

Non-loadbearing Partition Walls

Building works, in particular alteration and addition works, often involve the construction and demolition of non-loadbearing partition walls. Although these walls are not structural elements, authorized persons (APs) and registered structural engineers (RSEs) should ensure that the design and construction of such works achieve the required safety and performance standards in order to ensure public safety.

Design and Construction of Non-loadbearing Partition Walls

2. The design and construction of non-loadbearing partition walls should be in accordance with relevant standards and codes of practice. In this respect, APs and RSEs should refer to Practice Note for Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers (PNAP) APP-53 and ensure that all factors, such as slenderness ratio, supports and restraints, which may affect the stiffness and stability of these walls, are taken into account.

Demolition of Non-loadbearing Partition Walls

3. When non-loadbearing partition walls are to be demolished, APs and RSEs should refer to PNAP APP-21 and ensure that:

- (a) appropriate precautionary measures are provided according to site situation;
- (b) the works are carried out by experienced workers; and
- (c) adequate supervision is provided throughout the demolition process.

Minor Works Relating to Non-loadbearing Partition Walls

4. Under the Minor Works Control System, certain minor building works relating to non-loadbearing partition walls are designated as minor works, which may be carried out under the simplified requirements as an alternative to obtaining prior approval and consent under the Buildings Ordinance. Reference can be made to Schedule 1 of the Building (Minor Works) Regulation and PNAP APP-147 regarding the list of minor works items and the simplified requirements respectively.



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Ref. : BD GR/1-125/27/0

This PNAP is previously known as PNAP 203

First issue October 1996

This revision December 2020 (AD/NB2) (General revision)