

Hybrid Precast Moment Resisting Frames

The Pankow Consortium has produced a Hybrid Precast Concrete Moment Resisting Frame that has the potential to alter the fundamental way that structures will be designed and built in regions of high seismic activity. The hybrid frame relies upon connections of its precast columns and beams that utilize standard reinforcing steel and high-strength post-tensioning steel cables. The combination allows the inelastic action necessary to absorb energy through movement of the joint and the elastic action necessary to provide the shear and moment resistance which holds the joint together. The post-tensioning steel makes the joint self-centering, resulting in no residual drift (e.g. building lean) after a seismic test.

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