



News on the Block



Canadian Concrete Masonry Producers Association
Region 6 of the National Concrete Masonry Association



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CCMPA strives to keep its members informed and up-to-date. With that in mind, we'd like to introduce our first quarterly newsletter. We welcome your feedback and story ideas. Email your suggestions to info@ccmpa.ca.

EXAMPLE 2.2.2

Room side-by-side

- Concrete Floor and Masonry Walls with Rigid Junctions
- Other structure as Example 2.1.1, enhanced listing of walls

Separating wall assembly, double-stud wall:

- 100 mm concrete block with cavity 25 mm (2" x 8")
- 100 mm hollow brick with normal weight aggregate
- separating wall stud with 10 mm gypsum board on 85 mm non-insulating steel studs spaced 500 mm o.c., with absorptive mineral filling stud cavities

Junction: 100 mm concrete block separating wall, floor with:

- concrete floor on 150 mm light weight aggregate
- 100 mm concrete block separating wall with enhanced gypsum board on top, 100 mm brick concrete floor below

Junction: 100 mm concrete block separating wall, ceiling with:

- right hand side junction with concrete block wall assembly
- 100 mm concrete block separating wall with enhanced gypsum board on top, 100 mm brick concrete floor below

Junction: 100 mm concrete block separating wall, ceiling with:

- right hand side junction with concrete block wall assembly
- 100 mm concrete block separating wall with enhanced gypsum board on top, 100 mm brick concrete floor below

Acoustical Parameters:

Parameter	Value
Sound Transmission Loss	39.0
Structural Reverberation Time	0.345
Equivalent Absorption Length	1.00
TL in situ for F1	53
TL in situ for F2	53
TL in situ for F3	53
TL in situ for F4	53
TL in situ for F5	53
TL in situ for F6	53
TL in situ for F7	53
TL in situ for F8	53
TL in situ for F9	53
TL in situ for F10	53
TL in situ for F11	53
TL in situ for F12	53
TL in situ for F13	53
TL in situ for F14	53
TL in situ for F15	53
TL in situ for F16	53
TL in situ for F17	53
TL in situ for F18	53
TL in situ for F19	53
TL in situ for F20	53
TL in situ for F21	53
TL in situ for F22	53
TL in situ for F23	53
TL in situ for F24	53
TL in situ for F25	53
TL in situ for F26	53
TL in situ for F27	53
TL in situ for F28	53
TL in situ for F29	53
TL in situ for F30	53
TL in situ for F31	53
TL in situ for F32	53
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TL in situ for F91	53
TL in situ for F92	53
TL in situ for F93	53
TL in situ for F94	53
TL in situ for F95	53
TL in situ for F96	53
TL in situ for F97	53
TL in situ for F98	53
TL in situ for F99	53
TL in situ for F100	53

CCMPA's Commitment to Sound Buildings

by Gary Sturgeon, B.Eng., M.Sc., P.Eng.

The 2015 edition of the National Building Code of Canada (NBCC-15) contains substantive new requirements for measuring airborne sound transmission between adjacent spaces, and new compliance requirements. The old measure using Sound Transmission Class (STC) rating and a minimum STC 50 requirement between dwelling units are replaced by the Apparent Sound Transmission Class (ASTC) rating and a minimum requirement of ASTC 47. Whereas STC and ASTC are different metrics, STC = 50 and ASTC = 47 are comparable, and thus, the sound requirements in the updated NBCC are considered to be "status quo" with those of earlier editions. There is intention to increase the minimum ASTC rating in subsequent editions of the NBCC. Additionally, on a related noise control issue, discussions at the Standing Committee levels will begin to rationalize the inclusion of requirements for impact noise.

In earlier editions of our Newsletter, the differences between STC and ASTC were described in some detail. Briefly, STC is a laboratory measure of sound insulation only of the separating element, that is, of the wall between adjacent rooms, or of the floor between rooms one-above-the-other. The ASTC is better representative of the actual sound experienced by an occupant in the receiving rooms. It is a laboratory measure that includes for the passage of sound via the flanking paths around the separator, that is, through the structure of the building that connects the walls and floor elements, in addition to the sound that moves directly through the main separating element. The ASTC rating for the wall and floor assembly is always less than the STC value for each of the separating elements.

These changes to sound control are a significant change not only for the masonry industry and for other structural systems, but for manufacturers of floor and wall finishes, building designers, and building officials. Direct laboratory testing for the ASTC rating of all permutations and combinations of separating assemblies, flanking assemblies, and acoustical linings is cost and time prohibitive. Other solutions were sought. To minimize the impact, and to offer means to calculate ASTC rather than necessarily measure it, consortium research projects involving industry partners including the Canadian Concrete Masonry Producers Association (CCMPA), the National Research Council of Canada, and the Canadian Codes Centre were launched early in the NBCC-15 development process. Most notable as the development of Guideline RR-331, "Guide to Calculating Airborne Sound Transmission in Buildings"

RR-331 is referenced for use by designers in NBCC-15. It is intended to support the needs of Canadian designers (and perhaps more so of acoustical experts) as we move through the acoustics transition. RR-331 describes the technical concepts, terminologies, convention labelling, needed input data, effects of linings, and the required step-by-step calculation processes with explanation, as well as numerous worked examples to calculate ASTC rating for rooms side-by-side and rooms one-above-the-other. The procedures described in the Guide allow designers to change the various details of the constructed assembly, identify outcomes, and to explore various design solutions with great flexibility.

RR-331 contains sections and design examples for wall and floor assembly combinations only where reliable laboratory measured data have been used as input to calculation. Masonry, concrete, steel, and wood systems are all represented in this Guide to varying extents. Wall and floor assemblies that have not been suitably tested in the laboratory to generate input data needed for the calculation procedures, such as measuring the vibration reduction index, have not been included. The vibration index quantifies the structure-borne noise transmitted through the floor into the connected walls and floors through the junctions between them. Without such base-line laboratory measurement, reliable calculation to predict ASTC cannot be performed. Without such base-line measurement in the laboratory, CMU wall systems with wood flooring systems, CMU wall systems with precast plank, and CMU with steel joist cannot be included in RR-331. Without inclusion in RR-331, and without data to otherwise calculate ASTC by any other manner, such wall and floor systems cannot be chosen by designers because compliance cannot be demonstrated and verified.

RR-331 is a "living document". The first edition was published in 2014 for reference by the NBCC-15. Its development by NRC is a consortium research project. CCMPA partners with NRC and is a contributing member both financially and technically. As test data become available in time, it will be revised and new sections will be included for other wall + floor assemblies not currently recognized. In fact, a review of the second edition has just been completed by CCMPA. RR-331 is readily available on the internet for download free of charge. CMU wall systems of both normal weight and lightweight block constructed with various floor assemblies and junctions are well represented in the Guide... but not all CMU walls + flooring systems are represented, pending completion of the on-going laboratory sound research in a comprehensive companion CCMPA/NRC research project. This work has been on-going over the past 3 years and will continue through 2016. Updates on this research will be provided in subsequent editions of the CCMPA Newsletter.

Flanking Element (F1 and F2) In-situ	ISO Symbol	Reference	STC, ASTC, etc.	125	250	500	1000	2000	4000
Sound Transmission Loss	R _{F1,lab}	IR-811, 119-1079	53	39.0	39.0	49.0	58.0	67.0	76.0
Structural Reverberation Time	T _{s,lab}	Measured T _s	0.345	0.293	0.176	0.092	0.046	0.042	0.042
Equivalent Absorption Length	alpha _{eq,lab}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 19	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Change by Lining on source side DR _{F1}	DR _{F1}	No Lining	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Change by Lining on receive side DR _{F2}	DR _{F2}	No Lining	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Flanking Elements F1 and F2, Transferred Data - In-situ									
Structural Reverberation Time	T _{s,in-situ}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. C1-C3	0.348	0.238	0.160	0.104	0.066	0.041	0.041
Equivalent Absorption Length	alpha _{eq,in-situ}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 22	30.395	10.724	11.138	12.247	13.626	15.621	17.621
TL in situ for F1	R _{F1,in-situ}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 19	53	39.0	39.0	49.4	57.4	65.4	73.4
TL in situ for F2	R _{F2,in-situ}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 19	53	39.0	39.0	49.4	57.4	65.4	73.4
Function F1 - Coupling									
Velocity Level Difference for F1	D _{v,F1,lab}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 21	9.26	9.39	9.62	9.97	10.43	11.02	11.60
Velocity Level Difference for F2	D _{v,F2,lab}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 21	11.67	11.88	12.22	12.69	13.29	14.02	14.80
Flanking Transmission Loss - Path data									
Flanking TL for Path F1_1	R _{F1,FF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	60	46.2	47.3	57.6	65.4	73.8	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_2	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_3	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_4	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_5	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_6	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_7	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_8	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_9	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_10	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_11	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_12	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_13	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_14	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_15	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_16	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_17	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_18	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_19	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_20	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_21	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_22	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_23	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_24	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_25	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_26	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_27	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_28	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_29	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_30	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_31	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_32	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_33	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_34	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_35	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_36	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_37	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_38	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_39	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_40	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_41	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_42	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75	54.1	65.4	72.9	76.8	81.4	85.1
Flanking TL for Path F1_43	R _{F1,DF}	ISO 15712-1, Eq. 25a	75						