforced Polymers.	100
C8.8		Amplification and Reduction of Blast Loads	100
	C8.8.1	Building Shape and Site	100
	C8.8.2	Venting.	100
C9		MATERIALS DETAILING	101
	C9.1.1	Scope	101
	C9.1.2	Structural Interaction.	101
	C9.1.3	Materials	101
	C9.1.7	Use of Reference Documents	101
	C9.1.8	Special Inspection	101
C9.2		Concrete	101
	C9.2.1	Scope	101
	C9.2.2	General Reinforced Concrete Detailing Requirements	101
	C9.2.3	Columns	103
	C9.2.4	Beams	103
	C9.2.5	Beam-Column Joints.	103
	C9.2.6	Slabs	103
	C9.2.7	Walls	103
C9.3		Structural Steel	103
	C9.3.1	Scope	103
	C9.3.2	Structural Steel Materials	103
	C9.3.3	Connections	104
	C9.3.4	Open Web Steel Joists.	105
C9.4		Steel/Concrete Composite	105
	C9.4.1	Scope	105
	C9.4.2	Concrete Slab on Metal Deck	105
	C9.4.3	Composite Columns	105
	C9.4.4	Steel-plate Composite Walls.	106
C9.5		Masonry	107
	C9.5.1	Scope	107
	C9.5.2	General Design Requirements	107
	C9.5.5	Walls	107
C9.6		Fiber Reinforced Polymer	107
	C9.6.1	Scope	107
	C9.6.2	General	108
	C9.6.3	Material Properties	109

	C9.6.4	Strengthening of Structural Members	109
	C9.6.5	Confinement of Structural Members.	109
C9.7		Other Materials.	109
	C9.7.1	Aluminum	109
	C9.7.3	Cold-Formed Steel Framing	109
C10		PERFORMANCE QUALIFICATION	111
	C10.1	Scope.	111
	C10.2	Peer Review	111
	C10.3	Site Perimeter Components	111
		C10.3.1 Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	111
		C10.3.2 Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design.	111
	C10.4	Building Structural Components.	111
		C10.4.1 Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	111
		C10.4.2 Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design.	112
	C10.5	Shielding Structures	112
		C10.5.1 Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	112
		C10.5.2 Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design.	112
	C10.6	Building Façade Components	112
		C10.6.1 Glazing and Glazing Systems	112
		C10.6.2 Doors	112
	C10.7	Building Nonstructural Components.	112
		C10.7.1 Performance Qualification by Full-Scale Testing	112
		C10.7.2 Performance Qualification by Analysis and Design.	112
		REFERENCES	115
		INDEX.	119

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PREFACE

The material presented in this publication has been prepared in accordance with recognized engineering principles. This standard and commentary should not be used without first securing competent advice with respect to their suitability for any given application. The publication of the material contained herein is not intended as a representation of warranty on the part of ASCE or of any person named herein, or that this information is suitable for any general or particular use or promises freedom from infringement of any patent or patents. Anyone making use of this information assumes all liability for such use.

The intent of the committee that prepared this standard was to present current practice in the analysis and design of structures for blast resistance. To accomplish that goal, the committee called on its collective experience in the practice of blast resistant design and also consulted persons not on the committee. As such, this is a consensus document and does not reflect the specific practice of any individual.

This is the second edition of this standard. Its need had been identified in advance of the events of September 11, 2001. In

fact, key individuals of the original nucleus of the committee and the Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) were on a conference call to discuss development of this standard as the events of that day began to unfold. In the months following SEI's announcement that a committee would be formed to prepare this standard, numerous experts stepped forward to volunteer for the effort. Hence, this standard represents approximately 20 years of dedicated work by a knowledgeable committee.

The process started with subcommittees preparing "white papers" covering the information to be included in the standard. Once circulated for comment, those documents were reformatted into the first drafts of chapters of the mandatory and commentary sections of the standard. Then, throughout the development process the full committee reviewed and balloted numerous drafts of the standard. At each ballot cycle, subcommittees proposed resolutions for members' comments, ultimately leading to the full committee's approval of the text in ASCE/SEI 59-11. The same basic process has been followed to prepare and incorporate the revisions that resulted in this volume.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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CHAPTER 1

GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This voluntary standard provides minimum planning, design, construction, and assessment requirements for new and existing buildings subject to the effects of individual accidental or malicious explosions, including principles for establishing appropriate threat parameters, levels of protection, loadings, analysis methodologies, materials, detailing, and test procedures. However, this standard is not applicable for the mitigation of multiple explosions, intentional explosions such as weapons testing, or potential accidents involving ammunition or explosives during their development, manufacturing, testing, production, transportation, handling, storage, maintenance, modification, inspection, demilitarization, or disposal.

This standard is intended to supplement and not supersede the requirements of the governing building code and other applicable standards and laws. The omission of any specific material or system does not necessarily preclude its use in accordance with this standard, as long as all applicable provisions are satisfied. This standard does not prescribe requirements or guidelines for the mitigation of progressive collapse or other potential postblast behavior.

1.2 DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to the provisions of the entire standard.

Aggressor: Person or organization that may initiate an attack against an asset.

Approved: Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

Asset: Unit or collection of people or property that requires protection.

Attack: Attempt by an aggressor to cause the loss or compromise of an asset or group of assets.

Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ): Organization, political subdivision, office, or individual charged with the responsibility of administering and enforcing the provisions of this standard. It shall be permissible for the AHJ to be established by contractual agreement, when appropriate.

Average Strength Factor (ASF): Factor applied to nominal material strengths to account for the difference between the specified minimum and expected actual values. Also known as a **Static Increase Factor (SIF)**.

Balanced Design: Controlled failure of a system with an established hierarchy of component failures, where connections are designed for the maximum strength of the connecting components and members supporting other members are designed for the maximum strength of the supported members. For window systems, the glazing shall fail before all other components.

Blast: Synonym for **Explosion**.

Building Envelope: Exposed elements on the exterior of the building, including (but not limited to) exterior walls, roofs, fenestration, exterior columns, spandrel and cantilever beams, and the exposed underside of occupied floors.

Buildings: Structures, usually enclosed by walls and a roof, constructed to provide support or shelter for an intended occupancy.

Component: Part of an architectural, mechanical, electrical, or structural system of a building.

Compression Member: Member that carries an axial compression load greater than 10% of its axial compression strength. The factored load resulting from effects other than blast shall be determined in accordance with Section 3.5.3, and the effective strength shall be determined in accordance with Sections 3.5.1 and 3.5.2.

Connection: Link that transmits actions from one component or element to another component or element, categorized by type of action (moment, shear, or axial). Steel connections are assemblies that include, but are not limited to, welds, bolts, rivets, angles, and plates. Reinforced concrete connections are often integral, consisting of the concrete and the reinforcement at the end of one component or element and extending into the other.

Consequence Factor: Numerical measure of the relative impact of the loss or compromise of a specific asset within a building, including its occupants, often expressed in terms of quantity or cost.

Constrained Fragment: Secondary fragment whose velocity in an airblast is reduced by the amount of energy required to tear it from its connected component or element.

Daylight Installation: Retrofit method for existing windows where security window film is applied to the interior vision surface of the glass without any additional attachment at the edges.

Dead Load (D): Weight of materials of construction incorporated into the building including, but not limited to, walls, floors, roofs, ceilings, stairways, built-in partitions, finishes, cladding, and other similarly incorporated architectural and structural items, and fixed service equipment including the weight of cranes.

Design Basis Threat: Explosive type and charge size for which the building is intended to provide a specified level of protection.

Diagonal Tension Shear: Shear associated with the flexural response of a member and the formation of diagonal cracks in reinforced concrete or masonry sections.

Direct Shear: Shear associated with the nearly instantaneous reaction force at the interface between connected members in response to blast loading.

Ductile Flexural Member: Member that develops its plastic moment capacity and is capable of reliably sustaining deformation at or above this load level.