

MASONRY CHRONICLES

Fall
2016



What is New in the 2013 TMS 402/602 Masonry Code and Specification and the 2016 California Building Code

Introduction

This edition of “Masonry Chronicles” will discuss major changes implemented in the 2013 Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures [TMS 402-13] and the corresponding Specification [TMS 602-13] along with the 2016 California Building Code [2016 CBC]. Some of the major TMS 402/602 changes include a

complete reformatting of the document into a more user-friendly format, a recalibration of the unit strength tables resulting in a significant increase in f'_m for most masonry, the addition of a moment magnifier method for strength design of walls subjected to out-of-plane loads, and a reduction in the shear strength of partially grouted walls. There are many other changes that will also be covered.

Reorganization of the TMS 402 Provisions

The 2013 TMS 402 has been reorganized in response to frequent past requests concerning the length of Chapter 1 and the difficulty in finding provisions. The reorganization divides the code provisions into five parts, each part with individual related chapters (see Figure 1). Chapter 1 was divided into seven different chapters. The rest of the chapters remain the same in terms of organization. The effort was spearheaded by an engineering practitioner and it is felt to be more designer friendly. A detailed cross-reference list between the 2011 and 2013 TMS 402 code is available at <https://masonrysociety.org/2013-tms-402602-errata/>



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