

CASE 976-D: Commentary on the 2010 & 2015 Code of Standard Practice for Steel Joists and Joist Girders

Abstract

The specification of joists and Joist Girders can provide an economical structural solution, but there are very specific requirements that must be understood by all parties. The updated 2010 SJI COSP provides a more practical approach to specifying joists, to introduce new design terms for use by the structural engineer, and to identify and clarify topics that may have been subject to varying interpretation in the past. The more recently released 2015 SJI COSP provides additional clarifications and minor revisions.

This commentary provides observations and analysis of the revisions and additions in both documents, and discusses specific aspects of the COSP that have a direct impact on the structural engineer's practice of specifying steel joists. A familiarity and understanding of the entire SJI COSP is necessary to ensure the proper design and documentation of steel joists and Joist Girders. However, the following discussion highlights sections of particular interest to the specifying structural engineer.