5.3 Specification for Concrete Masonry Bricks

Specification

The specification for the manufacture of concrete bricks follows the provisions of AS/NZS 4455 Part 1 Masonry Units and NZS 4210 with testing carried out in accordance with NZS 4456.

The specific details are already included in Section 1.7 because the requirements for concrete masonry units are similar whether the masonry is hollow block or solid brick, except for strength where blocks are 12.5 MPa and solid brick 10 MPa.

The 10 MPa requirement comes from Clause 2.1.4.5 of NZS 4210 and relates to durability, particularly in respect of frost effects. In practical terms, the brick strength as tested to AS/NZS 4456.4 should be recording approximately 14 MPa to allow for the height/width correction factor $K_a$ of the Standard.

The manufacturing size tolerances defined in Section 1.7 do not apply to the length or width of units having a split, profiled, rumbled or textured face.

Other Comments

(i) No frog or perforation shall be within 25 mm of the faces of the unit.

(ii) No frog shall be more than 25 mm deep.

Where the client wishes to check the risk of efflorescence, then test AS/NZS 4456 Part 6 should be carried out.

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