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1 Oct 2014

See **Distribution**

Dear Sir/Madam

BS 8539 - STANDARD ON THE USE OF POST-INSTALLED ANCHORS FOR STRUCTURES REQUIRING PLAN APPROVAL

Objective

This circular is to inform the industry on the standard to be complied with when using post-installed anchors for structures requiring plan approval under the Building Control Act.

Background

2 The performance of post-installed anchors is influenced by many factors such as edge distance, spacing, quality and track record of anchors, and particularly, quality of installation. If the anchors are not selected and installed correctly, they might not have the capability to resist the intended loads. Therefore, where possible, cast-in-place anchors should be the preferred option over post-installed anchors.

3 However, if post-installed anchors are to be used, Qualified Persons (QPs) and Builders should follow the recommendations given in **BS 8539 "Code of practice for the selection and installation of post-installed anchors in concrete and masonry"**.

Post-installed anchors for structures requiring plan approval

4 BS 8539 gives recommendations for the safe selection and installation of post-installed anchors for use in concrete and masonry by providing measures to be taken to ensure that the anchors meet the overall design requirements.

5 We wish to highlight to QPs that BS 8539 requires the risk of anchor corrosion to be minimised and recommends that external anchors to be of stainless steel material. For fixings to cladding, the Building Regulations require the anchors to be

of stainless steel material. Furthermore, QPs should be mindful that the required embedment depth for the anchors should be measured from the base material. Any plaster layer should be removed prior to installing the anchors and this requirement should be clearly indicated in the structural plans.

6 Therefore, post-installed anchors for structures requiring plan approval would need to comply with this standard. QPs should make reference to this standard when specifying post-installed anchors in the structural plans submitted to the Commissioner of Building Control for approval.

Standard added to Approved Document

7 BS 8539 will be included in the 1 Oct 2014 update to the Approved Document and I would appreciate it if you could bring to the attention of your members the contents of this circular.

8 If you need further clarification on this matter, you may contact Mr Chin Leong Siong at Tel: 63255029, or email: chin_leong_siong@bca.gov.sg.

Yours faithfully



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