

## Structural Engineering International

*Structural Engineering International* (SEI) is the quarterly journal of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE). SEI is a leading source of information on developments in, and related to, structural engineering. SEI publishes the latest developments in structural engineering theory and practice from around the world. Articles are written primarily by structural engineers for structural engineers.

## Guidelines for SEI Authors

This document is aimed for authors who intend to submit their paper for possible publication in the *Structural Engineering International* journal. SEI is a quarterly journal published in Feb/May/Aug/Nov. of each year, since 1991. Each paper submitted is separately reviewed by the SEI Editorial Board and Reviewers. We publish articles on recent structures and peer reviewed papers. To get acquainted to SEI articles you can download a free online journal from this link: [Free SEI Sample, click here!](#) (Or send an email to [iabse@iabse.org](mailto:iabse@iabse.org) with the subject "SEI Sample Journal" and receive the sample by return E-Mail within seconds). For any enquiries you can contact the Publications Manager, Ms. Brindarica Bose at [bose@iabse.org](mailto:bose@iabse.org) **Thank you for considering SEI for your paper!**

<b>Quick Checklist for your full paper submission (via <a href="#">ScholarOne</a>):</b>	
1. Upload a <b>WORD doc. with full text, figures, figure captions and tables (but WITHOUT Author names)</b> . This document will be sent for review. SEI follows blind-review policy. Authors and Reviewers don't get to know each other's name, to avoid any biased judgement.	
2. <b>Figures</b> as separate EPS, TIFF or high resolution JPEG files (355 dpi resolution, 10 cm width minimum). Authors are requested to submit original photographs, or arrange for the necessary non-exclusive copyrights.	
3. <b>Author and Co-author details</b> (Full name, designation, postal address, email id, tel.no.) to be filled in while submitting the paper in ScholarOne and in a separate <b>Cover Letter</b> .	
4. Please indicate the <b>Submission Category</b> (Note the word limit): 4.1 <b>Technical reports:</b> (a) papers dealing with recent structures: ~1600 words, 3-5 figures (b) General reports: ~2400 words, 5-8 figures 4.2 <b>Scientific Papers:</b> ~4000 words, 8-10 figures	
5. Every paper should have a " <b>Abstract</b> ", " <b>Introduction</b> ", " <b>Conclusion</b> " and <b>5-7 Keywords</b> . Technical reports dealing with recent structures should have a SEI Data Block (see sample pasted below). <b>The paper should not have too many figures</b> , try to limit to a minimum number of relevant figures only.	
6. <b>English:</b> The style, grammar and phrasing should be edited by a person with an excellent command of English and a good understanding of structural engineering terminology. Please review and edit the English in your paper - prior to submission. Manuscripts with poor structure and many grammatical mistakes may not be evaluated further, so please check before you submit.	
<i>Following the author guidelines will greatly facilitate the review and editorial process. From submission to publication takes around 6-9 months. We follow blind review process (authors and reviewers names remain anonymous to each other). For any enquiries, please contact the Publications Manager at: <a href="mailto:bose@iabse.org">bose@iabse.org</a></i>	

## Categories/Rubric of Articles

### 1. Technical Reports (Non-Peer reviewed)

**1.1 Technical Reports on recent structures:** These articles briefly profile recent individual structures. Articles may deal with the planning, design, construction, operation, maintenance, rehabilitation, or dismantling of structures. They are to address the scientific and technical aspects of the structure, but may also discuss economic, environmental, sustainable, aesthetic and social aspects. Recent Structures papers should end with a SEI Data Block. See example pasted. **Word Count: Two to three SEI pages (1600 to 2400 words)** and must include at least one technical drawing or diagram and one photograph among the figures.

<b>SEI Data Block</b>	
<i>Owner:</i>	The Department of Highways
<i>Contractor:</i>	Unique Engineering and Construction Co. Ltd
Steel (t):	4646
Concrete (m <sup>3</sup> ):	38 313
Prestressing steel (t):	1358
Estimated cost (USD million):	40
Service Date:	November, 2008

**1.2 Technical reports on general topics:** These articles include research, development, testing and practical contributions as well as articles on project management, education and professional issues. They may be peer-reviewed by two reviewers with expertise in the topic presented according to the decision of the Chair of the SEI Editorial Board.

**Word Count: Three to four SEI pages** (2400 to 3200 words), including figures (4-6 figures count for 1 SEI page).

## **2. Scientific Papers (Peer-reviewed)**

These articles tend to be theoretical and present and interpret the results of significant scientific investigation in the field of structural engineering. These articles are peer-reviewed by two reviewers with expertise in the topic presented.

**Word Count: Six SEI pages** (~4000 words), including figures (4-6 figures count for 1 SEI page).

### **How to distinguish a Peer Reviewed Paper (SEI submission category: Scientific Paper)**

Peer reviewed papers are categorized as 'Scientific Papers'. These papers are reviewed by 2 external reviewers and the Chief Reviewer, from the SEI Editorial Board. 'Scientific Papers' have to be **sufficiently technical, research minded and scientific**; a primarily design oriented contribution does not get the Peer Review Stamp (PRS). The PRS appears on the first page of the paper, bottom left with the submission and acceptance dates. When a paper is primarily 'routine' design or construction oriented, it does not get a PRS.

Peer reviewed papers **shall contain new material and not textbook material**. Peer reviewing is necessary when the Editorial Board needs to verify the accuracy or validity of the paper. The Author can also request a Peer review in some cases, however it is finally the SEI Editorial Board who will decide if the paper gets a Peer Review Stamp or not. **A PRS paper shall contain a new theory, or a new method or new experimental work and in case of an application, they shall contain innovative ideas**. A PRS paper shall be self-containing in the sense that all relevant data are there or are referred to; they are fully documented and all relevant background material can be traced. They shall be well written and at a high quality level.

## **3. Eminent Structural Engineer (ESE)**

These articles feature one engineer; living or deceased. These articles include a brief CV; date of birth, place of study, positions, a brief description of their work in particular detailing the innovative or special aspects, an explanation of which engineers or what works most affected the work of the individual, if known, a personal interpretation or discussion of how their work affected posterior structural engineering developments or other engineers, if applicable, the personal relationship of the author to the featured individual, or personal anecdotes illustrating a professional facet of the featured individual.

**Word Count: Two pages (1600 words)**. A portrait of the featured individual, one to three photographs, renderings or line drawings of their work should also be included. The paper should have the following structure:

### **1. Intent**

1.1. The intent of this series is:

- to raise awareness of the structural engineering heritage through a better understanding of the work of notable structural engineers,
- to promote good engineering examples and inspire young engineers.

### **2. Content**

2.1. Both living and deceased engineers will be featured.

2.2. Only one engineer will be featured in each document.

2.3. Each document should include the following information:

2.3.1. A brief CV; date of birth, place of study, positions, ...,

2.3.2. A brief description of their work in particular detailing the innovative or special aspects,

2.3.3. An explanation of which engineers or what works most affected the work of the individual, if known,

2.3.4. A personal interpretation or discussion of how their work affected posterior structural engineering developments or other engineers,

2.3.5. If applicable, the personal relationship of the author to the featured individual, or personal anecdotes illustrating a professional facet of the featured individual.

### **3. Formal Aspects**

3.1. The document shall comply with all the requirements included in SEI's "Guidelines for Authors", unless otherwise noted in this document.

3.2. Each document will be printed on two full, facing, pages.

3.3. The number of words shall not exceed 1600.

3.4. Each document shall include the following graphics:

3.4.1. A portrait of the featured individual,

3.4.2. One to three photographs, renderings or line drawings of their work.

## 4. Recent PhD Abstracts

*Structural Engineering International* (SEI) would like to help you stay up-to-date with some of the exciting and cutting edge research being carried out at universities around the world. The rubric, "Recent PhD Abstracts," will provide a window onto recent research activities, while giving recent PhDs a chance to disseminate their results quickly. Readers wishing to follow up on the information presented in the abstracts will be encouraged to contact the authors, thereby stimulating direct contact between researchers and those most interested in their results. The full-length manuscript will also be available using the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) or the URL that will be given with each abstract.

### Call for abstracts: for deadlines and template [click here](#)

- Maximum number of words for abstract: 300.
- The PhD described in the abstract must have been completed within one year of the call deadline.
- Please note the names of the PhD student, PhD supervisors, and the university where the PhD was carried out.
- The abstract must be written in English; the PhD document may be in another language, please note the language of the PhD document.
- The PhD document MUST BE available online and free of charge. Please provide a URL or the DOI of the document. DOI/URL is compulsory.
- One photo or figure may also be submitted to accompany the abstract; authors are strongly encouraged to only submit photos or figures that are essential to the understanding of the text.
- The abstracts will be reviewed by members of the SEI Editorial Board and chosen for publication in SEI.

## 5. Review Papers

### Checklist for SEI Review Papers

1. A review paper gives an overview of the state-of-the-art on a structural engineering topic that is well defined in meaning and scope.  
A review paper also looks ahead and shows the way, giving directions for new research on the topic considered.
2. The following should be read as a guideline for length. It is recommended that a review paper should be at least approximately 8 SEI pages long, comprising a minimum of approximately 6 pages of content (body) and 2 pages of references, although shorter papers may also be accepted. This is equivalent to approximately 4500 - 5500 words, and 5 to 10 figures (1 SEI page without figures is approximately 800 words).
3. Each reference must be addressed in the body of the paper, preferably such that the content of that reference is briefly summarized.
4. Reference shall be made to a broad range of authors, from different research institutes and groups. References from various geographical areas shall be included. Multiple references to a single group of authors or research group are to be avoided unless each article cited gives significant, unique content.
5. The vast majority of references listed should refer to journal papers, followed by conference papers or reports when no journal paper is available by that author on the same topic. References to articles that focus on fundamental research are preferred over those focusing on practical aspects and specific codes of practice.
6. Papers in the reference list older than 15 years are to be avoided unless they are 'classics' and still considered relevant to the topic being considered.

## How to write an SEI paper

### Manuscript Format

Language: English (British or America, not mixed up). Either UK –ise, yse (**Oxford:** -ize, -yse) or US (**Websters:** -ize, -yze) spelling acceptable, although they should be consistent within each paper. Preferably UK spelling.

Text: Organize by using numbered headings and sub-headings. A **short 'Abstract' (max. 200 words), 'Introduction' and a 'Conclusion' section are required.** Figures and Tables should be referred to in the text. The

Abstract should be understandable without reference to the rest of the paper. **The paper should discuss about the conceptual design, statistics, decision making process to make the contribution more interesting. To attract the readers, the content should be split up into shorter paragraphs with more headings/subheadings. Aim for clarity and fluency.** Avoid personal pronouns “I”, “we”, “us”. DO NOT refer to products, brand names, personal names or companies within the text, illustration. They can however be mentioned in the SEI Data Block (for Technical Reports dealing with recent structures) or in the Acknowledgement section (personal contribution/thanks). Authors bear all responsibility for the information provided.

Alphabet:

A a (À à), (Æ æ), B b, C c (Ç ç), D d [Ð ð], E e (É é, È è, Ě ě, Ê ê), F f, G g, H h, I i (Ī ī), J j, K k, L l, M m, N n (Ñ ñ), O o (Ö ö, Ô ô), (Œ œ), P p, Q q, R r, S s, T t, U u, V v, W w, X x, Y y, [Ț ț], Z z, [Ȑ ȑ]

Units: Please use SI (ISO) units only e.g. m, mm (correct), cm (wrong). Authors may refer to 'Quantities and Units', ISO Standards Handbook, Geneva, Switzerland, 1993, ISBN 92-67-10185-4.

Equations and Decimals: Equations should be clear and easy to understand. Number them in your text and place each one on a new line. Variables within text and Equations should be in Italics. For Decimals **use a comma “,” instead of a dot “.”** E.g. 9,98 (correct), 9.98 (wrong).

Paper Title and Headings: Title shouldn't be too long. Headings should be brief and **without acronyms**. Differentiate between Headings and Subheadings with numbering, e.g. 1. HEADING 1.1. SUB-HEADING.

Figures: Please supply the best quality you can: **355 dpi for photographs, 1200 dpi for diagrams and line drawings; at 15 cm width**. Figures are typically reproduced in widths of 58 mm (1 column), 122 mm (2 columns) or 185 mm (3 columns). Line drawings should be clear, schematic rather than highly detailed and they should contain minimal text, numbers and symbols. Lettering must be of a size that will be clearly legible in the size the figure is to be displayed, and consistent with the other figures. For graphs you can also submit Excel files. The grouping of all notations in a table may be useful if the article contains many equations. Figure and Table captions should be self-explanatory and brief. **All figures must be uploaded when you first submit your paper in ScholarOne. Revised submission should include only revised figures, with the file name for example “Revised Fig. 1”.**

Numbers: One to ten are expressed in words, unless with units of measurement (e.g. 3 mm). 11 upward appear in numerals, unless used in general terms (e.g. about a hundred people). *Four-digit numbers* should appear closed up without a space (e.g. 5400). Five-digit numbers and above should be separated by a thin space (e.g. 54 000).

References: Reference list (for publications) should be **accurate and complete with all details**. References cited in the text should be indicated by numerical superscripts. Authors are encouraged to add relevant papers that are indexed by ISI to the current list of references. The titles of the journals that are indexed by ISI can be found at <http://www.isinet.com>. Reference format followed by SEI is **Vancouver style**.

**DO NOT add website addresses under the Reference List.** You can place them in a separate section “**Further Information**” and list website addresses, or similar information. Reference *for the Reference List* can be marked in the text as subscripts and listed at the end of the paper in the order in which they appear in the text. References should be listed as follows:

[1] Dzeng RJ, Tommelein ID. Using product models to plan construction. *Proceedings 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Computing in Civil and Building Engineering*. ASCE: Anaheim, CA, New York, 1993; 1778–1785.

Language: Authors are encouraged to use pure English alphabets; however alphabets mentioned in the Oxford List are also acceptable (for diacritics usage, please see list below).

The style, grammar and phrasing should be edited by a person with an excellent command of English and a good understanding of structural engineering terminology. Please review and edit the English in your paper - prior to submission. **Manuscripts with poor structure and many grammatical mistakes may not be further evaluated, so please check before you submit.** See list of diacritics allowed below:

## Further Information

### Manuscript Review

Manuscripts submitted to SEI are reviewed by the SEI Editorial Board for acceptance and Scientific Papers are subjected to a peer review by international experts under the guidance of the SEI Editorial Board. Review process is double-blind, i.e. authors don't get to know the name of the reviewers and vice versa. Upon receiving a Manuscript via ScholarOne, the Publications Manager checks the submission if it is complete and thereafter forwards it to the Chair of the SEI Editorial Board for internal review. The Chairman selects a member of the Editorial Board to be the Chief Reviewer (CR) of the article and determines if the article is suitable for peer-review. When the paper is to be peer-reviewed the CR will invite external reviewers, with expertise in the topic presented, to assess the paper. Based on their comments and recommendation, the CR sends the review summary to the author for revision. Once the author submits his revised paper, the Chief Reviewer makes the final decision. If the paper is to be declined then the Chairman also reviews the revised paper before taking the decision. The author will then be notified about the status of the Manuscript. Once the paper gets accepted it is scheduled for the next SEI issue and the author will receive further information regarding production details from the Publications Manager.

### Production

Once the paper gets accepted, the text file is sent for copyediting and the figures for print-quality assessment. Thereafter, the edited paper and the figures-quality report are sent to the author for approval along with the Publications Agreement for signing. Upon receiving the author's approval, the edited paper and the figures are sent for typesetting (layout proof preparation). Proofs are later sent to respective authors for their final approval. This stage is used only to correct errors that may have been introduced during the production process or otherwise and is the last chance to check the paper. Prompt return of the corrected proofs, preferably within three working days of receipt, will minimize the risk of the paper being held over to a later issue. Once printed, five complimentary copies of SEI are posted to the corresponding author and two copies to each co-author. Additional copies of the Journal may be ordered prior to printing at a special price to authors of 20 Swiss Francs per copy. Separate reprints of an article (100 min.) may be ordered for a fee through the Publications Manager.

### Abstracting and Indexing:

SEI is abstracted in: Cambridge Scientific Abstracts under CSA Civil Engineering Abstracts, Emerald Abstracts, International Civil Engineering Abstracts, Construction and Building Abstracts (CBA) and INSPEC.

### Copyright/Publications Agreement

It is the author's responsibility to obtain written permission to reproduce any material which has appeared in another publication or website. Once the Manuscript is accepted for publication, the Publications Manager will send the author a 'Publishing Agreement' that must be signed by all authors for the publication of the paper to proceed. By signing the Publications Agreement the author(s) assigns the copyright of the paper to the Publisher, thus granting IABSE all rights for the paper:

*"The International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE) is pleased to undertake the publication of your above mentioned contribution, in its journal, Structural Engineering International (SEI). The Author is requested to assign the copyright, thus granting IABSE all rights for the Contribution, so that the author and IABSE may be protected from the consequences of unauthorized use.*

*Accordingly the following terms of publication are submitted for the Author's consideration.*

*Copyright Assignment: The undersigned, with the consent of all authors, hereby grants and assigns the entire copyright for the Contribution to IABSE for its exclusive use (in print and in electronic). IABSE, in turn, grants the Author, the right to reprint the Contribution in any book of which he is the author or editor, subject to proper credit in the book to the original publication of the Contribution in the Journal. To protect the copyright in the Contribution, the original copyright notice as it appears in the Journal, should be included in the credit. In addition, IABSE grants the Authors, the right to archive this Contribution in the electronic repository of his institution in which he is an employee or a researcher, 90 days post-publication. If the Author's Institution comes under the open-access, open-source repository policy then the Author's peer reviewed (Accepted) manuscript prior to copyediting and typesetting can be made public in the open-access repository, earlier than 12 months after the official date of publication. The electronically archived copy in all the above cases should include the following citation text and hyperlink: "This article was first published in Structural Engineering International, Vol. Nr. X, Issue Nr. X, publisher: IABSE, <http://www.iabse.org>".*

*Warranty: The Author(s) warrant that the Contribution is their original work. Further, the Author(s) warrant that they have the right to assign the copyright (entire manuscript including illustrations) to IABSE and that no portion of the copyright to the Contribution has been assigned previously.*

*Previous Publication and Permission: The Author(s) warrant that the Contribution has not been published elsewhere (except as may be set out in a rider annexed hereto and signed by IABSE) and that no agreement to publish is outstanding. Should the contribution contain material which requires written permission for inclusion in the Contribution, such permission shall be obtained by the Author(s) from the copyright proprietor and submitted for review to the Publications Manager of the Journal, with the manuscript.*

*If the foregoing terms are satisfactory, please sign this agreement on behalf of all Co-Authors. The signing Author has the consent of all co-authors to sign this Publications Agreement. Please return the original and keep a copy of this Agreement. Thank you for your cooperation."*

## **Review, Production information**

### **(1) Pre-Production Process includes the following steps (~3 months):**

*Author Submission* --- Review by the Editorial Board --- Peer Reviewed by External Reviewers if a 'Scientific Paper' submission/Reviewed by the Chief Reviewer (Editorial Board) if a 'Technical Report' ---- Review Summary ---  
---- *Author Revisions* ---- Re-review by the Board/Reviewers --- Decision on Acceptance – (2)

### **(2) Production Process includes the following steps (~4 months):**

*Copyediting and figure assessment – Approval by the Author* --- Typesetting --- *Layout Proof approval by the Author* --- Correction implementation, Pressproof checking – Printing and distribution

From submission till publication, it generally takes six to nine months. This includes rounds of review, revision, re-evaluation and acceptance decision. Every paper has to be accepted by the SEI Editorial Board before publication. Authors also receive the **DOI information and citation text** for their published papers. **All authors are highly recommended to ask their librarians to subscribe to the journal (Institutional Subscription) and to cite their published article in future papers.** Thank you for your cooperation.

---

*Following these guidelines will greatly facilitate the review and editorial processes. If you have any further questions, please contact the Publications Manager; Ms. Brindarica Bose at: [bose@iabse.org](mailto:bose@iabse.org).*

---