Design of Steel Concrete Structures

Technical Direction of EDF, Civil Engineering section.

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The Nuclear Power Plant codification at AFCEN?
Introduction: Why Steel Concrete Structures could be a solution?
Progress of Steel-Concrete Structures knowledge at EDF.
Iterations in the design process
Example of the iteration design process with the fire loading.
WHAT IS AFCEN?

AFCEN* is an association founded by EDF and FRAMATOME
Main objectives were initially to:
- develop, update and publish design, construction and operation-maintenance rules for structures and components of nuclear facilities;
- ensure that certified trainings are provided to the users of the AFCEN codes.

The sub committee of RCC-CW consists of a steering committee led by a chairman (Guillaume ZAMMOUT) and 8 working groups steered by WOG Leaders.

- WOG 1: Safety, design and structure of code;
- WOG 2: Geotechnics, soils and buried structures;
- WOG 3A: Reinforced and pre-stressed concrete structures (Design);
- WOG 3B: Reinforced and pre-stressed concrete structures (Construction);
- WOG 4: Containment and pool liners, storage tanks;
- WOG 5: Metal frame structures;
- WOG 6: Anchorages;
- WOG 7: Tests and monitoring
- WOG 8: Steel concrete structures

*Association française pour les règles de conception, de construction et de surveillance en exploitation des matériels des chaudières électro-nucléaires*
Introduction: Why Steel-Concrete Structure could help?

- Improving safety in the design of nuclear power plants requires taking into account increasingly extreme internal or external hazard scenarios, which, coupled with increasingly severe dimensioning criteria, result in a dimensioning of more and more imposing ... The result is an increasingly long construction time. (Average reinforcement on the EPR is about 250 kg/m³ and locally 500 kg/m³).

- In this context the use of Steel Concrete Structures could be one of the answer to improve the construction planning schedule.
ITERATION DESIGN PROCESS

Is the experimental test conclusive? Is it replicable by numerical analysis?

Analysis of physical experiments against numerical tests

Proposition of design equations and construction requirements accordingly

How should it be built?

Proposition of a new design, requirements, construction process?

Keep the construction safety high, with significant economical (cost or planning) improvements.

Does it work as planned?

Analysis of the improvement possibilities: From the design equation? From the construction requirements? From the building construction solutions?

How can it be better?

Design the experiment of the new design or requirements.

Assessment of the design equation and construction requirements against the construction feedback.
DEVELOPMENT OF CONCRETE STEEL STRUCTURES AT EDF


SCIENCE

SAM

SCHEDULE

RCC-CW Design

CODE ASTER

RCC-CW Construction

SAM: 5 x 5 x 5 m / 100 T

SCHEDULE: 23 m x 20 m x 13 m / 2500 T
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR

The thermal action has been applied according to the standard ISO-834 fire curve.

How do we design such floor in Steel Concrete?
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR

Let’s imagine what sort of design could work ... with the objective to not use any fire protection.
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR

Thermal profile in the cross section after 2h of fire ISO 834.
Temperature along the T stiffener up to 4h of fire ISO 834.
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR

The simplest design could be enough for our mechanical requirements! Let’s keep this one!
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR

- Upper reinforcing bars
- stirrups
- T-profiles ribs
- Welded shear stud
- Bottom steel plate
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR

Arrangement mounted between the jack and the floor to distribute the load

Bearing
(Simple support condition)
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR
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Strength reduction of steel

\[ h_{w,fi} = h_w - h_{0,fi} \]

The strength of bottom plate is neglected due to its very high heating level.

The strength of steel web can be interpolated linearly from 0 to \( f_{yk} \) over the height \( h_{0,fi} \) from bottom plate. Above this height, steel strength can be taken.
EXAMPLE OF THE ITERATION PROCESS OF THE FIRE DESIGN OF SCS FLOOR

Case where P.N.A is located above T-profile (common case):

\[
z_p = \frac{f_{y_k}(t_f b_f) + f_{y_k} t_w (h_w - t_f - h_{0,fi}) + 0.5 f_{y_k} t_w h_{0,fi}}{f_{cd,fi} b}
\]

\[
M_{Rd,fi}^+ = 0.5 f_{y_k} t_w h_{0,fi} (h_c - 0.5 z_p - \frac{2}{3} h_{0,fi}) + f_{y_k} t_w h_{0,fi} \left( h_c - 0.5 z_p - 0.5 (h_w - t_f - h_{0,fi}) \right) \\
+ f_{y_k} (t_f b_f) (h_c - 0.5 z_p - h_w + 0.5 t_f)
\]
The tests carried out are conclusive on the fire resistance performance of the SC elements designed upstream.

The numerical models are based on the proposals of the Eurocodes and are improved in the calibration studies with the results of the tests in a fire situation within the framework of this SCIENCE project.

Parametric studies are carried out around the maximum loads and spans of EDF's target building elements. Thus, simplified methods are proposed to check SC floor and wall elements in a fire situation (more particularly at 120 minutes of ISO fire).

The proposed simplified calculation methods are safe and fast method to assess the fire design.
Stephanie Smith,
President & CEO, CANDU Owners Group
March 17, 2022
COG’s Role – Excellence & Innovation through Collaboration

Members

- Bruce Power, Canada
- CNL, Canada
- NB Power, Canada
- OPG, Canada
- PAEC, Pakistan
- SN Power, Romania
- CNNO, China
- KHPN, Korea
- NA-SA, Argentina
- NPCIL, India

Founded in Canada in 1984

45 operating CANDU units across 7 countries, worldwide

- Canadian technology with international reach
- Between $60-$70 million annually in R&D and member-initiated projects
- Private, not-for-profit corporation
- Enables safe, reliable, cost-effective and environmentally-sound operation through knowledge and resource sharing

CANDU and Beyond Performance Excellence and Industry Sustainability

- GLOBAL goals
- INDUSTRY response
- MEMBER projects & operations
- COG collaboration

EXCELLENCE THROUGH COLLABORATION
Last year COG contributed to the Advanced Manufacturing Roadmap for the Canadian Nuclear Industry:

- High-level plan to develop Advanced Manufacturing capacity in the Nuclear Supply Chain
- Additive manufacturing as starting point
- To support existing fleet of CANDU reactors to 2065 and beyond, and the deployment of Small Modular Reactors
Expected benefits

- **Obsolescence.** 3D-printing of obsolete parts not available because OEM not in business.

- **Reduced lead times.** Quicker manufacturing and post-processing times.

- **Higher efficiency.** Cost-effective reproduction of parts with complex geometries.

- **Waste reduction.** Optimized use of expensive materials.

- **Digital parts warehouse.** Virtual catalogue of often required parts.

- **Small Modular Reactors.** Manufacturing of part with complex geometries, leading to greater efficiencies, decreased weight and smaller size.
Advanced manufacturing techniques are investigated for

- 3D – printed obsolete components
- 3D – printed stainless steel feeder
- Advanced coatings for corrosion protection
- Advanced high strength and lightweight materials

Innovation centres

- X-lab in Ontario Power Generation Inc.
- Nuclear Innovation Institute in Bruce Power LP
Case Study: COG Reduced Outages Supplier Innovation Workshop

- Fall 2021: Held a Dragon’s Den rapid-pitch style workshop
- Included high-level technical staff
- Presented new initiatives and then ranked them on benefit/readiness/and cost to implement
- Problem solving approach – enable dialogue between developers and end users

**Goal:** Accelerate innovation by bringing supplier solutions to key nuclear utility staff with the know-how to direct the development and implementation of these industry innovations to meet cost and schedule goals
Harmonization Task Force

- Sponsored by the Canadian Standards Association
- Seek international alignment and eliminate trade barriers
- Codes & Standards must be enablers of new technologies

Problem Statement

Developers, manufacturers and operators are challenged with applicability and demonstration of compliance to codes & standards due to differences in requirements between countries and jurisdiction during the life cycle of small modular reactor.
Benefits of Collaborative Approach

- Learn from others
- Enable adoption of common approaches and best practices across the sector
- Pooled resources to achieve more at a fraction of the cost
- Sum greater than its parts – all facilities get same access regardless of resources/longevity
- United front - facilitate discussions and alignment on regulatory affairs
COG
Excellence Through Collaboration
Discussion
CORDEL: A perspective on Advanced Manufacturing Techniques

Ronan Tanguy, CORDEL Programme Lead
The World Nuclear Association is the international organization that promotes nuclear energy and supports the many companies that comprise the global nuclear industry.

World Nuclear Association membership encompasses all aspects of nuclear energy.

CORDEL working group aims to standardize reactor designs so they can be deployed internationally without major design changes due to national regulations.
Cooperation in Reactor Design Evaluation and Licensing (CORDEL) is the industry approach to harmonization

- CORDEL has:
  - Defined the need
  - Developed collaborative relationships with governments and international industry and regulatory fora
  - Addressed some of the specific challenges in relevant reports

Increase Safety
Reduce construction duration
Consistent supply chain
Reduce risks, increase investor confidence
Increase licensing predictability
Reduce Costs

Download them at https://www.world-nuclear.org/our-association/publications/online-reports.aspx
CORDEL Advanced manufacturing project

• Produce a position paper to present current initiatives within member organizations and the challenges they face with regards to regulation and codes & standards.

• Aiming to put forward a consistent industry position and encourage international harmonization of approaches to codification of advanced manufacturing processes and techniques.

• Use the conclusions to guide efforts and engage with standard developing organisations to influence codification, reducing the potential for divergence between countries/codes and standards.

• Report scheduled for publication in Q2 2022
## Selection of WNA member AM initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>AM Process</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Channel fastener</td>
<td>Powder bed fusion</td>
<td>Framatome (TVA Browns Ferry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy shielding</td>
<td>Directed metal deposition</td>
<td>RuSAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Large and small vessels</td>
<td>Powder metal hot isostatic pressing</td>
<td>NAMRC (NuScale Power)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pump impeller</td>
<td>Powder bed fusion</td>
<td>Siemens (NEK Krško)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Powder bed fusion</td>
<td>RuSAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thimble plugging device</td>
<td>Powder bed fusion</td>
<td>Westinghouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terminal block</td>
<td>Powder bed fusion</td>
<td>Engie Laborelec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valve (body)</td>
<td>Powder bed fusion</td>
<td>Neles (Fortum &amp; TVO) Engie Laborelec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vessel cladding</td>
<td>Diode laser cladding</td>
<td>NAMRC (NuScale Power)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Codes and standards for advanced manufacturing

- Advanced manufacturing techniques are codified in non-nuclear codes and standards (EBW, PM HIP)
- Requirements must be defined to translate these into the nuclear context
- Gaps have been identified:
  - Inconsistent terminology
  - Specifications for raw materials
  - Specifications for products manufactured using a combination of AM and conventional
  - Inspection and NDE
- Codification is needed for regulators to gain confidence in the application of the techniques.
- Code cases are being submitted to ASME but limited to certain materials.
Codes & Standards/Process qualification

- Process qualification is needed to demonstrate that parts can be made in reproducible ways with equivalent properties and quality to traditional manufacturing processes.
- Long-term performance of components in a nuclear environment is uncertain (thermal ageing, fatigue, irradiation).
- The SNETP NUCOBAM project is working to produce a standardized qualification compatible with AFCEN RCC-M, ASME BPVC, and EN 13445:
  - Raw material procurement
  - Quality control management
  - Heat-treatment
  - Inspection & testing
  - Surface finish
Conclusions

• Codification and subsequent regulatory approval is key for adoption of advanced manufacturing processes in nuclear supply chains.
• The current gaps in codes & standards present an opportunity to develop them in a harmonized manner and avoid discrepancies.
• International initiatives and cooperation are needed to prevent divergence.
• Harmonization/equivalence of codes & standards and regulation is essential for regional deployment of SMRs.
• CORDEL will continue to advocate for streamlining of practices and take its findings to the SDO Convergence Board for consideration.