

# SECTION 03100 - CONCRETE FORMWORK

## City of San Diego, CWP Guidelines

### PART 1 -- GENERAL

#### 1.1 WORK OF THIS SECTION

- A. The WORK of this Section includes providing concrete formwork, bracing, shoring, and supports.

#### 1.2 RELATED SECTIONS

- A. The WORK of the following Sections applies to the WORK of this Section. Other Sections of the Specifications, not referenced below, shall also apply to the extent required for proper performance of the WORK.

1. Section 03200 Reinforcement Steel
2. Section 03280 Joints in Sitework Concrete
3. Section 03290 Joints in Concrete Structures
4. Section 03300 Cast-in-Place Structural Concrete
5. Section 03310 Cast-In-Place Sitework Concrete
6. Section 03315 Grout
7. Section 03400 Precast Concrete

#### 1.3 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

- A. Except as otherwise indicated in this Section of the Specifications, the CONTRACTOR shall comply with the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (SSPWC), as specified in Section 01090 - REFERENCE STANDARDS.

#### 1.4 SPECIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

- A. Except as otherwise indicated, the current editions of the following apply to the WORK of this Section:

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| PS 1    | U.S. Product Standard for Concrete Forms, Class I.          |
| ACI 117 | Standard Tolerances for Concrete Construction and Materials |
| ACI 347 | Recommended Practice for Concrete Formwork                  |

## 1.5 SHOP DRAWINGS AND SAMPLES

- A. The following shall be submitted in compliance with Section 01300:
- B. **Falsework Calculations and Drawings:** The CONTRACTOR's attention is directed to the provisions of Section 1717 of the Division of Industrial Safety, Construction Safety Orders, as revised November 1973, which requires that all falsework or vertical shoring installations where the height of the falsework or vertical shoring, as measured from the top of the sills to the soffit of the superstructure, exceeds 14 feet, or where individual horizontal span lengths exceed 16 feet, or provision for vehicular or railroad traffic through falsework or vertical shoring is made, shall be approved and signed by a civil engineer, registered in the State of California; provided further, that a copy of the falsework plan or shoring layout shall be available on the job site at all times.
- C. Detailed plans of the falsework proposed to be used. Such plans shall be in sufficient detail to indicate the general layout, sizes of members, anticipated stresses, grade of materials to be used in the falsework, means of protecting existing construction which supports falsework, and typical soil conditions.
- D. Catalog information on:
  - 1. Form ties and all related accessories, including taper tie plugs, if taper ties are used.
  - 2. Form gaskets.

## PART 2 -- PRODUCTS

### 2.1 GENERAL

- A. Materials for concrete forms and falsework shall conform to SSPWC Subsection 303-1.3 and the requirements herein.
- B. Except as otherwise expressly accepted, all lumber brought on the job site for use as forms, shoring, or bracing shall be new material. All forms shall be smooth surface forms and shall be of the following materials:

|                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| Walls          | - | Steel or plywood panel                            |
| Columns        | - | Steel, plywood, or fiber glass                    |
| Roof and floor | - | Plywood   |
| All other work | - | Steel panels, plywood or tongue and groove lumber |
- C. Form materials which may remain or leave residues on or in the concrete shall be classified as acceptable for potable water use by the Environmental Protection Agency within 30 days of application or use.

### 2.2 FORM AND FALSEWORK MATERIALS

- A. Materials for concrete forms, formwork, and falsework shall conform to the following requirements:

1. Lumber shall be Douglas Fir or Southern Pine, construction grade or better, in conformance with U.S. Product Standard PS20.
  2. Plywood for concrete formwork shall be new, waterproof, synthetic resin bonded, exterior type Douglas Fir or Southern Pine plywood manufactured especially for concrete formwork and shall conform to the requirements of PS 1 for Concrete Forms, Class I, and shall be edge sealed.
  3. Form materials shall be metal, wood, plywood, or other approved material that will not adversely affect the concrete and will facilitate placement of concrete to the shape, form, line, and grade shown. Metal forms shall be an approved type that will accomplish such results. Wood forms for surfaces to be painted shall be Medium Density Overlaid plywood, MDO Ext. Grade.
- B. Unless otherwise indicated, exterior corners in concrete members shall be provided with 3/4-inch chamfers. Re-entrant corners in concrete members shall not have fillets unless otherwise indicated.
- C. Forms and falsework to support the roof and floor slabs shall be designed for the total dead load, plus a live load of 30 psf (minimum).

## 2.3 FORM TIES

- A. Form ties with integral waterstops shall be provided with a plastic cone or other suitable means for forming a conical hole to insure that the form tie may be broken off back of the face of the concrete. The maximum diameter of removable cones for rod ties, or of other removable form-tie fasteners having a circular cross-section, shall not exceed 1-1/2 inches; and all such fasteners shall be such as to leave holes of regular shape for reaming.
- B. Form ties for water-retaining structures shall have integral waterstops. Removable taper ties may be used when approved. A preformed neoprene or polyurethane tapered plug sized to seat at the center of the wall shall be inserted in the hole left by the removal of the taper tie.

## 2.4 MANUFACTURERS

- A. Products of the type indicated shall be manufactured by one of the following (or equal):

1. Form Ties

**Burke Penta - Tie System by the Burke Company**  
**Richmond Snap Tys by the Richmond Screw Anchor Company**

2. Form ties with Integral Waterstops

**Burke Taper - Tie System by the Burke Company**  
**Taper Ty by the Richmond Screw Anchor Company**

## PART 3 -- EXECUTION

### 3.1 GENERAL

- A. Forms and falsework shall be designed and constructed in accordance with ACI 347 and SSPWC Subsections 303-1.3, 303-1.6, and 303-5.2, and the requirements herein, except that the submittal of detailed falsework will not be required.
- B. **Tolerances:** The variation from established grade or lines shall not exceed 1/4-inch in 10 feet and there shall be no offsets or visible waviness in the finished surface. All other tolerances shall be within the tolerances of ACI 117.
- C. Forms to confine the concrete and shape it to the required lines shall be used wherever necessary. The CONTRACTOR shall assume full responsibility for the adequate design of all forms, and any forms which are unsafe or inadequate in any respect shall promptly be removed from the WORK and replaced at the CONTRACTOR's expense. A sufficient number of forms of each kind shall be provided to permit the required rate of progress to be maintained. The design and inspection of concrete forms, falsework, and shoring shall comply with applicable local, state and Federal regulations. Plumb and string lines shall be installed before concrete placement and shall be maintained during placement. Such lines shall be used by CONTRACTOR's personnel and by the ENGINEER and shall be in sufficient number and properly installed. During concrete placement, the CONTRACTOR shall continually monitor plumb and string line form positions and immediately correct deficiencies.
- D. Concrete forms shall conform to the shape, lines, and dimensions of members as called for on the Drawings, and shall be substantial, free from surface defects, and sufficiently tight to prevent leakage. Forms shall be properly braced or tied together to maintain their position and shape under a load of freshly-placed concrete. If adequate foundation for shores cannot be secured, trussed supports shall be provided.

### 3.2 FORM DESIGN

- A. All forms shall be true in every respect to the required shape and size, shall conform to the established alignment and grade, and shall be of sufficient strength and rigidity to maintain their position and shape under the loads and operations incident to placing and vibrating the concrete. Suitable and effective means shall be provided on all forms for holding adjacent edges and ends of panels and sections tightly together and in accurate alignment so as to prevent the formation of ridges, fins, offsets, or similar surface defects in the finished concrete. Plywood, 5/8-inch and greater in thickness, may be fastened directly to studding if the studs are spaced close enough to prevent visible deflection marks in the concrete. The forms shall be tight so as to prevent the loss of water, cement and fines during placing and vibrating of the concrete. Specifically, the bottom of wall forms that rest on concrete footings or slabs shall be provided with a gasket to prevent loss of fines and paste during placement and vibration of concrete. Such gasket may be a 1- to 1-1/2-inch diameter polyethylene rod held in position to the underside of the wall form. Adequate clean-out holes shall be provided at the bottom of

each lift of forms. The size, number, and location of such clean-outs shall be as acceptable to the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER. Whenever concrete cannot be placed from the top of a wall form in a manner that meets the requirements of the Contract Documents, form windows shall be provided in the size and spacing needed to allow placement of concrete to the requirements of Section 03300. The size, number, and location of such form windows shall be acceptable to the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER.

### 3.3 CONSTRUCTION

- A. **Vertical Surfaces:** All vertical surfaces of concrete members shall be formed, except where placement of the concrete against the ground is shown. Not less than 1-inch of concrete shall be added to the thickness of the concrete member as shown where concrete is permitted to be placed against trimmed ground in lieu of forms. Such permission will be granted only for members of comparatively limited height and where the character of the ground is such that it can be trimmed to the required lines and will stand securely without caving or sloughing until the concrete has been placed.
- B. **Construction Joints:** Concrete construction joints will not be permitted at locations other than those shown or specified, except as may be acceptable to the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER. When a second lift is placed on hardened concrete, special precautions shall be taken in the way of the number, location, and tightening of ties at the top of the old lift and bottom of the new to prevent any unsatisfactory effect whatsoever on the concrete. Pipe stubs and anchor bolts shall be set in the forms where required.
- C. **Form Ties:**
1. **Embedded Ties:** Holes left by the removal of form tie cones shall be reamed with suitable toothed reamers so as to leave the surface of the holes clean and rough before being filled with mortar as indicated in Section 03300. Wire ties for holding forms will not be permitted. No form-tying device or part thereof, other than metal, shall be left embedded in the concrete. Ties shall not be removed in such manner as to leave a hole extending through the interior of the concrete members. The use of snap-ties which cause spalling of the concrete upon form stripping or tie removal will not be permitted. If steel panel forms are used, rubber grommets shall be provided where the ties pass through the form in order to prevent loss of cement paste. Where metal rods extending through the concrete are used to support or to strengthen forms, the rods shall remain embedded and shall terminate not less than 1-inch back from the formed face or faces of the concrete.
  2. **Removable Ties:** Where taper ties are approved for use, the larger end of the taper tie shall be on the wet side of walls in water retaining structures. After the taper tie is removed, the hole shall be thoroughly cleaned and roughened for bond. A precast neoprene or polyurethane tapered plug shall be located at the wall centerline. The hole shall be completely filled with non-shrink grout for water bearing and below-grade walls. The hole shall be completely filled with non-shrink or regular cement grout for above-grade walls which are dry on both sides. Exposed faces of walls shall have the outer 2 inches of the exposed face filled with a cement grout which shall match the color and texture of the surrounding wall surface.

### 3.4 REUSE OF FORMS

- A. Forms may be reused only if in good condition and only if acceptable to the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER. Light sanding between uses will be required wherever necessary to obtain uniform surface texture on all exposed concrete surfaces. Exposed concrete surfaces are defined as surfaces which are permanently exposed to view. In the case of forms for the inside wall surfaces of hydraulic/water retaining structures, unused tie rod holes in forms shall be covered with metal caps or shall be filled by other methods acceptable to the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER.

### 3.5 REMOVAL OF FORMS

- A. Careful procedures for the removal of forms shall be strictly followed, and this work shall be done with care so as to avoid injury to the concrete. No heavy loading on green concrete will be permitted. In the case of roof slabs and above-ground floor slabs, forms shall remain in place until test cylinders for the roof concrete attain a minimum compressive strength of 75 percent of the 28-day strength specified in Section 03300; provided, that no forms shall be disturbed or removed under an individual panel or unit before the concrete in the adjacent panel or unit has attained 75 percent of the specified 28-day strength and has been in place for a minimum of 7 days. The time required to establish said strength shall be as determined by the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER who will make several test cylinders for this purpose from concrete used in the first group of roof panels placed. If the time so determined is more than the 7-day minimum, then that time shall be used as the minimum length of time. Forms for all vertical walls and columns shall remain in place at least 2 days after the concrete has been placed. Forms for all parts of the WORK not specifically mentioned herein shall remain in place for periods of time as determined by the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER.

### 3.6 MAINTENANCE OF FORMS

- A. Forms shall be cleaned, treated with a releasing agent, and maintained in accordance with SSPWC Subsection 303-1.3 and the following. The form surfaces shall be treated with a nonstaining mineral oil or other lubricant [compatible with the waterproofing membrane material and] acceptable to the CONSTRUCTION MANAGER. Any excess lubricant shall be satisfactorily removed before placing the concrete. Where field oiling of forms is required, the CONTRACTOR shall perform the oiling at least two weeks in advance of their use. Care shall be exercised to keep oil off the surfaces of steel reinforcement and other metal items to be embedded in concrete.

### 3.7 FALSEWORK

- A. Falsework, including staging, walkways, forms, ladders, and similar appurtenances, shall be designed, engineered, constructed, and maintained according to the applicable requirements of the provisions of the OSHA Safety and Health Standards for Construction, and the requirements of the Construction Safety Orders of the California Division of Industrial Safety.

- END OF SECTION -