Windposts and Masonry Reinforcement for the Construction Industry
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We are Leviat.

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Under the Leviat brand, we have united the expertise, skills and resources of Ancon and its sister companies to create a world leader in fixing, connecting and anchoring technology.

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By bringing together CRH’s construction accessories family as one global organisation, we are better equipped to meet the needs of our customers, and the demands of construction projects, of any scale, anywhere in the world.

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HALFEN  
HELIFIX  
ISEDIO  
PLAKA

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60 locations  
sales in  
30+ countries  
3000 people worldwide
Masonry Reinforcement

Strengthening Masonry Panels

Large panels of masonry or panels with openings can often be difficult to design. The traditional solutions have been to either increase the thickness of the wall or introduce a masonry pier.

Ancon AMR Bed Joint Reinforcement and Ancon Windposts are designed to provide additional lateral support for panels of masonry. Windposts can be installed into either the inner leaf of blockwork or into the cavity leaving the blockwork undisturbed. Ancon AMR is a fabricated and flattened stainless steel or carbon steel reinforcement which locates in the bed joint to strengthen a wall.

UKCA & CE Marking

Construction products which fall within the scope of a UK designated standard or a harmonised European Standard should now carry the appropriate marking under the Construction Products Regulation. For windposts and parapet posts, the harmonised standard is BS EN 1090-1 Execution of steel structures and aluminium structures: Requirements for conformity assessment of structural components. Leviat complies with all UKCA and CE marking requirements of this standard, including designs to EN 1993 (Eurocode 3) and external certification of our factory production controls by a UK approved body and an EU27 notified body.

For AMR masonry reinforcement, the standard is BS EN 845: Part 3 and Leviat has undertaken all necessary product testing at a UK approved laboratory which has been undertaken by an EU27 notified body.

To download a Declaration of Performance, please visit www.ancon.co.uk/approvals.

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CPD seminars available
Reduce risk of cracking
Minimise wall thickness
Improve structural performance

ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & ISO 45001
UKCA and CE Marking Compliance
Product information in NBS format
CPD seminars available
BIM Objects available
Bed Joint Reinforcement

Bed joint reinforcement is used to improve the structural performance of masonry walls by providing additional resistance to lateral loads e.g. wind. It can also be used to reduce the risk of cracking either at stress concentrations around openings or as a result of movement, including the control of shrinkage. For external walls subject to wind loading, a structural engineer should be consulted to assess the spacing of control joints and bed joint reinforcement.

Ancon AMR ‘Ladder Type’ Masonry Reinforcement

Available in various standard configurations, Ancon AMR suits a wide range of structural load conditions and wall widths. The longitudinal wires have a minimum characteristic yield strength of 500N/mm².

Ancon AMR is supplied with UKCA and CE marking to demonstrate compliance with BS EN 845-3.

Bed joint reinforcement may be used for a variety of purposes and locations, as set out in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose / Location</th>
<th>Ladder Type Reinforcement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase panel sizes</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase movement joint spacing</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feature courses, corbels, plinths</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collar-jointed walls</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corner and T junctions</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stack-bonded panels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differential movement control</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above and below openings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In walls which have door and window openings, bed joint reinforcement can reduce the frequency of control joints. Reinforcement should be provided in the first and second courses above and below all openings and should extend no less than 600mm either side of the opening.

Bed joint reinforcement can also be used near the top of the structural walls abutting concrete roofs and to provide additional strength to parapet walls.

Materials

Ancon AMR is available in Austenitic stainless steel (ref. S) and galvanised steel (ref. G). Stainless steel provides the greatest corrosion resistance and life-cycle costing benefits, and is suitable for use in any application. Galvanised steel is not suitable for use in the external leaf of a cavity wall.

Wire Diameters

Ancon AMR is manufactured from five wire sizes which, after flattening, have an equivalent wire diameter of 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 and 5.0mm. This range suits the majority of load conditions.

Depth

The main longitudinal wires are flattened to less than 3mm. These wires are joined by cross wires welded in the same plane at 450mm centres. This profile ensures good mortar cover is maintained, even when the product is lapped or used with wall ties.

Length

Ancon AMR is manufactured in standard lengths of 2700mm.

Widths

Available in a variety of standard widths (60, 80, 100, 150, 175mm), Ancon AMR can be used in wall widths from 100mm to 215mm. Care must be taken in selecting the correct width of reinforcement which should be approximately 40mm less than the width of the masonry unit.

Refer to ‘AMR and AMR-X Typical Applications’ table on page 5 for more information.

Purpose / Location

Increase panel sizes
Increase movement joint spacing
Feature courses, corbels, plinths
Collar-jointed walls
Corner and T junctions
Stack-bonded panels
Differential movement control
Above and below openings

Note: For the AMR-X enhanced system shown on page 5, replace AMR with AMR-X.

Corners

Prefabricated corner units can be manufactured to provide true continuity of reinforcement.

Laps and Positioning

Laps should be a minimum of 225mm in length and must include at least one cross wire. The lap can be achieved by either stacking the product or positioning lengths side by side. The position of laps should be staggered throughout the masonry panel.

Positioned side by side

Stacked

min. 225mm

Overall thickness when lapped is max. 6mm
Ancon AMR-X, Enhanced Masonry Reinforcement

When compared to other ladder-type reinforcement, Ancon AMR-X can accelerate the speed of construction, improve build quality and reduce the requirement for site supervision.

To provide additional resistance to lateral loads and improve the structural performance of a masonry wall, it is important that the reinforcement is surrounded by mortar.

The designed performance of a wall panel may not be achieved if the bed joint reinforcement is simply laid directly onto dry masonry with a mortar layer applied above. Unfortunately, research has shown that this is common site practice, which has led us to develop the new Ancon AMR-X reinforcement.

The product is based on the existing Ancon AMR masonry reinforcement, but with shaped rather than straight cross wires. This innovative design is a simple, cost-effective way to correct poor site practice.

If applied to dry bricks or blocks, only the modified cross wires are in contact with the masonry, the longitudinal wires are elevated. When the next masonry unit is lowered, the mortar layer disperses around the steel, leaving the reinforcement fully surrounded.

The cross wires have been designed so the AMR-X can be installed either way up.

AMR-X is available in various configurations, suitable for brickwork or blockwork, internal or external walls and the majority of load applications.

BIM Objects

BIM objects for AMR-X masonry reinforcement are available to download from www.NationalBIMLibrary.com/Ancon or www.ancon.co.uk/BIM.

Material

Ancon AMR-X is manufactured from stainless steel wire. It is suitable for use in internal and external wall panels.

Wire Diameters

The longitudinal wires are manufactured in two sizes which, after flattening, have an equivalent wire diameter of 3mm and 5mm. This range suits the majority of load conditions.

Depth

The main longitudinal wires are flattened to less than 3mm to allow the product to be lapped or used in the same joint as cavity wall ties.

Length

Ancon AMR-X is available in a standard length of 2700mm.

Widths

Available in two standard widths (60mm, 100mm), Ancon AMR-X can be used in masonry units from 100mm to 150mm wide.

‘Bed joint reinforcement should be completely surrounded with mortar’.

Recommendation given in PD6697: 2010

‘Using Ancon AMR-X will ensure bed joint reinforcement is accurately installed without compromising on build time’.

Structural Engineer

‘I have recommended that we use this product as it can eliminate the risk of inadequate mortar bond around bed joint reinforcement’.

Site Manager

If applied to dry bricks or blocks, only the modified cross wires are in contact with the masonry; the longitudinal wires are elevated. When the next masonry unit is lowered, the mortar layer disperses around the steel, leaving the reinforcement fully surrounded.

The cross wires have been designed so the AMR-X can be installed either way up.

AMR-X is available in various configurations, suitable for brickwork or blockwork, internal or external walls and the majority of load applications.

BIM Objects

BIM objects for AMR-X masonry reinforcement are available to download from www.NationalBIMLibrary.com/Ancon or www.ancon.co.uk/BIM.

AMR and AMR-X Typical Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wall Thickness</th>
<th>Product Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>102mm Brick/ 100mm or 125mm Block</td>
<td>AMR/S/D3.0/W60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>140mm or 150mm Block</td>
<td>AMR/S/D3.0/W100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>190mm or 200mm Block</td>
<td>AMR/S/D3.0/W150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>215mm Block</td>
<td>AMR/S/D3.0/W175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Product references shown are for stainless steel reinforcement. For galvanized steel ‘S’ should be replaced with ‘G’. 50 and 80mm widths are also available. Wire diameters of 3.5 and 4.5mm are only available in stainless steel. *AMR-X only available in stainless steel and 60mm / 100mm widths.

Stainless Steel AMR-X Range
Reinforcing Stack-Bonded Masonry

Stack bonding has a distinctive uniform bond pattern and is often detailed for its aesthetic appearance without consideration for its design limitations.

Where large format masonry units are stacked one above the other, the lack of bonding between them will greatly reduce the overall flexural strength of the panel and the ability of the wall to spread vertical loads. In stack bonded masonry, concentrated loads will be carried down to the support by the particular vertical ‘column’ of masonry under load, with little distribution to adjacent masonry.

Ancon AMR Masonry Reinforcement, located in the bed joints, will increase the panel’s flexural strength and improve the capacity to resist lateral loads and spread vertical loads.

The use of Ancon reinforcement referenced AMR/S/D3.5/W60 is normally recommended at vertical centres no greater than 300mm, usually every course or every other course depending on the height of the masonry unit.

The adjacent illustration uses a 215mm unit height. This is typical advice for stack-bonded masonry up to 125mm wide. Thicker blocks require wider reinforcement. The addition of masonry reinforcement will also help with crack control.

Ancon AMR-CJ for Collar Jointed Walls

Ancon AMR-CJ masonry reinforcement allows the construction of collar-jointed walls i.e. two leaves of thin masonry used in place of a single leaf of wider, heavier blockwork. Ancon AMR-CJ is used to tie the two leaves together, so it acts as a single unit.

The product consists of 19 x 2.5mm flat ties welded to flattened longitudinal wires at 450mm centres. The longitudinal wires have a minimum characteristic yield strength of 500N/mm².

AMR-CJ is supplied in a standard width of 175mm to suit wall widths of 215mm comprising two leaves of either standard bricks or 100mm blocks.

It is manufactured in a standard length of 2700mm from five wire diameters which, after flattening, is the equivalent wire diameter of 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 and 5.0mm. Selection is based on calculation.

Product Codes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stainless Steel</th>
<th>Galvanised Steel</th>
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</thead>
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<td>AMR-CJ / G / D3.0 / W175</td>
</tr>
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<td>AMR-CJ / G / D3.5 / W175</td>
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<tr>
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<td>AMR-CJ / G / D4.5 / W175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMR-CJ / S / D5.0 / W175</td>
<td>AMR-CJ / G / D5.0 / W175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Corner Units and T-Sections

Pre-fabricated corner units and T-sections can be manufactured to provide true continuity of reinforcement.
Windposts and Parapet Posts

Ancon Windposts are designed to suit your specific construction and load conditions. They are suitable for use where standard AMR ladder type masonry reinforcement is inadequate or when there is a requirement to split a large masonry panel.

Windpost Design

Ancon Windposts are designed to span vertically between floors to provide lateral support for panels of brickwork. The windposts will usually be restrained by the brickwork and designed as ‘simply supported beams’.

Deflection under wind load will often limit the maximum loading. Windposts can be designed as ‘propped cantilevers’ to limit deflection, this however will require a much larger base connection which in many cases may be difficult to accommodate.

Connections to the frame are designed to permit adjustment during installation. Serrated surfaces will be provided where adjustment is in the direction of the load. The top connection allows for shrinkage or vertical movement of the frame to take place. The type of fixing will depend on the nature of the frame. Expansion bolts are normally supplied for concrete frames and set screws will be supplied for steel frames. The tables on page 10 include part of the Ancon range of windposts. For further information or advice on specific applications, please contact our Technical Services Team.

Please note, it is the responsibility of the Engineer to design a suitable structure for connecting a windpost or parapet post.

Where windposts are to be connected to a concrete frame, the project Structural Engineer should advise the concrete grade. Windpost connections will be designed for grade C30/37 cracked concrete, unless advised otherwise.

Parapet Posts

Ancon Parapet Posts provide lateral restraint to masonry that projects above the main structure. They are designed as ‘cantilevers’ and include a substantial base connection to transfer the bending moment to the structure. To ensure a practical base connection the posts are usually less than 1.6 metres in height. The tables on page 11 show part of the Ancon range of parapet posts. For further information or advice on specific applications, please contact our Technical Services Team.

BIM Objects

BIM objects are available to download from www.NationalBIMLibrary.com/Ancon or www.ancon.co.uk/BIM.

Details for Specification and Ordering

Ancon Windposts are UKCA and CE marked, designed to BS EN 1993 (EC3) and manufactured to BS EN 1090-1. Sufficient time should be allowed for the design, approval and manufacturing process when placing orders for windposts.

The following clause can be adapted for your bill of quantities to aid the specification of Ancon Windposts and Parapet Posts.

Ancon Windposts WP3 65 x 60 x 4 in grade 1.4301 (304) stainless steel, overall length 2750mm complete with all ties and end connections. Fixed with Ancon FAZ II Plus 12/30 Expansion Bolts.
Masonry Reinforcement

Ancon WP1 and WP3 Windposts
Ancon WP1 and WP3 Windposts are channel section windposts which are designed to be installed within the cavity leaving the blockwork undisturbed. The windposts are complete with end connections and ties which fit into the vertical slots in the flanges of the channel section.

WP1 Windpost with SDN and SPN Ties in Cavity Wall

WP3 Windposts with SDN and SPN Ties Providing Support for Brick Pier

Ancon WP2 Windposts
Ancon WP2 Windposts are angle section windposts designed for either small cavities or where wind loads are high. One leg of the angle windpost is built into the blockwork, and the blockwork tied through the leg of the windpost to minimise any possible movement or cracking of internal finishes. The design of Ancon WP2 Windposts assumes full restraint to the longer leg of the post located within the vertical masonry joint. To prevent lateral movement of the post within this joint and ensure the windpost performs to its full capacity, it is essential that this joint is tightly packed with mortar. If a vertical movement joint is required in place of a tied joint, ties with a debonded end on one side can be supplied. The capacity of the post will be reduced in this configuration.

WP2 Windpost with SDN and SNS Ties in Cavity Wall

Ancon WP4 Windposts
Ancon WP4 Windposts are generally used in internal blockwork walls that have a ‘fair faced’ finish to both sides and where the windposts cannot protrude beyond either face. Sometimes referred to as “spine” posts they are flat plates designed to fit within the wall. Although the depth of a WP4 post is limited by the width of the masonry (ideally 20mm less than the wall width), the thickness of the post can vary to increase its load capacity. Blockwork is tied through the post.

WP4 Windpost with SNS Tie in Single Skin Blockwork

Windpost Ties
A range of ties is available to suit Ancon Windposts. SDN Ties are used to the outer leaf and SPN Ties to the inner leaf. SNS Ties are used across the posts in the inner blockwork and can be supplied with a debonding sleeve for use where there is a vertical movement joint.

SPN
SDN
SNS

Windpost Ties for Thin-Joint Cellular Clay Blockwork
A range of ties is available to suit Ancon windposts when used with an inner leaf of cellular clay blocks, where the horizontal bed joints are just 1mm.

The CCB-SPN connects channel profile posts to the inner cellular clay block leaf and CCB-SNS ties are used across angle shaped posts installed in the inner leaf.

Ancon TWP2 Thermal Windpost
The revolutionary Ancon Thermal Windpost (TWP2) features robust integral non-combustible mineral fibre insulation in combination with a thermal slot array. This results in up to 70% reduction in thermal transmission through the span of the section, when using the Thermal Windpost in place of a traditional windpost, as well as improving the consistency and repeatability of fitting insulation in and around the post, ensuring that the intended thermal design is met.

Although it holds the same strong performance, the Thermal Windpost is engineered to be up to 35% lighter than traditional windposts, making it much easier to handle on site. With sharp edges eliminated, safety on site is also improved. More information can be found in the Ancon Thermal Windpost brochure.

TWP2 Thermal Windpost

WP2 Windpost with SNS and SPN Wall Ties

Ancon WP4 Windposts
Ancon WP4 Windposts are generally used in internal blockwork walls that have a ‘fair faced’ finish to both sides and where the windposts cannot protrude beyond either face. Sometimes referred to as “spine” posts they are flat plates designed to fit within the wall. Although the depth of a WP4 post is limited by the width of the masonry (ideally 20mm less than the wall width), the thickness of the post can vary to increase its load capacity. Blockwork is tied through the post.

WP4 Windpost with SNS Tie in Single Skin Blockwork

Windpost Ties
A range of ties is available to suit Ancon Windposts. SDN Ties are used to the outer leaf and SPN Ties to the inner leaf. SNS Ties are used across the posts in the inner blockwork and can be supplied with a debonding sleeve for use where there is a vertical movement joint.

SPN
SDN
SNS

Windpost Ties for Thin-Joint Cellular Clay Blockwork
A range of ties is available to suit Ancon windposts when used with an inner leaf of cellular clay blocks, where the horizontal bed joints are just 1mm.

The CCB-SPN connects channel profile posts to the inner cellular clay block leaf and CCB-SNS ties are used across angle shaped posts installed in the inner leaf.

CCB-SPN
CCB-SNS

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TWP2 Thermal Windpost

WP2 Windpost with SNS and SPN Wall Ties
Connections to the frame can be made in a variety of ways and will depend on the type of post, structure and fixing being used. Typical examples of connections are shown below.

**Fixings for Windposts and Parapet Posts**

Connections to the frame can be made in a variety of ways and will depend on the type of post, structure and fixing being used. Typical examples of connections are shown below.

- **Base Connection of a WP3 Windpost to CombiDeck**
- **Top Connection of a WP2 Windpost to the Underside of a Concrete Beam**
- **Top Connection of a WP3 Windpost to the Face of the Concrete**
- **Top Connection of a WP3 Windpost to the Underside of a Steel Beam**
- **Top Connection of a WP3 Windpost to a Face-Fixed Timber Noggin**
- **Top Connection of a WP3 Windpost to a Side-Fixed Timber Noggin**
- **Top Connection of a WP3 Windpost to the Top of a Timber Wall Plate**
- **Top Connection of a WP2 Windpost to the Underside of a Steel Beam**
- **Top Connection of a WP3 Windpost to a Concrete Infill in the Top of a Beam and Block Floor**
- **Base Connection of a WP1/WP3 Parapet Post to the Top and Face of a Concrete Slab**
- **Base Connection of a WP3 Windpost to the Top of a Concrete Slab**
- **Base Connection of a WP2 Windpost to a Concrete Infill in the Top of a Beam and Block Floor**

**Connections**

The choice of fixing and its position is dependent on the type and length of the windpost and the structure to which it is being fixed. We design fixing details for the top and base of each windpost and a drawing is issued for approval prior to manufacture.

The bolt in the slotted connection at the top of the windpost is positioned so that vertical movement of the frame can take place.
Properties and Recommended Loads for Windposts to BS EN 1993 (EC3)

Ancon Windposts are designed as 'simply supported beams' with a maximum deflection of span/360. The tables below include examples of the Ancon range of Windposts with maximum design loads to BS EN 1993 (Eurocode 3). The design resistances shown should be compared to factored loads and are based on ties to both inner and outer masonry leaves at 225mm vertical centres.

### Performance of WP1 and WP3 Windposts to Eurocode 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>2.5m</th>
<th>3.0m</th>
<th>3.5m</th>
<th>4.0m</th>
<th>4.5m</th>
<th>5.0m</th>
<th>5.5m</th>
<th>6.0m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WP1</td>
<td></td>
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Note: Table based on tie spacing of 225mm. Figures in bold indicate capacity limited by tie capacity.

### Performance of WP2 Windposts to Eurocode 3

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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Table based on tie spacing of 225mm, no vertical movement joint and long leg restrained by the masonry. Figures in bold indicate capacity limited by tie capacity.

### Properties and Performance of WP4 Windposts to Eurocode 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
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<th>3.5m</th>
<th>4.0m</th>
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<td>2.94</td>
<td>2.43</td>
<td>2.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Table based on post restrained by the masonry.

Ancon Windposts comply with all UKCA & CE marking requirements of BS EN 1090-1, including designs to EN 1993 (Eurocode 3) and external certification of our factory production controls by an approved body.

The section sizes shown are an example of those available. For further information or advice on specific applications please contact our Technical Services Team.
Properties and Recommended Loads for Parapet Posts to BS EN 1993 (EC3)
Ancon Parapet Posts are designed according to BS EN 1993 (Eurocode 3) for a maximum deflection of height/180. The tables below indicate the maximum uniformly distributed design load and the maximum point load at the top. The design resistances shown should be compared to factored loads and are based on ties to both inner and outer masonry leaves at 225mm vertical centres. Posts should be selected from the appropriate table. If the post is to be designed for both uniformly distributed and point loads, please contact our Technical Services Team.

### Performance of WP1P and WP3P parapet posts to Eurocode 3 under uniformly distributed load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Total Uniformly Distributed Load per Post (kN, Design Resistance) for Various Parapet Post Lengths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.8m</td>
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<tr>
<td>WP1P</td>
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<td>60x60x4</td>
<td>4.43</td>
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<td>4.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>85x60x4</td>
<td>4.43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Table based on restrained parapet post with tie spacing of 225mm. Figures in bold indicate capacity limited by tie capacity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Design Resistance (kN) at Top of Parapet Post for Various Lengths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.8m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WP1P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60x60x4</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65x60x4</td>
<td>3.12</td>
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<td>70x60x4</td>
<td>3.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>75x60x4</td>
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<td>3.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>85x60x4</td>
<td>3.12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Table based on parapet post with tie spacing of 225mm, figures in bold indicate capacity limited by tie capacity.

### Performance of WP2P parapet posts to Eurocode 3 under uniformly distributed load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Total Uniformly Distributed Load per Post (kN, Design Resistance) for Various Parapet Post Lengths</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>0.8m</td>
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<td>250x70x4</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Table based on tie spacing of 225mm, no vertical movement joint and long leg restrained by the masonry. Figures in bold indicate capacity limited by tie capacity.

### Performance of WP2P parapet posts to Eurocode 3 under point load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Design Resistance (kN) at Top of Parapet Post for Various Lengths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.8m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WP2P</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>250x70x4</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Table based on parapet post having no vertical movement joint, long leg restrained by the masonry and with top rail or other such connection transferring the point load to the top of the post.
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