



Forensic Structural Engineering Handbook

By Robert Ratay

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Forensic Structural Engineering Handbook By Robert Ratay

The Most Complete and Up-to-Date Resource on Forensic Structural Engineering

Thoroughly revised and featuring contributions from leading experts, this definitive handbook offers comprehensive treatment of forensic structural engineering and expert witness delivery. From exploring the possible origins of errors, through investigating and analyzing failures, to working with the legal profession for assigning responsibilities, *Forensic Structural Engineering Handbook*, Second Edition covers every important topic in the field.

- The design and construction process
- Design and construction safety codes, standards, and regulations
- Standard of care and duty to perform
- First steps and legal concerns after a failure
- Engineering investigation of failures
- Origins and causes of failures
- Loads and hazards
- Design errors, construction defects, and project miscommunication
- Defects, deterioration, and durability
- Mechanisms and analyses of failures in steel, concrete, masonry, timber, and temporary structures; building envelope; and structural foundations
- Litigation and dispute resolution
- The expert consultant and witness

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

The investigation of structural/construction failures is a segment of engineering that has come into its own. Yet no book has delivered day-to-day, practical guidance on how to practice forensic engineering until now. Contributed by leading experts in the field, and edited by Robert T. Ratay, Ph.D., P.E., noted structural engineering educator and consultant, this definitive handbook is a comprehensive treatment of the subject of forensic structural engineering and expert witnessing. Page after page, it supplies all the information you need to launch, expand, and enhance a career in forensic structural engineering. From exploring the possible origins of errors, through investigating and analyzing failures, to working with the legal profession for assigning responsibilities, the Forensic Structural Engineering Handbook thoroughly covers every important topic in the field. Look inside for expert guidance on: the design-construction process; entering the forensic structural engineering profession; conducting failure investigations; design and construction codes, standards, regulations, and practices; standard of care; nature and consequences of loads and hazards; critical characteristics of, and common faults and failures in, steel, concrete, masonry, timber, and temporary structures, building cladding, foundations and retaining walls, and more; working with attorneys, rendering opinions, and giving testimony in judicial proceedings; assisting in resolution of claims; and client relations and professional development. Whether you're a structural, geotechnical, civil, or construction engineer, contractor, attorney, insurance or other professional, this sourcebook is where a successful career in forensic engineering begins.

About the Author

Robert T. Ratay, Ph.D., P.E., is a highly regarded structural engineer and former university professor with an extensive background in both design and failure analysis. His nearly four decades of professional experience is divided almost equally between structural engineering practice, and combined teaching and consulting. Ratay worked with such prominent firms as Le Messurier Associates, Severud Associates, and HNTB. He was a Professor and Chairman of the Civil Engineering Department, then Dean of the School of Engineering at Pratt Institute, and a Professor at Polytechnic University (formerly Brooklyn Polytech). His current practice in forensic structural engineering is directed toward the investigation of structural and construction failures, providing expert consultant services to architects, engineers, contractors, owners, attorneys, insurance companies, and government agencies. Dr. Ratay is a Fellow of ASCE, has chaired several of its technical committees, and currently serves on the Executive Committee of its Structural Engineering Institute. He is also the Editor-in-Chief of the authoritative Handbook of Temporary Structures in Construction published by McGraw-Hill.

Users Review

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Bonnie Fernandez:

The feeling that you get from Forensic Structural Engineering Handbook is a more deep you digging the information that hide inside words the more you get interested in reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to be aware of but Forensic Structural Engineering Handbook giving you excitement feeling of reading. The copy writer conveys their point in specific way that can be understood by means of anyone who read the item because the author of this guide is well-known enough. That book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go together with you, both in printed or e-book style are

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Danny Jarosz:

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