

Dixie Pacific® Technical Bulletin

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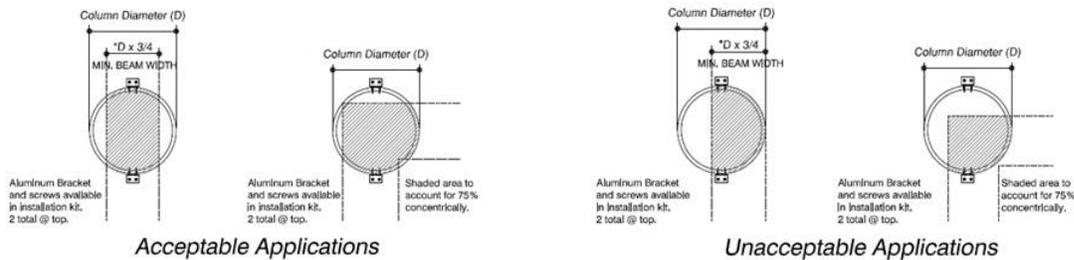
Subject: Changes to AC265 and New ICC Evaluation Report

The acceptance criteria for the evaluation of Fiber-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Composite Columns used as Axial Load-bearing and Non-load bearing architectural and decorative columns are established under International Code Council (ICC) AC265.

In the revision to AC265, there were two (2) major changes to the acceptance criteria for FRP columns namely: Eccentric Axial Loading and Increased Safety Factor.

ECCENTRIC AXIAL LOADING

Under the revised AC265 requirements for Fiberglass Columns, the maximum allowable load values are based on an eccentric (offset) axial load, instead of a concentric (centered) axial loading (as per industry standard installation instructions). Under the new testing requirements, the load is applied without covering 75% of the top of the column. This testing change was due to the many incorrectly installed columns found in residential installations. Eccentric installation of columns is an unacceptable method of installation and one that today voids manufacturers' warranty.



Columns concentrically loaded with 75% contact at the top and 100% contact at the bottom can bear greater loads than eccentrically loaded columns.

INCREASED SAFETY FACTOR

The safety factor for the maximum allowable load values tested eccentrically (per the AC 265) are being increased from 2.5 times to 5 times. The maximum allowable load value stated by a manufacturer in their code compliance document must take into account the new safety factor (For example a column tested eccentrically to an ultimate load capacity of 30,000 lbs. would have a maximum allowable load value of 6,000 lbs.).

[Dixie Pacific®](#) is pleased to announce the release of the ICC-ES Evaluation Report for our DuraCast™ Fiberglass Reinforced Polymer (FRP) columns; ESR-1361. The evaluation report verifies Dixie Pacific's compliance with the 2015 International Builders Code (IBC) and 2015 International Residential Code (IRC) under Acceptance Criteria (AC) 265 for Fiber-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Composite Columns.