

FOREWORD

JASS stands for the Japanese Architectural Standard Specification, established by the Architectural Institute of Japan. Currently it is published in 28 separate volumes, being divided according to type of work. Jass 6, which means volume 6 of JASS, covers structural steelwork for building construction. Ever since the first edition was issued in 1953, it has served as a guideline toward assuring quality of buildings and workmanship by maintaining the standard of building construction methods.

The purpose of establishing a standard specification for construction work is to formulate an appropriate construction standard for improving the quality of buildings and rationalizing execution procedures.

While compiling the specifications into a system, the following points were taken into consideration:

- a. The specification is not intended to restrict nor regulate architectural design and engineering work, but what can be standardized without any problem were as much as possible, so as to ensure a minimum standard of building construction workmanship.
- b. Recent trends in construction techniques have been to concentrate on narrower specializations. Therefore the Specification was formulated with the close co-operation of a number of construction techniques and specialists. Attempt was made to maintain the organic connections among a variety of technical fields, as well as to introduce various specialized techniques to construction practices by means of Specification.
- c. In order to keep up with the progress in technical research and in advances in materials, results obtained by studies were directly linked to practical use, so that such results may be incorporated into the specification as soon as practical and thereby ensure up-to-date construction technology.

Since the release of the first edition, a number of new materials and fabrication methods have been developed. With this as a background, the Specification has been revised several times, but the purpose has maintained unchanged. This issue is the first English version, based on the 1993 edition.

Although JASS is not a building code as such, it is treated similarly to a building code, indicating how construction work should be carried out. It would not be an overstatement to say that most of the building construction in Japan today is carried out in accordance with JASS. Where special expression is necessary, requirements are expressed as “in accordance with the Special Note”.

In order to make this Specification applicable to individual construction, the Special Notes have to be formulized. Section 13, which contains all of the Special Notes from Section 1 through Section 12, is provided for this purpose.

It is with greatest pleasure that this English version of JASS 6 is presented. It is hoped that this will assist foreigners in the understanding of structural steelwork for building construction in Japan. Wherever the meaning of this English translation is ambiguous or in contradiction with the original Japanese text, readers are advised to refer the original text of the Specification.

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Japanese Architectural Standard Specification JASS 6 (1993)

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