

### Cladding

Cladding means a facing or architectural decoration additional to the external walls of building : e.g. aluminium or metal cladding, polished granite slabs, limestone cladding, marble facing and the like. It should comply with the performance requirements stipulated in the Building (Construction) Regulation 39 in respect of material type, fixings, strength and durability.

2. Cladding shall be provided with sufficient permanently flexible joints horizontally and vertically to cater for differential movement in the cladding and in the structure to which it is attached. All external anchors, dowels and fixings should be of stainless steel or other corrosion resistant materials. Any metal dowels and fixings securing the cladding panels should be suitable, permanent and adequately protected from corrosion. For testing of anchors and cladding panels, see paragraphs 4 to 10 below.

3. Where cladding is to be affixed to any part of a building above 6 metres from street level, details such as the thickness, strength, durability, type and material of fixings and sequence of support should be submitted for approval by the Building Authority. Failure to do so may result in delay or refusal to give approval to the cladding submission. As regards the fixings of stone cladding, sand/cement bedding and/or epoxy bonding alone is not considered a suitable and permanent fixing.

### Tests on Anchors

4. On-site strength tests should be carried out on a representative number of each type and size of drilled-in anchors for those parts of cladding above 6 meters from street level. Such tests are necessary to verify the performance and workmanship of the anchors installed and should be carried out under the direction of the registered structural engineer or authorized person.

5. Each representative anchor should be tested by means of either :-

- (a) pull-out test; or
- (b) equivalent tightening torque test,

to demonstrate that its pull-out capacity is not less than 1.5 times the recommended tensile load as specified by the anchor manufacturer. The tested anchor should be considered satisfactory if it does not show any signs of separation, plastic deformation or deleterious effect during the test.

/Tests .....

11. For curtain wall systems, reference should be made to PNAP 106.



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Building Authority

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