

6.2.6 – Bi-linear backbone curves may be considered in hysteretic relationships of plastic sections (plastic hinges) of frame elements. Stiffness and strength degradation effects shall be considered upon the approval of *Independent Reviewer(s)*.

6.2.7 – At floor levels where abrupt changes (in particular downward changes) occur in lateral stiffness of vertical structural elements, a special care shall be paid for the arrangement of appropriate *transfer floors* with sufficient in-plane stiffness and strength.

6.2.8 – The stiffness of the foundation and the soil medium shall be considered by appropriate models to be approved by the *Independent Reviewer(s)*. When needed, nonlinear behaviour of soil-foundation system may be taken into account in design stages described in **6.3.2** and **6.3.4**.