



January 1, 2025

Subject: RCSC Alternative Design Provisions

To whom it may concern,

The 2020 *RCSC Specification for Structural Joints Using High-Strength Bolts*, Section 2.12 *Alternative-Design Bolting Components, Assemblies, and Methods* permits the *Engineer of Record* to specify or permit materials, coatings, or methods that are not explicitly mentioned in the *RCSC Specification*.

When approved by the *Engineer of Record*, limited to conditions stated in the *Specification*,

- (a) alternative-design bolting components, assemblies, or installation methods are permitted to replace or supplement bolting components, assemblies, or installation methods described elsewhere in this *Specification* (2.12.1), and
- (b) use of consensus standards that are not referenced in Section 2 is permitted (2.12.2).

Section 2.12 also provides limitations and requirements for the use of

- (a) alternative coatings (2.12.3),
- (b) bolting components and assemblies that differ in dimensions (2.12.4),
- (c) different connection details and installation methods (2.12.5), and
- (d) inspection (2.12.6).

It is incumbent upon the *Engineer of Record* to exercise due diligence when approving the use of alternative-design bolting components, assemblies, and methods.

RCSC has no opinion regarding the suitability or applicability of any such bolting components or assemblies, coatings, connection details, or installation methods.

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