

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Hexcrete Tower Project (DE-EE0006737)



Design of Hexcrete Towers

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Overview

1. Design Overview
 1. Materials
 2. Variables and Design Codes
 3. Design Process
 4. Connection details
2. 120-m 2.3 MW Design
3. 140-m 3.2 MW Design



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Materials

All column and panel segments will be produced in a precast facility

- Columns – High Strength Concrete (HSC), 13 ksi compressive strength
- Panels – Ultra High Performance Concrete (UHPC), 26 ksi compressive strength
- Steel tendons – 0.6” diameter relaxed steel 270 ksi tensile strength



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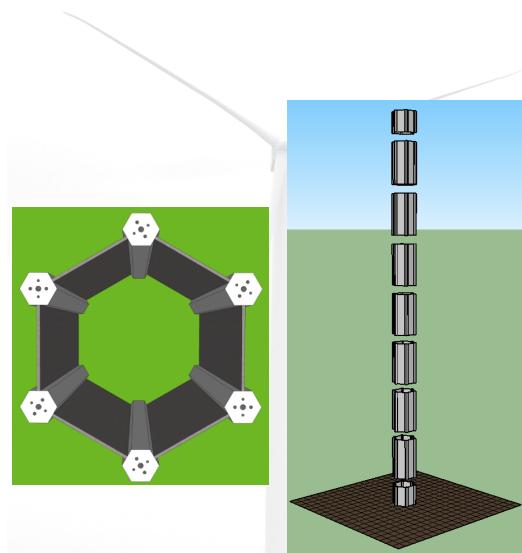
Variables and Design Codes

Variables

- Base diameter
- Diameter at blade tip for rotational clearance
- Top diameter (determined by nacelle)
- Frequency
- Deflection

Design Codes

- IEC 61400-01
- GL Certification Guidelines
- EuroCode and ACI



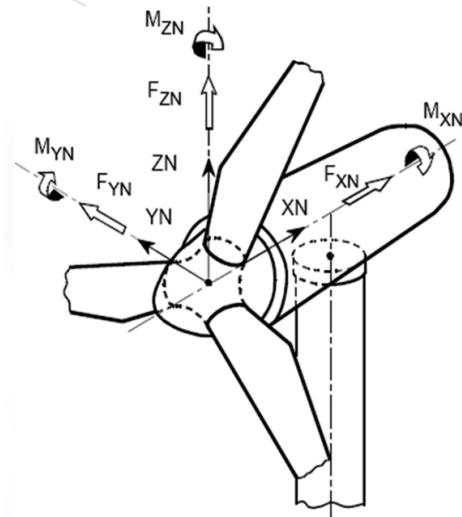
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Design Loads

- Provided by turbine manufacturer for specific turbines
- Wind load on tower as well as turbine load
- Geometry of Hexcrete tower provides difference in drag coefficient for wind loads



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Dimension Design

D – Overall tower diameter

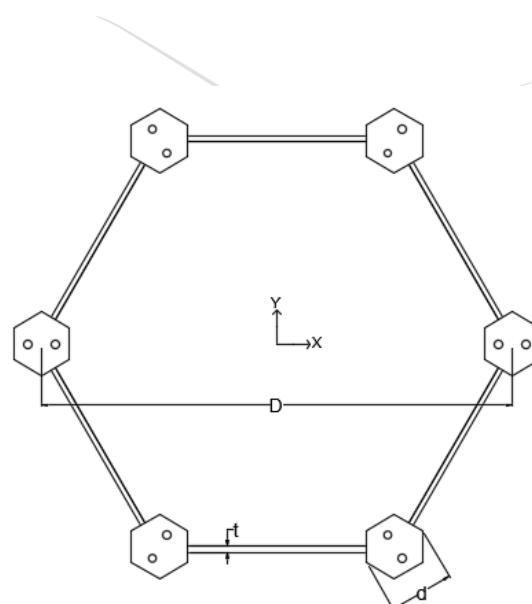
- Capacity analysis
- moment, shear, axial
- Number of PT strands and total moment

d – Column diameter

- Stress analysis
- moment, shear, axial
- Number of PT strands

t – Panel thickness

- Stress analysis
- torsion, shear, axial
- Shear/torsion and concrete strength



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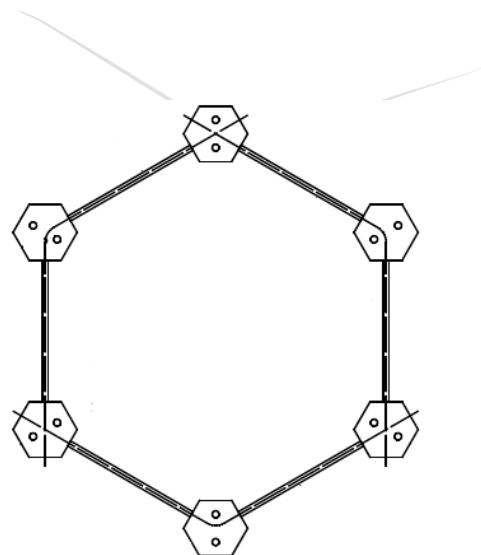
Connection Design

Shear friction design

- Capacity analysis
- Torsion, moment, shear, axial
- Total forces along vertical column to panel interface

Current design incorporates epoxy between panels and columns

- Even bearing surface
- Increases friction



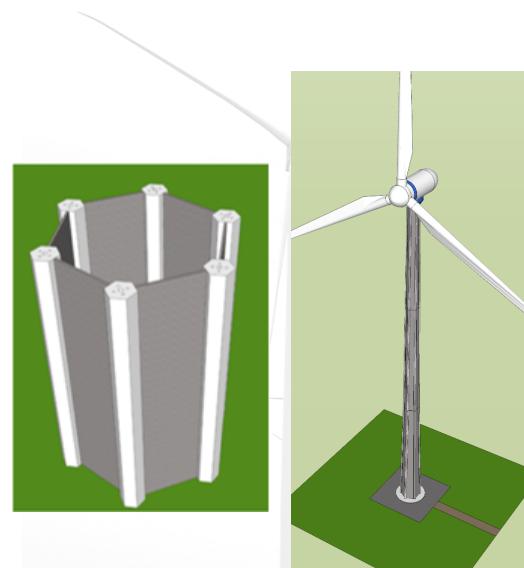
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Design Checks

- Frequency check to ensure 1P and 3P criteria are met
- Tower top deflection
- Blade tip clearance
- GL Guidelines for stress limitations, PT decompression, and concrete cracking
- Fatigue loading of concrete members and post-tensioning tendons



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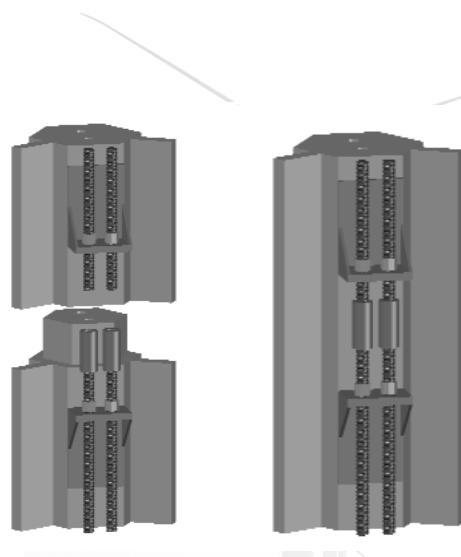
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Section Connections

Columns connections

- Keyways to allow proper alignment and shear capacity
- 3" diameter 150 ksi steel threaded bars
- Threaded bars provide continuity and tensile capacity
- Grout seals connection after tower is erected



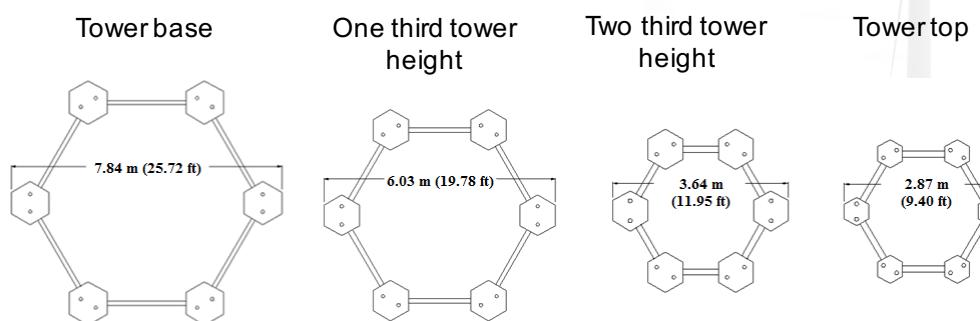
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120 m – 2.3 MW Tower Design

- 120 m (393.6 ft) tower design
- Designed for 2.3 MW turbine
- Natural Frequency of 0.33 Hz
- Columns and tower diameter are tapered



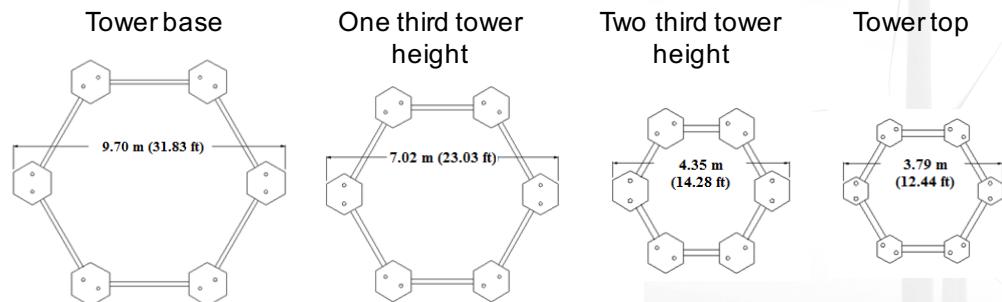
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140 m – 3.2 MW Tower Design

- 140 m (459.2 ft) tower design
- Designed for 3.2 MW turbine
- Natural Frequency of 0.349 Hz
- Columns and tower diameter are tapered



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