Stability of Castellated Beams
During Erection

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(ABSTRACT)

The increased depth of castellated beams presents stability problems, specifically during erection. During erection the castellated beam must support the weight of an erector and self-weight until the continuous bracing of the floor deck is in place. The stability of the unbraced member is based on its resistance to lateral-torsional buckling.

The cross-sectional properties that are related to lateral-torsional buckling, such as out-of-plane bending, warping constant, and torsional constant were calculated using three different approaches to model the unique geometry of castellated beams. These properties were used in various lateral-torsional buckling solutions to determine which procedure should be used to check for this mode of failure.

Two specimens were tested to evaluate the results of the analytical unbraced length determination process. The tests results were used to better model the contribution of the web-to-column flange double angle connection on the stability of the castellated beam.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. Thomas M. Murray for serving as my committee chairman and his valuable guidance with my research and this thesis. My thanks are also extended to Dr. Samuel Easterling and Dr. Raymond Plaut for serving as committee members. I would also like to acknowledge SMI who made this research possible.

I would also like to thank Emily Howard whom I met here at Virginia Tech, for her love, support, and understanding. Lastly, I would like to thank my mom, Marsha, and my sister, Sarah. Their love and support throughout my extended college career has been amazing. This is dedicated to them for the sacrifices they have made and the encouragement they have given me my entire life.
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