Snow Loads

Guide to the Snow Load Provisions of ASCE 7-16

Michael O'Rourke, Ph.D., P.E.

ASCE PRESS

Snow Loads

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Preface

This guide provides practicing structural engineers with a detailed description of the snow load provisions of Standard ASCE/SEI 7-16, *Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures*, published by the American Society of Civil Engineers. The intent of this guide is to present the research and philosophy that underpins the provisions and to illustrate the application of the provisions through numerous examples. Readers and users of this guide will know how to use the provisions, as well as the reasoning behind them. In this fashion, users may be able to address nonroutine snow loading issues that are not explicitly covered in ASCE 7-16.

This guide introduces provisions that are new to ASCE 7-16, including ground snow load tables for selected western states and New Hampshire as well as snow load requirements for Open Frame Equipment Support structures.

Every effort has been made to make the illustrative example problems in this guide correct and accurate. The author welcomes comments regarding inaccuracies, errors, or different interpretations. The views expressed and the interpretation of the snow load provisions made in this guide are those of the author and not of the ASCE 7 Standards Committee or the ASCE organization.

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