



**Early Strength Performance of Laps Splices of Rebar in Masonry**

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**INTRODUCTION**

Masonry walls over 8 ft must be adequately braced during construction .

Standard Practice-2012 - two periods; initial period ( $t < 24$  hours) and the intermediate period (initial period to final lateral support).

Initial period - the restricted area evacuated when the wind exceeds 20 MPH. (8-inch-thick hollow CMU wall to 10 ft - for most Block units).

In the intermediate period, areas evacuated if wind exceeds 35 MPH, and wall and braces must be able to resist forces from a 40 MPH wind load.

Internally bracing masonry walls used instead of external bracing - based on older research and may be overly conservative. Longer laps required for full yield

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**INTRODUCTION**

The goals of this investigation were to:

- 1. Determine masonry assembly performance with an out-of-plane cantilevered bending strain gradients in a typical wall CMU wall configuration using contemporary units, mortars, grouts and rebar.
- 2. Determine for different grout ages, moment capacity for an 8" CMU internally braced wall configuration
- 3. Determine if high early strength cement/admixtures can be used to improve early age performance of the internally braced masonry wall.

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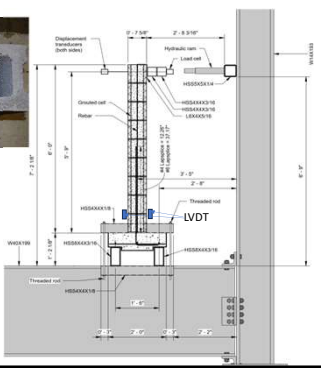
**TEST PROGRAM**

(15) #4 steel rebar  
(15) #6 rebar.

Lap splice length of 12.3 in for the #4 37.2 in lap splices for the #6 rebar.

The walls were grouted and tested after allowing the grout to cure for 12 hours, 24 hours, 4 days and 28 days in lab air. 3 replicants

Grout compression specimens made for each wall


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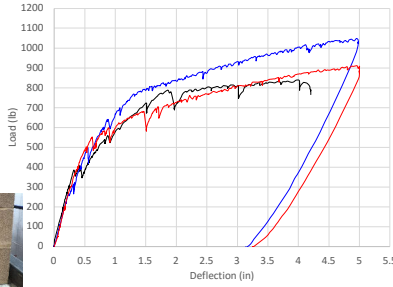
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**28 day Walls # 4 Rebar (Control)**

Load vs Deflection

|         |         |
|---------|---------|
| Wall 1  | 839 lb  |
| Wall 2  | 1048 lb |
| Wall 3  | 911 lb  |
| Average | 933 lb  |
| STD     | 86.9 lb |
| COV     | 9.32%   |

Grout 4827 – 8144 psi


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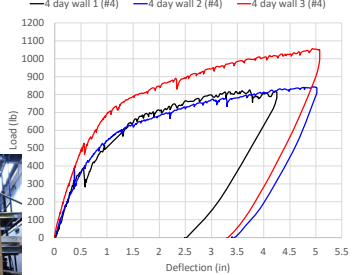
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**4 day walls #4 Rebar**

Load vs Deflection

|         |         |
|---------|---------|
| Wall 1  | 825 lb  |
| Wall 2  | 844 lb  |
| Wall 3  | 1056 lb |
| Average | 908 lb  |
| STD     | 128 lb  |
| COV     | 14%     |

Grout 3527 – 5691 psi


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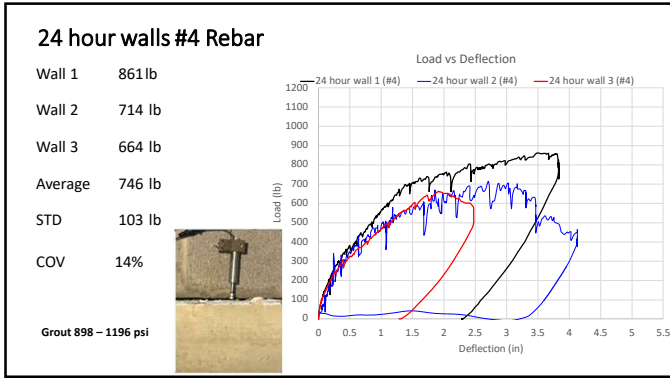
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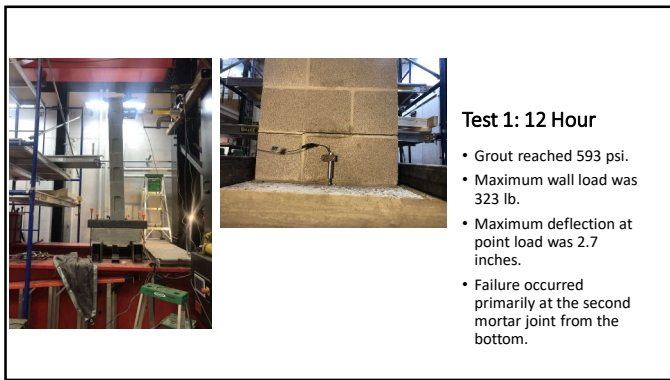
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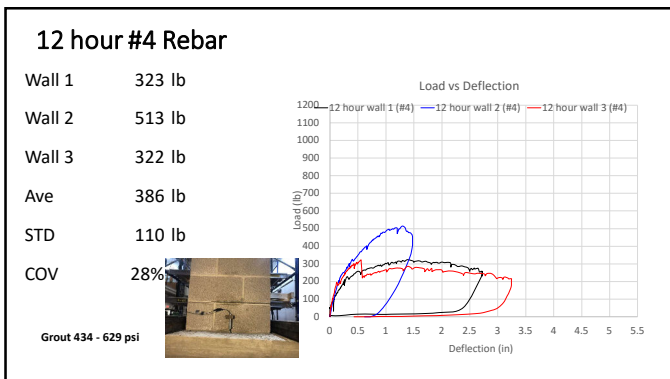
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**Test 1: 12 Hour High-Early Grout #4 rebar**

- Grout reached 1093 psi.
- Maximum wall load was 801 lb.
- Maximum deflection at point load was 2.2 inches.
- Failure occurred primarily at the base.
- Vertical cracking mid height

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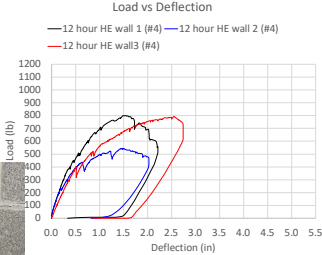

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**12 hour High-Early # 4 rebar**

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Wall 1 High-Early | 801 lb  |
| Wall 2 High-Early | 545 lb  |
| W 3 High-Early    | 795 lb  |
| Average           | 713 lb  |
| STD               | 119. lb |
| COV               | 17%     |

Grout 768 - 1093 psi

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**#6 REBAR Clean outs**

- Cleanouts were cut into all (15) # 6
- Cut section was mortared back into place on the compression side of the wall.
- Some blowouts occurred during grouting and were repaired, loads seemed to be unaffected.

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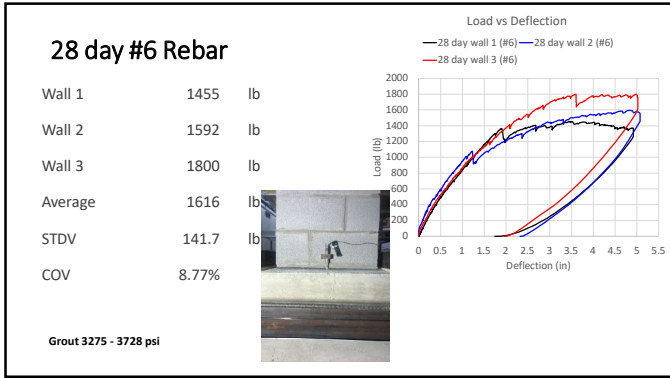
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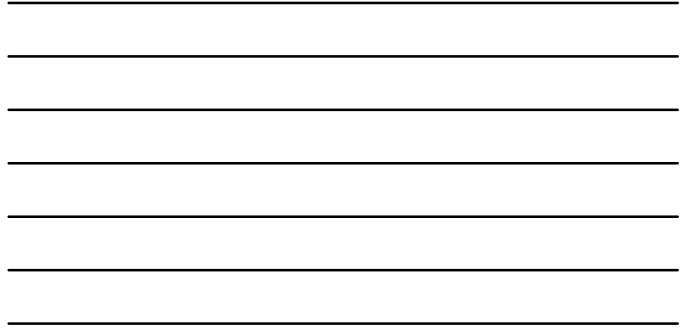
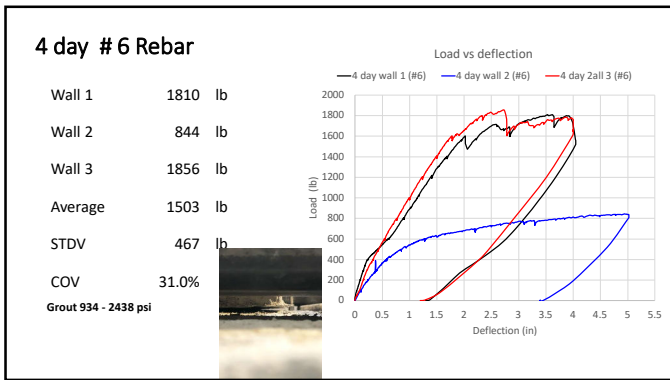
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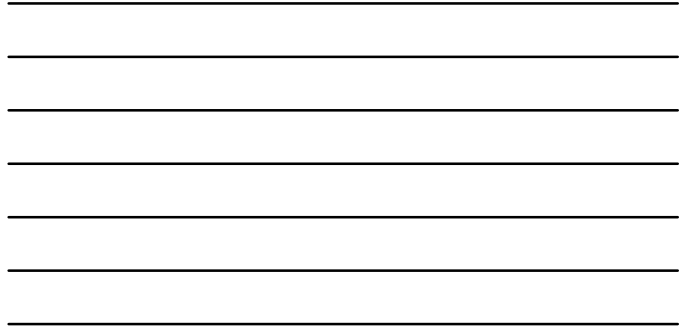
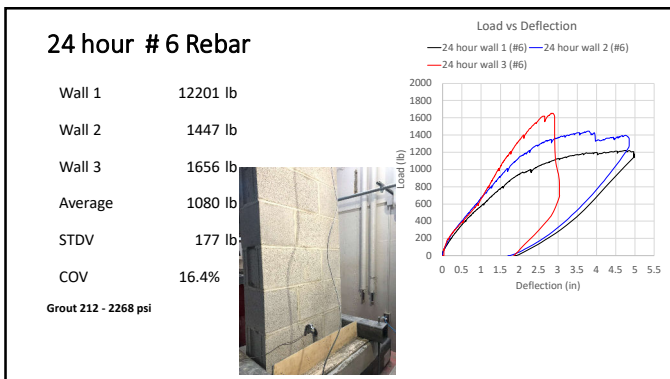
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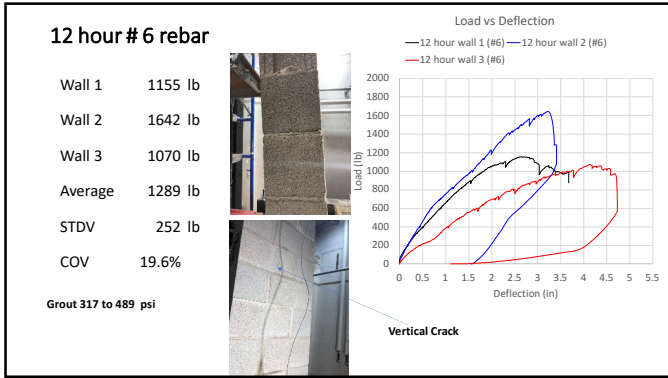
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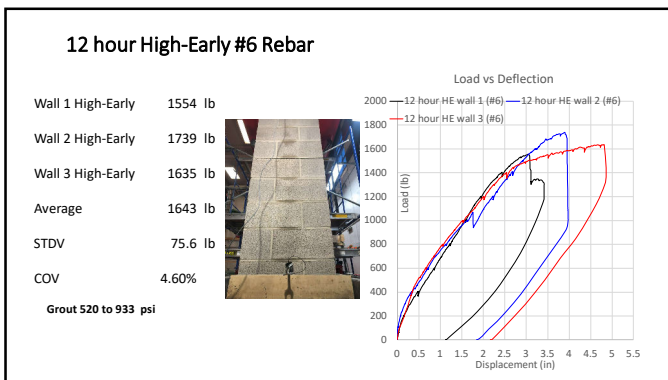
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Reinforced Wall Test Maximum Wall Load Results for # 4 Rebar & 28-dayPred (full yield).

| Wall Specimen       | Pmax (lb.) | Pmax/Ppred.28d | Average Load (lb.) | Coefficient of Variation |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 28-day grout #1     | 839        | 1.321          | 933 (1.74)         | 9.3%                     |
| 28-day grout #2     | 1048       | 1.651          |                    |                          |
| 28-day grout #3     | 911        | 1.435          |                    |                          |
| 4-day grout #1      | 825        | 1.299          | 908 (1.43)         | 11.5%                    |
| 4-day grout #2      | 844        | 1.329          |                    |                          |
| 4-day grout #3      | 1056       | 1.663          |                    |                          |
| 24-hour grout #1    | 861        | 1.357          | 746 (1.18)         | 11.3%                    |
| 24-hour grout #2    | 714        | 1.125          |                    |                          |
| 24-hour grout #3    | 663        | 1.044          |                    |                          |
| 12-hour grout #1    | 323        | 0.509          | 386 (0.61)         | 23.2%                    |
| 12-hour grout #2    | 513        | 0.808          |                    |                          |
| 12-hour grout #3    | 322        | 0.507          |                    |                          |
| 12-hour grout HE #1 | 801        | 1.262          | 703 (1.11)         | 19.1%                    |
| 12-hour grout HE #2 | 513        | 0.808          |                    |                          |
| 12-hour grout HE #3 | 795        | 1.252          |                    |                          |

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Reinforced Wall Test Maximum Wall Load Results for # 6 Rebar & 28-dayPred (full yield).

| Wall                | Pmax (lb.) | Pmax/Ppred.28d | Average Load (lb.) (Ratio) | Coefficient of Variation |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 28-day grout #1     | 1455       | 1.098          | 1616 (1.22)                | 8.77%                    |
| 28-day grout #2     | 1592       | 1.202          |                            |                          |
| 28-day grout #3     | 1800       | 1.358          |                            |                          |
| 4-day grout #1      | 1810       | 1.366          | 1833 (1.83)                |                          |
| 4-day grout #2      | 1626       | 0.897          |                            |                          |
| 4-day grout #3      | 1856       | 1.401          |                            |                          |
| 24-hour grout #1    | 1221       | 0.921          | 1440 (1.09)                | 12.27%                   |
| 24-hour grout #2    | 1446       | 1.092          |                            |                          |
| 24-hour grout #3    | 1654       | 1.248          |                            |                          |
| 12-hour grout #1    | 1155       | 0.872          | 1289 (0.97)                | 19.56%                   |
| 12-hour grout #2    | 1642       | 1.240          |                            |                          |
| 12-hour grout #3    | 1070       | 0.808          |                            |                          |
| 12-hour grout HE #1 | 1554       | 1.173          | 1643 (1.24)                | 4.60%                    |
| 12-hour grout HE #2 | 1739       | 1.313          |                            |                          |
| 12-hour grout HE #3 | 1635       | 1.234          |                            |                          |

Wall Specimen #2 with 4-day old grout had a low load test result. Demolition to expose the grouted core in the lap splice region found voids over the lap splice.

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### Conclusions

- 1) Current practice for lap splices in 24-hour grout are conservative. All tests significantly exceeded the reduced calculated capacities. In all but one test, these walls exceeded the unreduced calculated capacity of the wall.
- 2) Grout strength appears to have a variable impact on wall capacity depending on the diameter of the reinforcing steel. Shift in mode makes it unclear.
- 3) The procedures described in the Bracing Practice appeared to be quite conservative for the walls reinforced with #6 rebar but slightly unconservative for the walls reinforced #4 rebars, although this low result is likely due to the unexpected low lap splice lengths due to mortar droppings in the cell.
- 4) The 12 Hour high-early strength grout wall tests indicated that standard lap splices without a reduction can be used when high-early grout is used.

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