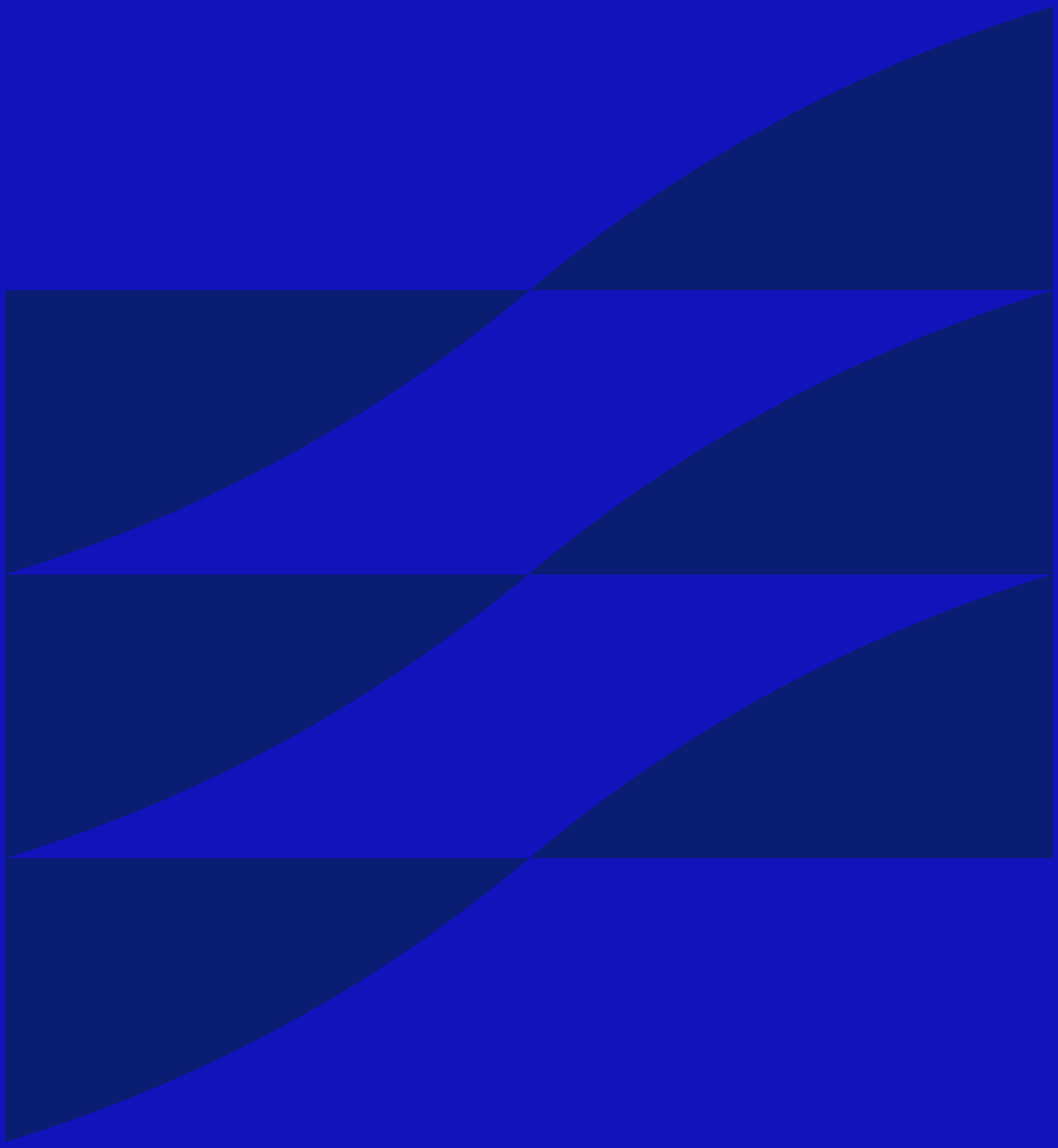
ACS

General Guidance

Windposts



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Windposts



Handling

Remove posts from transportation vehicle in accordance with local site safety requirements (subject to HSE regulations). Be careful of potential sharp edges and pallet stability following transportation.

Consider if it is safer to move the pallet (as a whole) to a specific location within the site which is best suited to the general distribution of the individual posts, or if it is safer to break the pallet up (into individual posts) for distribution throughout the site.

The pallet of posts should be placed in the correct location for distribution. Remove individual items from the pallet using mechanical equipment if necessary. Move the posts safely to their installation location with mechanical assistance if needed. If not, check the lifting guidelines in line with HSE regulations to determine the number of individuals required to move them safely. Posts stored adjacent to their installation location should not pose a hazard to site operatives. If it is safer to break up the pallet into individual posts for distribution, follow the same process to move them safely.

Storage and transportation

ACS approved haulier should ensure that the load is safe and secure for the journey, and pallets are unloaded and reloaded at the distribution centre in a considered, safe and orderly fashion.

ACS recommends that all pallets should be inspected immediately following the (on site) off-loading process, for any obvious signs of damage.

Installation

To ensure safe and secure installation, we recommend the following:

— A trained operative should be responsible for the installation, working in accordance with current HSE manual handling legislation.

— Prior to positioning the post, it is crucial to determine its precise location (subject to engineers setting out plans), and ensure that all operatives involved in the installation understand it.

— When selecting a type of fixing to use, it is important to consider whether the fixing can be installed through the fixture (with the post in its final position).

— To promote safety, we recommend that the post be propped during the installation process.

— Posts are designed to allow wall ties to be built into adjacent masonry panels as they are built around the post.

— It is important to note that the post should not be subjected to any loading until all resins are fully cured and all mechanical anchors are tightened to the correct torque. Posts are not designed to withstand vertical loading.

— Please refer to the anchor manufacturer's installation data, displayed on the manufacturer's packaging, and follow the instructions provided.

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Guidance for interface with other products

It is expected that all issues of interface with other products should be fully addressed through the design and approval process. There should not be any obstacle to, or interference with the installation and operation of an ACS product.

Guidance to achieve stated performance

In order to achieve the loading performance stated on our drawings posts must be installed in strict accordance with the approval drawing detail, and without the use of any grouts, packers or shims unless specifically authorised.

It remains the responsibility of the project engineer to determine the suitability of post materials, types and section sizes, and their resultant load capacities.

Specialist equipment and tools

Most wind posts can be installed using a general construction workers toolkit (including a torque wrench). One exception to this would be where an engineer has specified a specialist fixing which requires a specialised installation tool. In this circumstance ACS would expect the engineer to supply article numbers for both the fixing and the tool, to allow us to source and supply the correct items. If there is a requirement for the supply of a specialised resin applicator gun this needs to be clearly communicated, otherwise it will be assumed that no such requirement exists.

Specific competence required

Whilst the skill set required for the installation of a typical product would be covered by those of a general (construction industry) fitter, ACS recommend the Association of Brickwork Contractors or similar short courses.

Implications for maintenance warranties, guarantees and insurance

All warranties, guarantees and insurances are null and void if the products are incorrectly installed. There are no maintenance requirements for ACS products. Please refer to ACS product warranty and insurance documents for full details of specific coverage.

Inspection, testing, commissioning, and record keeping requirements

Inspection and record keeping requirements would be as specified within the building's 'operation and maintenance' manual, insofar as it is concerned with the general fabric of the building.

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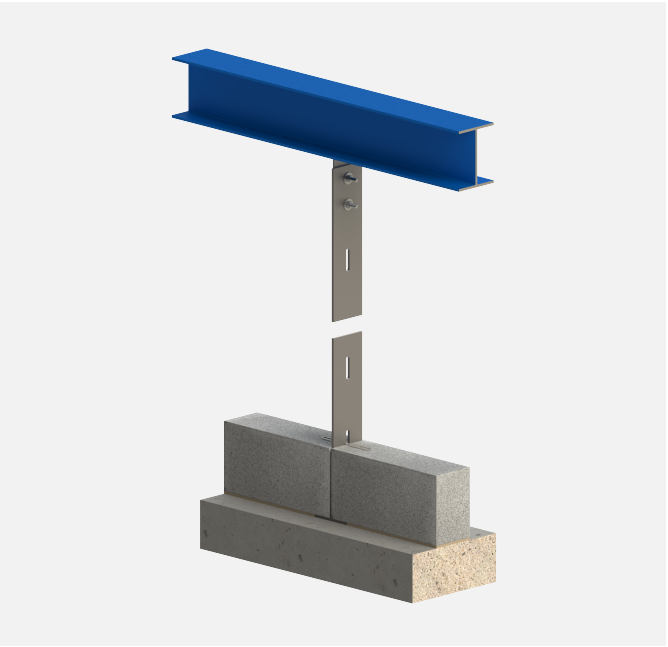
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Sequencing of works

For traditional house builders it is understood that posts would typically be called-off and installed, as and when required subject to the developers own schedule.

For larger scale developments (apartments blocks etc) there may be an expectation of a 'sequencing of works' subject to the build schedule for the project. In this circumstance the client may call-off approved post designs by block and floor or (less commonly) by elevation. This process would typically be managed (either formerly or informally) through the cooperation of ACS' commercial staff and the client. There is no set procedure for this, as it is managed on a case by case basis to suit the individual requirements of the client.

Maintenance requirements and schedule

Wind posts are designed to be maintenance free and therefore require no scheduled maintenance.

Legal requirements

While ACS exercise a duty of care with regard to our products and supporting professional services, and all ACS posts are fully warrantied regarding their performance, it remains the responsibility of the project engineer to determine the suitability of post materials, types, section sizes, and their resultant load capacities. Windpost design variables are subservient to a 'wall/panel design' process undertaken by others. As such ACS cannot be held responsible for any wall/panel failures which may arise from errors in this process.

It is the responsibility of installation contractors and sub-contractors to ensure that their work is carried out to the required industry standards. ACS cannot be held responsible for any failures arising from incorrect installation.

Limitations of use

The limitations of use for a windpost would be to restrain a pre-determined panel of masonry, sufficient to resist an applied wind load (specified by others), subject to a wall design scheme (under the oversight of the project engineer). For the purpose of calculation, the loading is considered to be applied to the post in a plane perpendicular to the line of the masonry panel (that being positive and negative wind pressures through a single plane at 90 degrees to the wall).

End of life

As a material, stainless steel is generally fully recyclable. At such as a time that the product reaches its end of life, generally at the decommissioning stage of the building cycle, ACS can help to advise on product material make up to assist with recycling. Please contact us at this stage and we will be happy to help.

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