

Book review

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING DOCUMENT 10: STRUCTURAL USE OF GLASS

M. Haldimann, A. Luible and M. Overend. International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE), Association Internationale des Ponts et Charpentes (AIPC) and Internationale Vereinigung für Brückenbau und Hochbau (IVBH), Zurich, Switzerland, 2008. ISBN 978-3-85748-119-2, £55.85, 216 pp.

For those working in construction on the periphery of the structural use of glass, the book provides an excellent introduction to glass performance and the associated structural design. The three authors are drawn from the fields of consulting, façade contracting and academia and they have further enriched the book with contributions from a number of notable European glass experts. The publication is a serious work, mercifully devoid of glass industry marketing.

The book opens with a chapter on glass material, providing guidance on production, material properties, processing and end products. Separate chapters are devoted to general design guidelines; the fracture strength of glass elements; current standards, guidelines and design methods; design for compressive in-plane loads and stability problems; design methods for improved accuracy and flexibility; and special topics. The book also has useful appendices, including a list of more than 300 references.

This book will appeal to readers at various levels and deserves a place on the bookshelves of students and qualified professionals alike.

BILL WOLMUTH