



Agrément South Africa Criteria Review

Call for comments opened 14 July 2021

Submissions must be received by no later than **Sunday, 12 September 2021**

Performance Criteria: Structural Strength and Stability

Introduction and Background

Agrément South Africa (ASA) invites all Built Environment professionals who possess technical expertise relating to Structural Strength and Stability to comment on ASA's performance criteria document.

ASA was established in terms of a Ministerial Delegation of Authority by the Minister of Public Works and Infrastructure in 1969 to facilitate the introduction, application and utilisation of satisfactory innovation and technology development in the construction industry. ASA's vision is to be a centre of excellence for non-standardised construction products and systems. The entity's mission is to enhance its position as an internationally acknowledged South African centre of excellence, specialising in technical assessment, certification, quality assurance and R&D to ensure fitness-for-purpose of non-standardised construction related products and systems.

The Agrément Technical Agency carries out the evaluations on behalf of the Board of Agrément South Africa, which carries out its mandate by evaluating the fitness-for-purpose of construction industry innovations. The evaluations are based on various performance criteria and cover technical aspects of the material or building system such as structural strength and stability; durability; acoustic performance; thermal, condensation and energy performance, fire safety, water penetration etc. ASA criteria are approved by the Board, for use in the evaluation of performance and fitness-for-purpose of the subject products and systems undergoing the ASA certification process. Section 8.2.9 of the *Development of Agrément South Africa Assessment Criteria Procedure* makes provision for development of draft criteria which must undergo internal peer review prior to testing the draft criteria by soliciting public comments. The purpose of subjecting the draft criteria to a 60-day consultation period is to ensure that the criteria is appropriate for local conditions, and that it reflects South African norms and standards where applicable.

Scope of the Criteria

Structural Strength and Stability sets out the criteria that apply to the structural assessment of building systems, including dry-stack masonry building systems, which are covered separately in the criteria. These criteria are intended to ensure that buildings will be fit-for-purpose, safe and durable from a structural point of view. The tests described in the criteria are used to determine the capability of a building system and are not done for the purpose of product development or as an experimental design aid. A comprehensive set of test procedures are described; from these the appropriate tests are selected.

Commenting Instructions

Kindly review the attached Performance Criteria for Structural Strength and Stability and complete the attached Public Comment Form. Section 1 of the form deals with participant details and Section 2 deals with comments on the criteria. You may add more lines to Section 2 if required. The criteria will be published for a period of 60 days.

Closing Date

Public Comment Forms may be emailed to Ms Zama Thusi at ZThusi@agrement.co.za by **16:00** on **12 September 2021**.

Enquiries

For any enquiries, please contact Mihloti Mahlaule at Tel: (012) 841 3023 or email MMahlaule@agrement.co.za.