



Residential North America

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To whom it may concern

Basis for using ASTH E488-96(2003) “Standard Test Method for Strength of Anchors in Concrete and Masonry Elements”

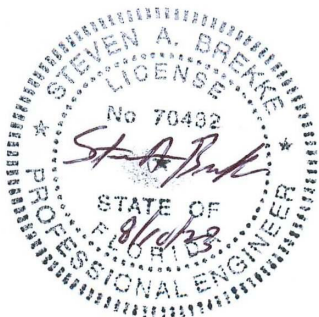
ASTM E488 is an approved and nationally recognized standard that describes the test method for determining the shear strength of post installed anchors installed into structural masonry walls. Specifically, Section 5.3 describes the shear test procedure for anchors installed perpendicular to the masonry wall and Section 5.5 describes the displacement measurements needed for the test. E488 was used to determine the allowable masonry-steel strength of the straps listed in FL 17325. These straps attach wood trusses and wood framing to solid filled CMU masonry walls in a fashion typical to that shown below and are loaded only in direct tension (uplift):

Florida Building Code 2023 section 2321.5 (Anchorage to Concrete) provides a general description of the requirements of straps used to anchor wood to concrete (grout filled CMU implied) and Section 2321.7 (1) provides the requirement that anchors shall be tested to a minimum 700 lb. uplift load, and yet there is no reference standard within Chapter 35 of the 2023 FBC or the 2021 IBC, used as a model code, that identifies the test method needed to establish this capacity.

Based on my research and analysis, it is my opinion that ASTM E488 -96 (2003) is an acceptable test standard and can be used to establish the allowable strength capacity of the masonry-steel strength of the straps listed in FL 17325 and used under the 2023 Florida Building Code.

Regards,

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