

An ACI Standard

Specifications for Structural Concrete

Reported by ACI Committee 301

ACI 301-16



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- 301 is referenced in the Contract Documents of the Project.
- Specification is written to the Contractor.
- The Notes to Specifier and Checklists are written to the Specifier





#### **Contract Documents**

- Project Drawings
- Notes on Drawings
- Project Specifications
- ACI 301 Specifications for Structural Concrete
- Other ACI Specifications
- ASTM Specifications
- ASTM Test Methods





# **Legal Document-**

**Body of the Specification (51 pages)** 

-The Body of the Specification gives direction to the Contractor

## **Non-Mandatory Portion**

Pages 52-66

- -This area of the Specification gives direction to the Specifier.
- -Mandatory Requirements Checklist
- -Optional Requirements Checklist





## **Mandatory Requirements Checklist**

- Trigger language- 'specified in Contract Documents'
  - Items requires the Specifier to take action f'c
     aggregate size
     tolerance of mesh reinforcement
  - Specify specialty sections scope
     ie: What portions of project are architectural concrete, mass concrete, or post-tensioned.





## **Optional Requirements Checklist**

- Trigger language-'Unless Otherwise Specified'
  - -The Body of the Specification has defaults
  - -Defaults are generally set to cover most situations
  - -It is a flag that the Specifier may want to review the item
  - -It is a flag to the Contractor that there is an alternative available





# **Specifications**

- Clear
- Single interpretation
- Should be what is actually desired
- List only requirements
- Be written so that it cannot be misunderstood





# **Purpose of Specifications**

- Informs the contractor what needs to be done to construct a structure that will meet the needs of the owner
- Does not tell the contractor how to construct the structure unless you want him to do it





# Do you know your defaults?

ACI 318- Building Code Requirements for Structural Concrete

ACI 301- Standard Specification for Structural Concrete

ACI 311.6 - Specification for Ready Mixed Concrete Testing Services

ACI 117- Specifications for Tolerances for Concrete Construction

ASTM C94- Standard Specification for Ready-Mixed Concrete





## **MasterFormat**

- Reference specification that is written to be CSI Three Part Format
  - General
  - Products
  - Execution





#### aci Dverview of ACI 301

# **Main Body**

- Section 1—General requirements
- Section 2—Formwork and formwork accessories
- Section 3—Reinforcement and reinforcement supports
- Section 4—Concrete mixtures
- Section 5—Handling, placing, and constructing





# **Optional Sections**

- Section 6—Architectural concrete
- Section 7—Lightweight concrete
- Section 8—Mass concrete
- Section 9—Post-tensioned concrete
- Section 10—Shrinkage-compensating concrete for interior slabs
- Section 11—Industrial floor slabs
- Section 12—Tilt-up construction
- Section 13—Precast structural concrete
- Section 14—Precast architectural concrete





# In Summary... the Goal of 301





## **Clear on Desired Outcome**

 Specifications should have the right "hoops" to jump through to get the performance required for service conditions.







## aci Overview of ACI 301

## **States the Obvious**

Know what's written.

#### Ex:

- Curing Condition
- Thermal Control
- Performance Testing







# **Cautions Requirements that Bind Contractors Hands**

- Means and Methods
- Materials Types, Limits







# **Default vs. Optional Requirements**



There is more than one way to get the job done.





## **Questions and Further Information**

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