

# Introduction

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The advent of new architectural forms often presents problems for architects, contractors, and materials suppliers. The trend towards high-rise structures with extensive use of glass, both in windows and as decorative panels, is a case in point.

This publication provides basic information on the natural forces that have an influence on the design of curtain walls, windows, and related structures and discusses the test methods that should be specified to assure that the design concept has been met.

Among the topics covered are the pressures on building facades caused by wind and temperature changes; design considerations which influence performance and requirements for testing of component parts; specialized tests such as testing for water penetration and structural performance of windows, curtain walls, and doors; and test methods for related hardware used in windows and walls structures including gasket glazing systems.

The publication will be most useful to architects, construction design specialists, materials specifiers, materials suppliers, contractors, and testing laboratories that specialize in this type of work.