CONTRACTOR'S ALERT – 2019.4

KNOW YOUR INSPECTION TABLES

Minimum inspection tasks, listed in TMS 602 *Specification for Masonry Structures*, are required for masonry construction. The level of inspection is determined by the code, depending on the type of design and seismic exposure and must be considered by the designer when developing a Quality Assurance program for the project. Most designed buildings will be assigned Inspection Level 2 whereas Essential Service facilities will require Level 3 inspection. Not all tasks will apply to a given project.

MINIMUM SPECIAL INSPECTION (TMS 602-16, Table 4)					
Inspection Task	Frequency[a]			Reference for Criteria	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	TMS 402	TMS 602
1. As masonry construction begins, verify that the following are in compliance:					
a. Proportions of site-prepared mortar	NR	P	P		Art 2.1, 2.6 A & 2.6 C
b. Grade and size of prestressing tendons and anchorages	NR	P	P		Art 2.4 B & 2.4 H
c. Grade, type and size of reinforcement, connectors, anchor bolts, and prestressing tendons and anchorages	NR	P	P		Art 3.4 & 3.6 A
d. Prestressing technique	NR	P	P		Art 3.6 B
e. Properties of thin-bed mortar for AAC masonry	NR	C[b]/P[c]	C		Art 2.1 C.1
f. Sample panel construction	NR	P	C		Art 1.6 D
2. Prior to grouting, verify that the following are in compliance:					
a. Grout space	NR	P	C		Art 3.2 D & 3.2 F
b. Placement of prestressing tendons and anchorages	NR	P	P	Sec 10.8 & 10.9	Art 2.4 & 3.6
c. Placement of reinforcement, connectors, and anchor bolts	NR	P	C	Sec 6.1, 6.3.1, 6.3.6 & 6.3.7	Art 3.2 E & 3.4
d. Proportions of site-prepared grout and prestressing grout for bonded tendons	NR	P	P		Art 2.6 B & 2.4 G.1.b
3. Verify compliance of the following during construction:					
a. Materials and procedures with the approved submittals	NR	P	P		Art 1.5
b. Placement of masonry units and mortar joint construction	NR	P	P		Art 3.3 B
c. Size and location of structural members	NR	P	P		Art 3.3 F
d. Type, size, and location of anchors, including other details of anchorage of masonry to structural members, frames, or other construction	NR	P	C	Sec 1.2.1(e), 6.2.1 & 6.3.1	
e. Welding of reinforcement	NR	C	C	Sec .6.1.6.1.2	
f. Preparation, construction, and protection of masonry during cold weather (temperature below 40°F) or hot weather (temperature above 90°F)	NR	P	P		Art 1.8 C & 1.8 D
g. Application and measurement of prestressing force	NR	C	C		Art 3.6 B
h. Placement of grout and prestressing grout for bonded tendons is in compliance	NR	C	C		Art 3.5 & 3.6 C
i. Placement of AAC masonry units and construction of thin-bed mortar joints	NR	C[b]/P[c]	C		Art 3.3 B.9 & 3.3 F.1.b
4. Observe preparation of grout specimens, mortar specimens, and/or prisms	NR	P	C		Art 1.4 B.2.a.3, 1.4 B.2.b.3, 1.4 B.2.c.3, 1.4 B.3 & 1.4 B.4

(a) Frequency refers to the frequency of inspection, which may be continuous or periodically during the listed task, as defined in the table. NR-Not Required, P=Periodic, C=Continuous
(b) Required for the first 5000 square feet of AAC masonry.
(c) Required after the first 5000 square feet of AAC masonry

Note: *The table lists minimum inspection requirements. Project documents may increase requirements from Periodic to Continuous or list inspection tasks in addition to those listed in the table.*

The table above provides guidance to the designer in developing a Quality Assurance (QA) program. When a contractor knows what the QA program is, then developing a Quality Control program to satisfy the QA requirements is much simpler.

Masonry contractors are required to implement a successful Quality Control program based on the QA tasks listed in the table. Doing so will result in fewer corrections to the installed masonry work and provide a superior-quality product.

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