

# Design of Fiberglass-Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Stacks

This document uses both the  
International System of Units (SI)  
and customary units

**American Society of Civil Engineers**  
**Design of Fiberglass-**  
**Reinforced Plastic (FRP)**  
**Stacks**

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The following standards have been issued:

- ANSI/ASCE 1-82 N-725 Guideline for Design and Analysis of Nuclear Safety Related Earth Structures
- ASCE/EWRI 2-06 Measurement of Oxygen Transfer in Clean Water
- ANSI/ASCE 3-91 Standard for the Structural Design of Composite Slabs and ANSI/ASCE 9-91 Standard Practice for the Construction and Inspection of Composite Slabs
- ASCE 4-98 Seismic Analysis of Safety-Related Nuclear Structures
- Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures (ACI 530-02/ASCE 5-02/TMS 402-02) and Specifications for Masonry Structures (ACI 530.1-02/ASCE 6-02/TMS 602-02)
- ASCE/SEI 7-05 Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures
- SEI/ASCE 8-02 Standard Specification for the Design of Cold-Formed Stainless Steel Structural Members
- ANSI/ASCE 9-91 listed with ASCE 3-91
- ASCE 10-97 Design of Latticed Steel Transmission Structures
- SEI/ASCE 11-99 Guideline for Structural Condition Assessment of Existing Buildings
- ASCE/EWRI 12-05 Guideline for the Design of Urban Subsurface Drainage
- ASCE/EWRI 13-05 Standard Guidelines for Installation of Urban Subsurface Drainage
- ASCE/EWRI 14-05 Standard Guidelines for Operation and Maintenance of Urban Subsurface Drainage
- ASCE 15-98 Standard Practice for Direct Design of Buried Precast Concrete Pipe Using Standard Installations (SIDD)
- ASCE 16-95 Standard for Load Resistance Factor Design (LRFD) of Engineered Wood Construction
- ASCE 17-96 Air-Supported Structures
- ASCE 18-96 Standard Guidelines for In-Process Oxygen Transfer Testing
- ASCE 19-96 Structural Applications of Steel Cables for Buildings
- ASCE 20-96 Standard Guidelines for the Design and Installation of Pile Foundations
- ANSI/ASCE/T&DI 21-05 Automated People Mover Standards—Part 1
- ANSI/ASCE/T&DI 21.2-08 Automated People Mover Standards—Part 2
- ANSI/ASCE/T&DI 21.3-08 Automated People Mover Standards—Part 3
- ANSI/ASCE/T&DI 21.4-08 Automated People Mover Standards—Part 4
- SEI/ASCE 23-97 Specification for Structural Steel Beams with Web Openings
- ASCE/SEI 24-05 Flood Resistant Design and Construction
- ASCE/SEI 25-06 Earthquake-Actuated Automatic Gas Shutoff Devices
- ASCE 26-97 Standard Practice for Design of Buried Precast Concrete Box Sections
- ASCE 27-00 Standard Practice for Direct Design of Precast Concrete Pipe for Jacking in Trenchless Construction
- ASCE 28-00 Standard Practice for Direct Design of Precast Concrete Box Sections for Jacking in Trenchless Construction
- ASCE/SEI/SFPE 29-05 Standard Calculation Methods for Structural Fire Protection
- SEI/ASCE 30-00 Guideline for Condition Assessment of the Building Envelope
- SEI/ASCE 31-03 Seismic Evaluation of Existing Buildings
- SEI/ASCE 32-01 Design and Construction of Frost-Protected Shallow Foundations
- EWRI/ASCE 33-01 Comprehensive Transboundary International Water Quality Management Agreement
- EWRI/ASCE 34-01 Standard Guidelines for Artificial Recharge of Ground Water
- EWRI/ASCE 35-01 Guidelines for Quality Assurance of Installed Fine-Pore Aeration Equipment
- CI/ASCE 36-01 Standard Construction Guidelines for Microtunneling
- SEI/ASCE 37-02 Design Loads on Structures During Construction
- CI/ASCE 38-02 Standard Guideline for the Collection and Depiction of Existing Subsurface Utility Data
- EWRI/ASCE 39-03 Standard Practice for the Design and Operation of Hail Suppression Projects
- ASCE/EWRI 40-03 Regulated Riparian Model Water Code
- ASCE/SEI 41-06 Seismic Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings
- ASCE/EWRI 42-04 Standard Practice for the Design and Operation of Precipitation Enhancement Projects
- ASCE/SEI 43-05 Seismic Design Criteria for Structures, Systems, and Components in Nuclear Facilities
- ASCE/EWRI 44-05 Standard Practice for the Design and Operation of Supercooled Fog Dispersal Projects
- ASCE/EWRI 45-05 Standard Guidelines for the Design of Urban Stormwater Systems
- ASCE/EWRI 46-05 Standard Guidelines for the Installation of Urban Stormwater Systems

ASCE/EWRI 47-05 Standard Guidelines for the Operation and Maintenance of Urban Stormwater Systems  
ASCE/SEI 48-05 Design of Steel Transmission Pole Structures  
ASCE/EWRI 50-08 Standard Guideline for Fitting Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity Using Probability Density Functions

ASCE/EWRI 51-08 Standard Guideline for Calculating the Effective Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity  
ASCE/SEI 52-10 Design of Fiberglass-Reinforced Plastic (FRP) Stacks

## FOREWORD

In early 1994, the American Society of Civil Engineers was approached by a group interested in formulating a standard for the design, fabrication, and erection of fiberglass reinforced plastic (FRP) stacks and their appurtenances. They felt there was a need for an FRP stack standard, similar to the ASME steel stack standard STS-1, to establish a better level of standardization in the industry and for safeguarding the community.

Therefore, in 1994 a group comprising FRP stack users, researchers, designers, fabricators, and erectors

convened under the auspices of the American Society of Civil Engineers to formulate such a standard.

With the aforementioned mission in mind, the group subdivided and began gathering information to formulate guidelines for material selection, mechanical and structural design, vibration, access, safety, electrical, fabrication, erection, inspection, and maintenance requirements.

The following publication is a result of their work and investigation.

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## INTRODUCTION

The following standard applies to fiberglass-reinforced plastic (FRP) stacks, that is, those stacks where the primary supporting shell is made of FRP. This standard can be applicable to both single- and multiple-walled FRP stacks, guyed FRP stacks, or certain aspects of tower stacks. The stack may be supported on a foundation or from another structure.

This Standard covers the design of FRP stacks. The Standard outlines the considerations which must be made for both the mechanical and structural design; emphasizes what consideration must be taken for wind and seismic-induced vibrations; gives guidelines for the ultraviolet protection, selection of materials, linings, and coatings; states the requirements for lighting and lightning protection based upon existing building and federal codes; gives the requirements for climbing and access based upon current Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards; emphasizes the important areas regarding fabrication and construction; and outlines areas requiring maintenance and inspection following initial operation.

The information presented has been prepared in accordance with established engineering principles utilizing state-of-the-art information and is intended for general information. While every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy, the information should not be relied upon for any specific application without the consultation of a competent, licensed professional engineer, to determine its suitability. It is therefore recommended that Engineering/Design drawings and related documents of the stack bear the Professional Engineer Seal, signature, and date.

Nothing in the Standard shall be construed to alter or subvert the requirements of any existing code or authority having jurisdiction over the facility. Furthermore, alternate methods and materials to those herein indicated may be used, provided that the engineer can demonstrate their suitability to all agencies and authorities. Note that several of the sections are similar to ASTM D 5364 and ASME Steel Stack STS-1 Standard, and many members of that committee are also on the FRP Stack Standard Committee.