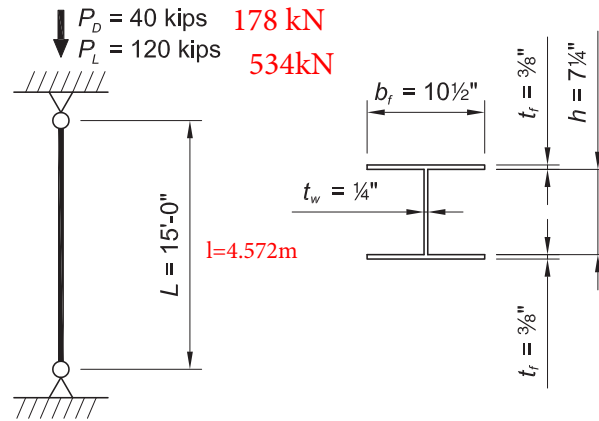


**EXAMPLE E.3 BUILT-UP COLUMN WITH SLENDER FLANGES**

**Given:**

Determine if a built-up, ASTM A572 Grade 50 column with PL<sup>3/8</sup> in. × 10<sup>1/2</sup> in. flanges and a PL<sup>1/4</sup> in. × 7<sup>1/4</sup> in. web has sufficient available strength to carry a dead load of 40 kips and a live load of 120 kips in axial compression. The column's unbraced length is 15.0 ft in both axes and the ends are pinned.



**Solution:**

From AISC Manual Table 2-5, the material properties are as follows:

Built-Up Column  
 ASTM A572 Grade 50  
 $F_y = 50 \text{ ksi}$   **$f_y = 340 \text{ MPa}$**  Yield strength  
 $F_u = 65 \text{ ksi}$   **$f_u = 445 \text{ MPa}$**  Tensile strength

The geometric properties are as follows:

Built-Up Column  
 $d = 8.00 \text{ in.}$   **$h = 203.2 \text{ mm}$**  section depth  
 $b_f = 10\frac{1}{2} \text{ in.}$   **$b = 266.7 \text{ mm}$**  section width  
 $t_f = \frac{3}{8} \text{ in.}$   **$t_f = 9.5 \text{ mm}$**  flange thickness  
 $h = 7\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}$   **$d = 184.15 \text{ mm}$**  clear distance between flanges  
 $t_w = \frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}$   **$t_w = 6.35 \text{ mm}$**  web thickness

From Chapter 2 of ASCE/SEI 7, the required compressive strength is:

	LRFD Load & resistance factor design	ASD Allowable strength design
load combination as EC3 Pu- required axial strength using LRFD combinations	$P_u = 1.2(40 \text{ kips}) + 1.6(120 \text{ kips})$ = 240 kips <b>1067kN</b> $N_{sd} = 1067 \text{ kN}$	$P_a = 40 \text{ kips} + 120 \text{ kips}$ = 160 kips <b>712kN</b> $N_{sd} = 712 \text{ kN}$

Built-Up Section Properties (ignoring fillet welds)

$$A_g = 2(10\frac{1}{2} \text{ in.})(\frac{3}{8} \text{ in.}) + 7\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}(\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.})$$

$$= 9.69 \text{ in.}^2 \quad \mathbf{A = 6251.6 \text{ mm}^2} \quad \text{Cross-section area}$$

load combination as EC3  
 Pa- required axial strength  
 using ASD combinations

Note: according to C1 global stability shall be assessed with LRFD or 1.6\*ASD

Because the unbraced length is the same for both axes, the weak axis will govern.

$$I_y = 2 \left[ \frac{(\frac{3}{8} \text{ in.})(10\frac{1}{2} \text{ in.})^3}{12} \right] + \frac{(7\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.})(\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.})^3}{12} \quad I_z = 3014 \text{ cm}^4 \quad \text{Moment of inertia}$$

$$= 72.4 \text{ in.}^4$$

$$r_y = \sqrt{\frac{I_y}{A}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{72.4 \text{ in.}^4}{9.69 \text{ in.}^2}} \quad i_z = 69.342 \text{ mm} \quad \text{Radius of gyration}$$

$$= 2.73 \text{ in.}$$

$$I_x = 2(10\frac{1}{2} \text{ in.})(\frac{3}{8} \text{ in.})(3.81 \text{ in.})^2 + \frac{(\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.})(7\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.})^3}{12} + \frac{2(10\frac{1}{2} \text{ in.})(\frac{3}{8} \text{ in.})^3}{12}$$

$$= 122 \text{ in.}^4 \quad I_y = 5078 \text{ cm}^4 \quad \text{Moment of inertia}$$

### Web Slenderness

Determine the limiting slenderness ratio,  $\lambda_r$ , from AISC *Specification* Table B4.1a case 5:

$$\lambda_r = 1.49 \sqrt{\frac{E}{F_y}}$$

$$= 1.49 \sqrt{\frac{29,000 \text{ ksi}}{50 \text{ ksi}}}$$

$$= 35.9$$

EC 3 classifies cross sections based on its geometry and stresses. Subsequent strength calculations are a function of this classification. A reduction factor  $\chi$  (used to determine the buckling resistance) is based on a slenderness factor  $\lambda$ .

To conclude both standards classify the section for local buckling effects.

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{t_w}$$

$$= \frac{7\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}}{\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}}$$

$$= 29.0$$

$\lambda < \lambda_r$ ; therefore, the web is not slender.

Note that the fillet welds are ignored in the calculation of  $h$  for built up sections.

### Flange Slenderness

Calculate  $k_c$ .

$$k_c = \frac{4}{\sqrt{h/t_w}} \text{ from AISC } \textit{Specification} \text{ Table B4.1b note [a]}$$

$$= \frac{4}{\sqrt{7\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}/\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}}}$$

$$= 0.743, \text{ where } 0.35 \leq k_c \leq 0.76 \quad \mathbf{o.k.}$$

Use  $k_c = 0.743$

Determine the limiting slenderness ratio,  $\lambda_r$ , from AISC *Specification* Table B4.1a case 2.

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_r &= 0.64 \sqrt{\frac{k_c E}{F_y}} \\ &= 0.64 \sqrt{\frac{29,000 \text{ ksi}(0.743)}{50 \text{ ksi}}} \\ &= 13.3\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{b}{t} \\ &= \frac{5.25 \text{ in.}}{\frac{3}{8} \text{ in.}} \\ &= 14.0\end{aligned}$$

$\lambda > \lambda_r$ ; therefore, the flanges are slender

For compression members with slender elements, Section E7 of the AISC *Specification* applies. The nominal compressive strength,  $P_n$ , shall be determined based on the limit states of flexural, torsional and flexural-torsional buckling. Depending on the slenderness of the column, AISC *Specification* Equation E7-2 or E7-3 applies.  $F_e$  is used in both equations and is calculated as the lesser of AISC *Specification* Equations E3-4 and E4-4.

From AISC *Specification* Commentary Table C-A-7.1, for a pinned-pinned condition,  $K = 1.0$ .

Because the unbraced length is the same for both axes, the weak axis will govern.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{K_y L_y}{r_y} &= \frac{1.0(15.0 \text{ ft}) \left( \frac{12 \text{ in.}}{\text{ft}} \right)}{2.73 \text{ in.}} \\ &= 65.9\end{aligned}$$

*Elastic Critical Stress,  $F_e$ , for Flexural Buckling*

$$\begin{aligned}F_e &= \frac{\pi^2 E}{\left( \frac{KL}{r} \right)^2} && N_{cr} \text{ - elastic critical buckling} && (\text{Spec. Eq. E3-4}) \\ &= \frac{\pi^2 (29,000 \text{ ksi})}{(65.9)^2} && \text{EC 3 requires the calculation of flexural buckling (Euler), torsional and torsional-} && \\ &= 65.9 \text{ ksi} \quad 454.4 \text{ MPa} && \text{flexural buckling. The } N_{cr} \text{ is the minimum of the relevant buckling modes.}\end{aligned}$$

*Elastic Critical Stress,  $F_e$ , for Torsional Buckling*

Note: This limit state is not likely to govern, but the check is included here for completeness.

From the User Note in AISC *Specification* Section E4,

$$\begin{aligned}C_w &= \frac{I_y h_o^2}{4} \\ &= \frac{72.4 \text{ in.}^4 (7.63 \text{ in.})^2}{4} \\ &= 1,050 \text{ in.}^6\end{aligned}$$

From AISC Design Guide 9, Equation 3.4,

$$\begin{aligned}
 J &= \sum \frac{bt^3}{3} \\
 &= \frac{2(10\frac{1}{2} \text{ in.})(\frac{3}{8} \text{ in.})^3 + 7\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.}(\frac{1}{4} \text{ in.})^3}{3} \\
 &= 0.407 \text{ in.}^4
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_e &= \left[ \frac{\pi^2 EC_w}{(K_z L)^2} + GJ \right] \frac{1}{I_x + I_y} && (\text{Spec. Eq. E4-4}) \\
 &= \left[ \frac{\pi^2 (29,000 \text{ ksi})(1,050 \text{ in.}^6)}{(180 \text{ in.})^2} + (11,200 \text{ ksi})(0.407 \text{ in.}^4) \right] \left( \frac{1}{122 \text{ in.}^4 + 72.4 \text{ in.}^4} \right) \\
 &= 71.2 \text{ ksi} > 65.9 \text{ ksi} \quad \text{Minimum value as EC3} \\
 &\quad \quad \quad 490.9 \text{ MPa}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, use  $F_e = 65.9 \text{ ksi}$ . **454.4MPa**

*Slenderness Reduction Factor,  $Q$*

$Q = Q_s Q_a$  from AISC *Specification* Section E7, where  $Q_a = 1.0$  because the web is not slender.

Calculate  $Q_s$ , the unstiffened element (flange) reduction factor from AISC *Specification* Section E7.1(b).

Determine the proper equation for  $Q_s$  by checking limits for AISC *Specification* Equations E7-7 to E7-9.

$$\frac{b}{t} = 14.0 \text{ as previously calculated}$$

These a general provisions for members for compression.

$$\begin{aligned}
 0.64 \sqrt{\frac{Ek_c}{F_y}} &= 0.64 \sqrt{\frac{29,000 \text{ ksi}(0.743)}{50 \text{ ksi}}} \\
 &= 13.3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 1.17 \sqrt{\frac{Ek_c}{F_y}} &= 1.17 \sqrt{\frac{29,000 \text{ ksi}(0.743)}{50 \text{ ksi}}} \\
 &= 24.3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$0.64 \sqrt{\frac{Ek_c}{F_y}} < \frac{b}{t} \leq 1.17 \sqrt{\frac{Ek_c}{F_y}} \text{ therefore, AISC } \textit{Specification} \text{ Equation E7-8 applies}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q_s &= 1.415 - 0.65 \left( \frac{b}{t} \right) \sqrt{\frac{F_y}{Ek_c}} && (\text{Spec. Eq. E7-8}) \\
 &= 1.415 - 0.65(14.0) \sqrt{\frac{50 \text{ ksi}}{(29,000 \text{ ksi})(0.743)}} \\
 &= 0.977
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q &= Q_s Q_a \\
 &= 0.977(1.0) \\
 &= 0.977
 \end{aligned}$$

*Nominal Compressive Strength*

$$4.71 \sqrt{\frac{E}{QF_y}} = 4.71 \sqrt{\frac{29,000 \text{ ksi}}{0.977(50 \text{ ksi})}}$$

$$= 115 > 65.9, \text{ therefore, AISC Specification Equation E7-2 applies}$$

$$F_{cr} = Q \left[ 0.658 \frac{QF_y}{F_c} \right] F_y \quad \text{The critical stress is based on the elastic buckling stress } F_c. F_c \text{ is also reduced.} \quad (\text{Spec. Eq. E7-2})$$

$$= 0.977 \left[ 0.658 \frac{0.977(50 \text{ ksi})}{65.9 \text{ ksi}} \right] (50 \text{ ksi})$$

$$= 35.8 \text{ ksi}$$

$$P_n = F_{cr} A_g \quad N_{b,Rd} = 1543.5 \text{ kN} \quad (\text{Spec. Eq. E7-1})$$

$$= 35.8 \text{ ksi} (9.69 \text{ in.}^2)$$

$$= 347 \text{ kips}$$

From AISC Specification Section E1, the available compressive strength is:

Note that the LRFD method meets results of EC3

LRFD	ASD
$\phi_c = 0.90$ $\phi_c P_n = 0.90(347 \text{ kips})$ $= 312 \text{ kips} > 240 \text{ kips}$ <b>1387.85kN</b>	$\Omega_c = 1.67$ $\frac{P_n}{\Omega_c} = \frac{347 \text{ kips}}{1.67}$ $= 208 \text{ kips} > 160 \text{ kips}$ <b>925kN</b>
<b>o.k.</b>	<b>o.k.</b>

Note: Built-up sections are generally more expensive than standard rolled shapes; therefore, a standard compact shape, such as a W8×35 might be a better choice even if the weight is somewhat higher. This selection could be taken directly from AISC Manual Table 4-1.