

design methods to preclude instability from ponding are presented in AISC (2005) and SJI (2007).

Regardless of roof slope, if water is impounded on the roof in order to reach a secondary drainage system, ponding instability can occur. Where such impounded water situations exist, the bay is considered a susceptible bay. Shown in Fig. C8.3 are typical susceptible bays for a roof with slope of 1/4 in./ft or greater. For the same structure with a roof slope less than 1/4 in./ft, all bays are susceptible. Figure C8.4 shows a roof with perimeter overflow (secondary) drains and interior primary drains. Irrespective of the roof slope, all bays are susceptible. Susceptible bays must be checked to preclude ponding instability.

### C8.5 CONTROLLED DRAINAGE

In some areas of the country, ordinances are in effect that limit the rate of rainwater flow from roofs into storm drains. Controlled-flow drains are often used on such roofs. Those roofs must be capable of sustaining the storm water temporarily stored on them. Many roofs designed with controlled-flow drains have a design rain load of 30 lb/ft<sup>2</sup> (1.44 kN/m<sup>2</sup>) and are equipped with a secondary drainage system (for example, scuppers) that prevents water depths ( $d_s + d_h$ ) greater than 5.75 in. (145 mm) on the roof.

#### Examples

The following two examples illustrate the method used to establish design rain loads based on Chapter 8 of this standard.

**Example 1:** Determine the design rain load,  $R$ , at the secondary drainage for the roof plan shown in Fig. C8-1, located at a site in Birmingham, AL. The design rainfall intensity,  $i$ , specified by the plumbing code for a 100-yr, 1-h rainfall is 3.75 in./h (95 mm/h). The inlet of the 4 in. diameter (102 mm) secondary roof drains are set 2 in. (51 mm) above the roof surface.

Flow rate,  $Q$ , for the secondary drainage 4 in. diameter (102 mm) roof drain:

$$Q = 0.0104A i \quad (\text{C8-1})$$

$$Q = 0.0104(2,500)(3.75) = 97.5 \text{ gal/min } (0.0062 \text{ m}^3/\text{s})$$

Hydraulic head,  $d_h$ :

Using Table C8-1, for a 4 in. diameter (102 mm) roof drain with a flow rate of 97.5 gal/min (0.0062 m<sup>3</sup>/s) interpolate between a hydraulic head of 1 and 2 in. (25 mm and 51 mm) as follows:

$$d_h = 1 + [(97.5 - 80) \div (170 - 80)] = 1.19 \text{ in. } (30.2 \text{ mm})$$

Static head  $d_s = 2$  in. (51 mm); the water depth from drain inlet to the roof surface.

Design rain load,  $R$ , adjacent to the drains:

$$R = 5.2(d_s + d_h) \quad (8-1)$$

$$R = 5.2(2 + 1.19) = 16.6 \text{ psf } (0.80 \text{ kN/m}^2)$$

**Example 2:** Determine the design rain load,  $R$ , at the secondary drainage for the roof plan shown in Fig. C8-2, located at a site in Los Angeles, CA. The design rainfall intensity,  $i$ , specified by the plumbing code for a 100-yr, 1-h rainfall is 1.5 in./h (38 mm/h). The inlet of the 12 in. (305 mm) secondary roof scuppers are set 2 in. (51 mm) above the roof surface.

Flow rate,  $Q$ , for the secondary drainage, 12 in. (305 mm) wide channel scupper:

$$Q = 0.0104A i \quad (\text{C8-1})$$

$$Q = 0.0104(11,500)(1.5) = 179 \text{ gal/min } (0.0113 \text{ m}^3/\text{s})$$

Hydraulic head,  $d_h$ :

Using Tables C8-1 and C8-2, by interpolation, the flow rate for a 12 in. (305 mm) wide channel scupper is twice that of a 6 in. (152 mm) wide channel scupper. Using Tables C8-1 and C8-2, the hydraulic head,  $d_h$ , for one-half the flow rate,  $Q$ , or 90 gal/min (0.0057 m<sup>3</sup>/s), through a 6 in. (152 mm) wide channel scupper is 3 in. (76 mm).

$d_h = 3$  in. (76 mm) for a 12 in. wide (305 mm) channel scupper with a flow rate,  $Q$ , of 179 gal/min (0.0113 m<sup>3</sup>/s).

Static head,  $d_s = 2$  in. (51 mm); depth of water from the scupper inlet to the roof surface.

Design rain load,  $R$ , adjacent to the scuppers:

$$R = 5.2(d_h + d_s)$$

$$R = 5.2(2 + 3) = 26 \text{ psf } (1.2 \text{ kN/m}^2)$$

### REFERENCES

- American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC). (2005). *Specifications for structural steel buildings*, American Institute of Steel Construction, Chicago.
- American Institute of Timber Construction (AITC). (1978). *Roof slope and drainage for flat or nearly flat roofs*, American Institute of Timber Construction, Englewood, Colo., AITC Technical Note No. 5.
- Associate Committee on the National Building Code. (1990). *National building code of Canada 1990*, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario.