

SINGAPORE STANDARD

Testing concrete

– Part B7 : Recommendations for the assessment of
concrete strength by the near to surface tests

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This Singapore Standard having been approved by the Building Materials Product Standards Committee was endorsed by the Standards Council on 22 December 1992.

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TESTING CONCRETE

PART B7 : RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF
CONCRETE STRENGTH BY THE NEAR-TO-SURFACE TESTS

FOREWORD

This Part of SS 78 B series standards has been prepared under the direction of the Building Materials Product Standards Committee. All aspects of testing concrete are being included as parts of SS 78 A and B series standards from sampling fresh concrete to assessing concrete in structures. SS 78 : Part B 1 gives general guidance on the choice of non-destructive test methods, including a bibliography, and should be consulted for advice in methods which complement the use of near-to-surface strength tests or are useful as alternatives.

Except for changes, where applicable, in test environment this Standard is based on BS 1881 : Part 207 : 1992 and reproduced by permission of BSI, 2 Park Street, London, W1A 2BS, England.

In recent years, several tests and devices have been developed which give a measure of the in-situ strength of concrete near to the surface. Carrying out near-to-surface tests requires only one face of the concrete to be available and this face need not be as smooth as that required for some alternative tests. Although most of these tests measure a property of concrete related to its strength, correlation with compressive strength has to be established experimentally. The results obtained may be used to estimate the strength of the body of the concrete. However, placing, compacting and curing may make the concrete in the surface zone unrepresentative of the concrete at deeper levels. For some methods the same correlation can be used over a wide range of concrete types but this is not universally true. Care should be taken to ensure that the correlations adopted are relevant to the circumstances of use.

Guidance on planning and interpreting tests to assess the strength of concrete in structures is given in BS 6089, which refers to the use of near-to-surface methods. The tests described in this part of SS 78 B series standard are those for which there is most experience at present. Other near-to-surface techniques may be proposed, usually to meet some particular need, and their use is not precluded by this Part. The recommendations of Clauses 3, 4, 5 and 11 to 13 may usefully be applied to such methods.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this Singapore Standard may be the subject of patent rights. Enterprise Singapore shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all of such patent rights.

NOTE

1. *Singapore Standards (SSs) and Technical References (TRs) are reviewed periodically to keep abreast of technical changes, technological developments and industry practices. The changes are documented through the issue of either amendments or revisions.*
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1. SCOPE

This Part of SS 78 B-series standards gives recommendations on tests that are designed to assess the strength of concrete by causing localized failure in a small zone, typically up to 75 mm from the surface, according to the method. The recommendations cover the following test methods:

- (a) internal fracture;
- (b) pull-out;
- (c) pull-off;
- (d) penetration resistance;
- (e) break-off.

NOTE. The titles of publications referred to in this standard are listed at the end of the standard.