



**Ingénieurs & Spécialistes**  
**ENVELOPPE DU BÂTIMENT**

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PHYSIQUE DU BÂTIMENT | EXPERTISES

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# Glass Façade and Structural Movements

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Raul CORRALES  
rc@biffsa.ch

# Contents

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**BIFF SA FACADE CONSULTANT**  
STRUCTURAL MOVEMENTS  
GLASS TOLERANCES  
FACADE SYSTEMS AND FIXINGS  
STRATEGIES TO ACCOMODATE MOVEMENTS

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# BIFF SA FACADE CONSULTANT



- **TECHNICAL ANALYSIS:**
- Engineering and technical design development for bespoke façade projects.



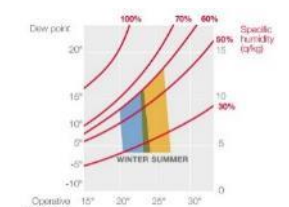
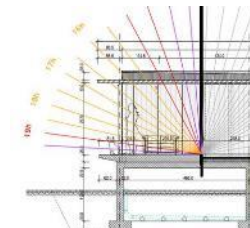
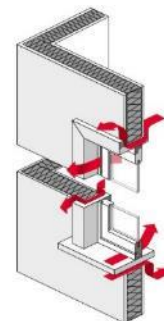
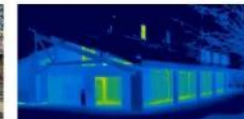
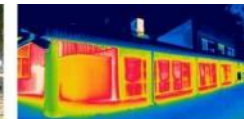
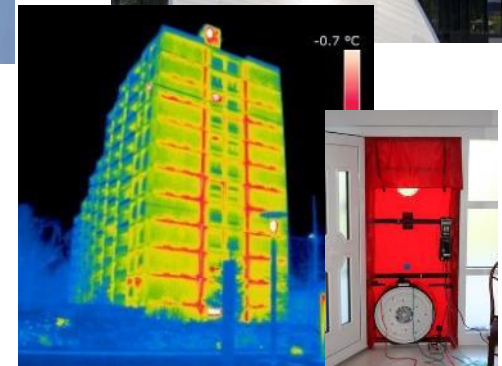
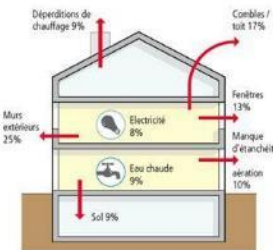
- **BUILDING PHYSICS:**
- Studies and analyses of existing buildings achieving tailored sanitation solutions



- **WORKS SUPERVISION:**
- Project management and prototype supervision with special attention to programme and cost



- **EXPERTISE**
- Determinate faults, seek out their cause, suggest remedies and budgeting cost repair. Address responsibility.



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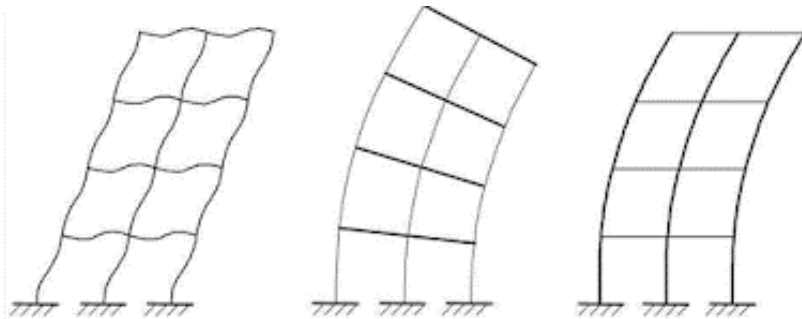
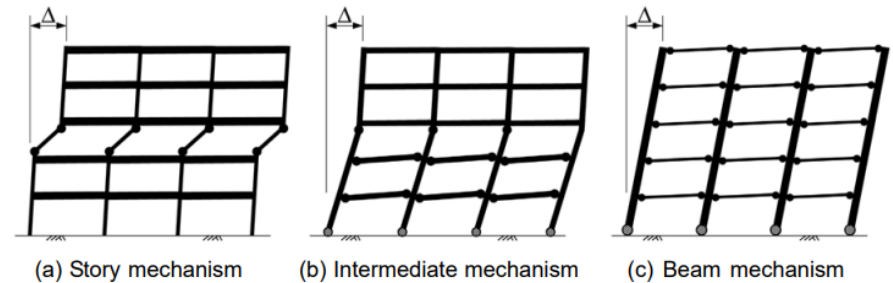
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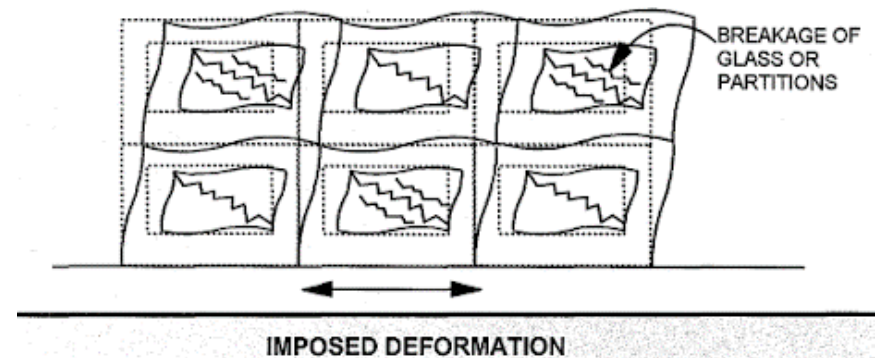
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## STRUCTURAL MOVEMENT

Wind  
Weight  
Seismic  
Accidental forces  
Temperature  
Humidity  
Subsoil and Foundation

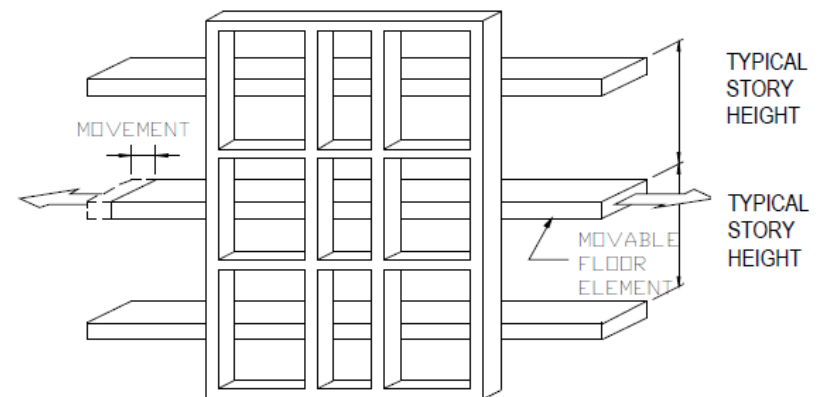
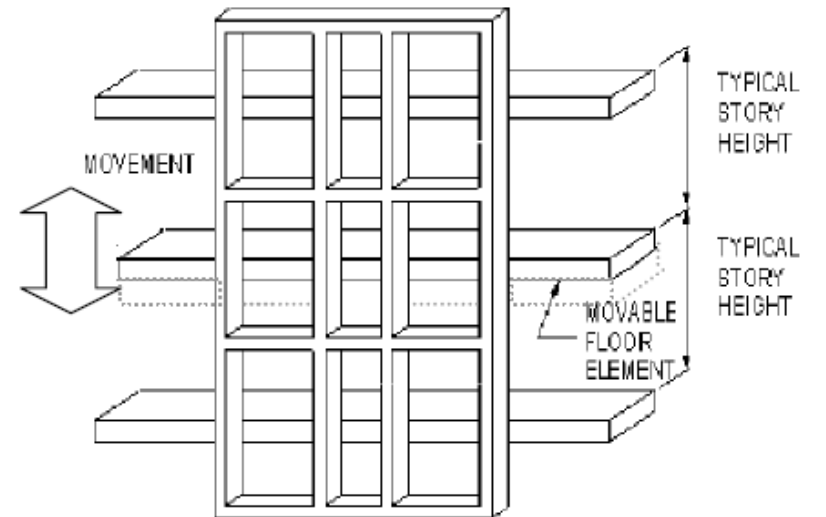
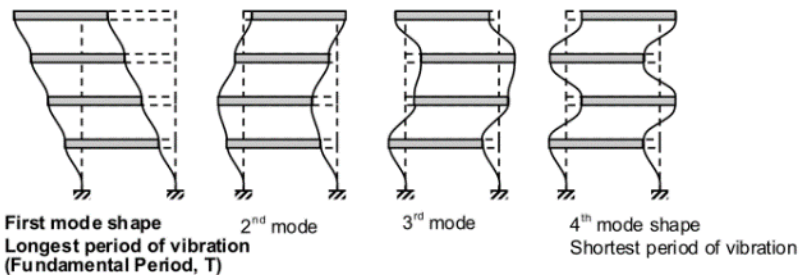


(a) Shear deformation  
(b) Global bending  
(c) Local bending



## STRUCTURAL MOVEMENT

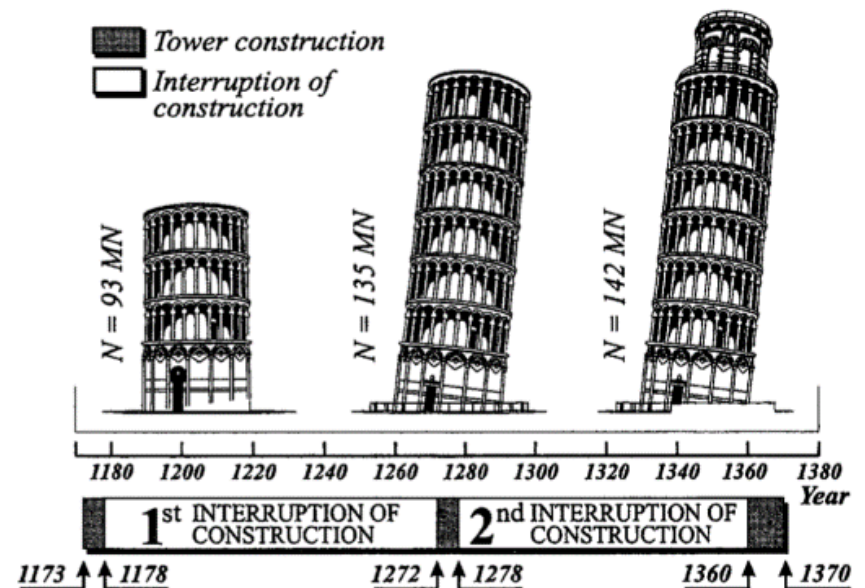
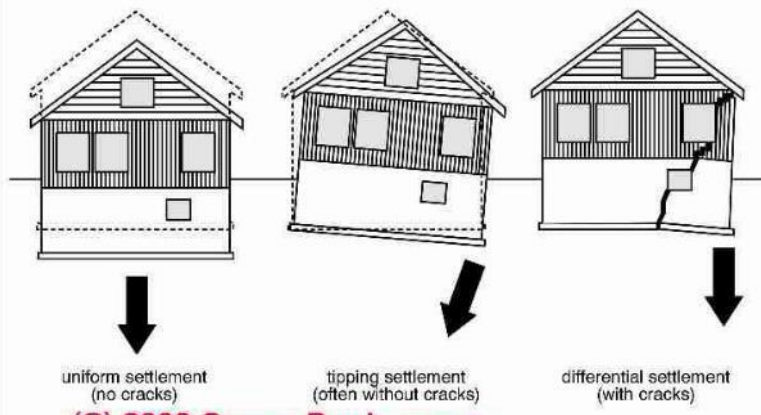
Wind  
Weight  
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Subsoil and Foundation



# STRUCTURAL MOVEMENT

Wind  
Weight  
Seismic  
Accidental forces  
Temperature  
Humidity  
Subsoil and Foundation

## Types of settlement





### VERTICAL LOADS

#### Dead load

- Self weight before glazing
- Self weight glazing
- Self weight after glazing

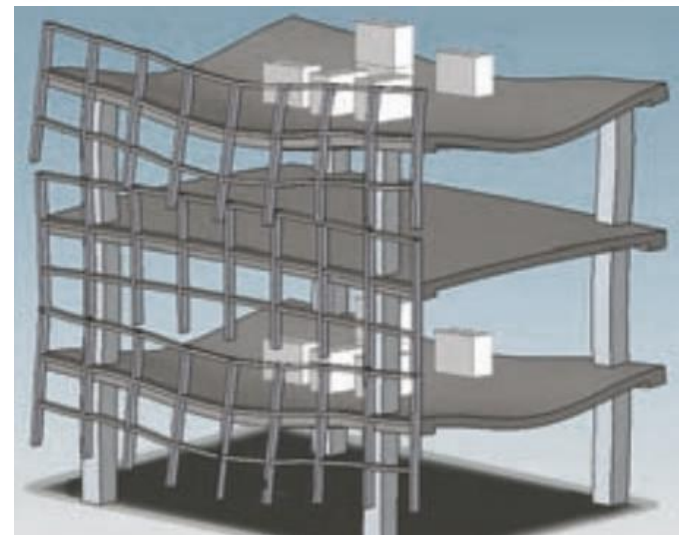
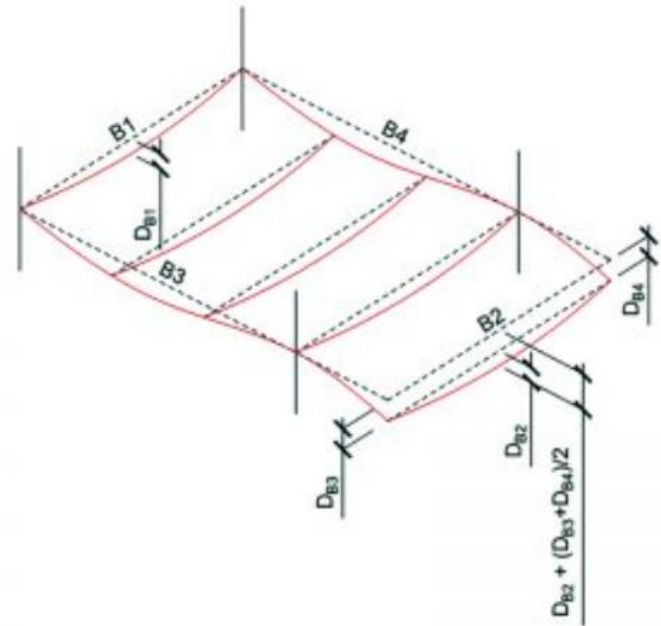
#### Live load (during service life)

- Wind load
- Snow load
- Service use load
- Accidental load

#### Column shortening

#### Thermal and other vertical movements

Concrete → long-term deflections due to creep and shrinkage



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# GLASS TOLERANCES

Dimensional tolerances

Length

Squareness

Oblique edge

Laminated glass

Displacement

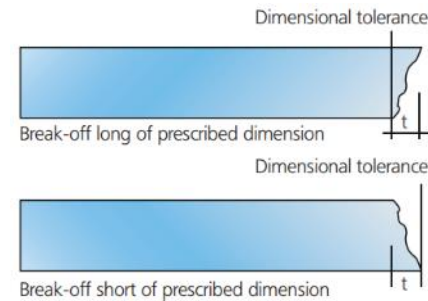
Insulated glass units

Misalignment

U profiles

(@ Tolerance Handbook AGC)

Description of Glass	Dimensional Tolerance (t) [mm] for Final-Cut Sizes	Difference between Diagonals (v) [mm]
Thickness $\leq 6$ mm and (W and H) $\leq 2000$ mm	$\pm 1.0$	$\leq 1.0$
6 mm < Thickness $\leq 12$ mm, or 2000 mm < (W or H) $\leq 3500$ mm	$\pm 2.0$	$\leq 2.0$
6 mm < Thickness $\leq 12$ mm and 3500 mm < (W or H) $\leq 5000$ mm	$\pm 3.0$	$\leq 3.0$
Thickness > 12 mm or (W or H) > 5000 mm	$\pm 4.0$	$\leq 4.0$



Glass-Thickness in mm	Maximum Dimensional Tolerance (t) [mm]
4, 5, 6	$\pm 1.0$
8, 10, 12	$\pm 2.0$
15	+5 / -3
19	+6 / -3

Table 5: Dimensional tolerance (t) for oblique glass break-off

# GLASS TOLERANCES

## Dimensional tolerances

Length

Squareness

Oblique edge

## Laminated glass

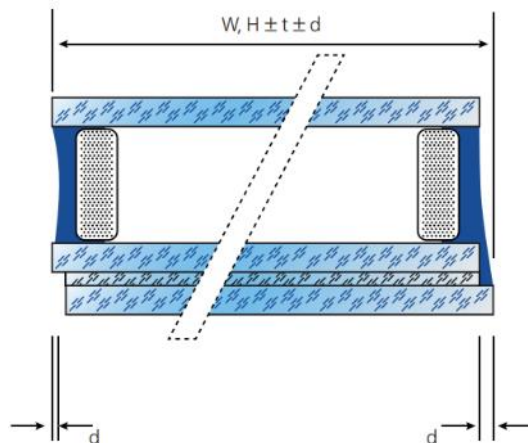
Displacement

## Insulated glass units

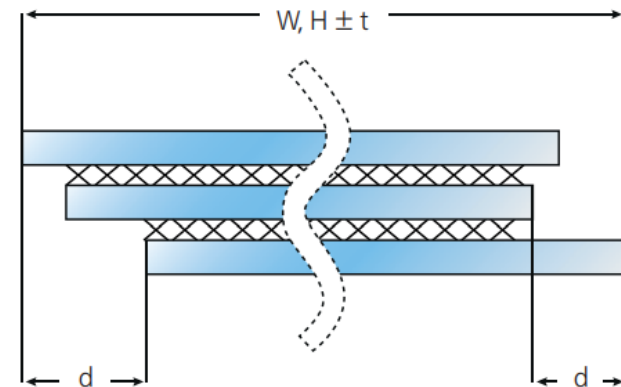
Misalignment

U profiles

(@ Tolerance Handbook AGC)



Nominal Dimensions (W) or (H) [mm]	Maximum Permissible Displacement (d) [mm]
$W, H \leq 1000$	2.0
$1000 < W, H \leq 2000$	3.0
$2000 < W, H \leq 4000$	4.0
$W, H > 4000$	6.0



Description of Glass	Maximum Dimensional Tolerance t [mm]	Misalignment d [mm]
All Pane Thicknesses $\leq 6$ mm and (W and H) $\leq 2000$ mm	$\pm 2.0$	$\leq 2.0$
6 mm < Thickest Pane $\leq 12$ mm, or 2000 mm < (W or H) $\leq 3500$ mm	$\pm 3.0$	$\leq 3.0$
Pane Thickness $\leq 12$ mm and 3500 mm < (W or H) $\leq 5000$ mm	$\pm 4.0$	$\leq 4.0$
Pane Thickness > 12 mm or (W or H) > 5000 mm	$\pm 5.0$	$\leq 5.0$

Table 24: Maximum dimensional tolerances (t) in mm for IGU

# GLASS TOLERANCES

## Dimensional tolerances

Length

Squareness

Oblique edge

## Laminated glass

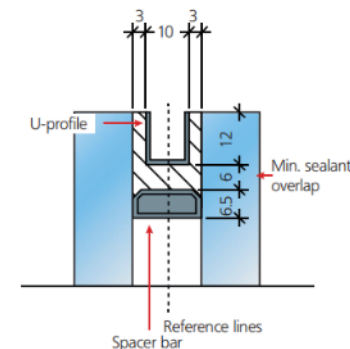
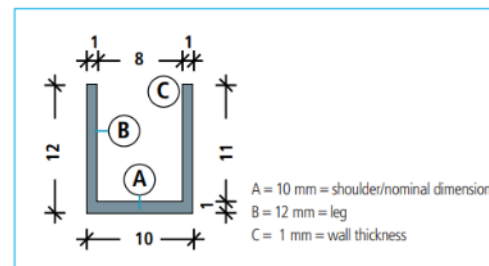
Displacement

## Insulated glass units

Misalignment

U profiles

(@ Tolerance Handbook AGC)



- Length U-profile **100 mm – 200 mm** acc. to indication
- Minimum distance between glass edge and U-profile **3 mm**
- Cavity at least **16 mm**
- Min. sealant overlap **6 mm**
- Tolerance positioning U-profile **± 2 mm** related to the **reference lines**
- Positional tolerance **± 5 mm**

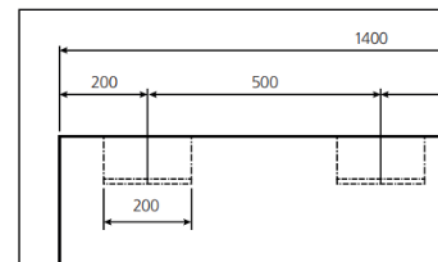


Fig. 31: Tolerances and model of execution for U-profiles

## INSTALLATION TOLERANCES

Survey setting out

Façade setting out

Installation tolérances (per module)

- Vertical:  $\pm 2$  mm module  $< 3$  m high
- Vertical:  $\pm 3$  mm module  $> 3$  m high.
- Horizontal:  $\pm 5$  mm général axes



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## FACADE SYSTEMS AND FIXINGS

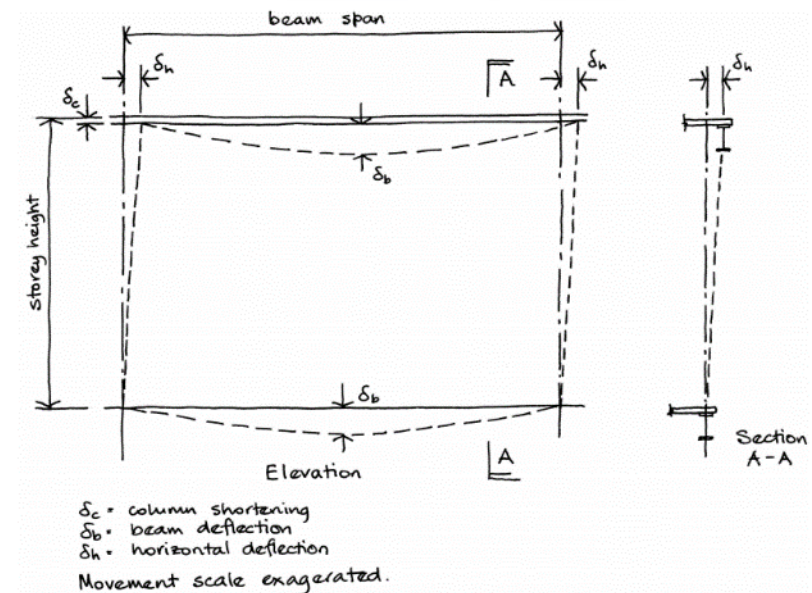
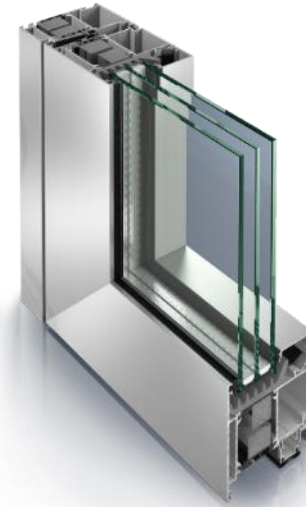
Window

Stick Curtain Wall

Unitized Curtain Wall

Glass mullions

Hunged Façades

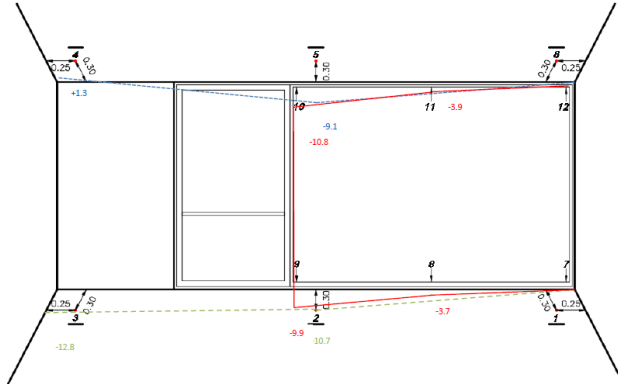




## VERTICAL LOADS

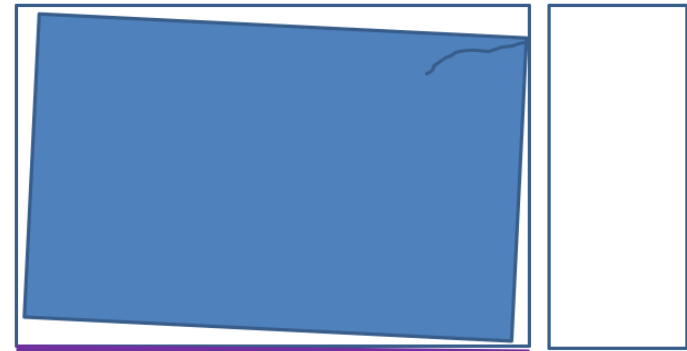
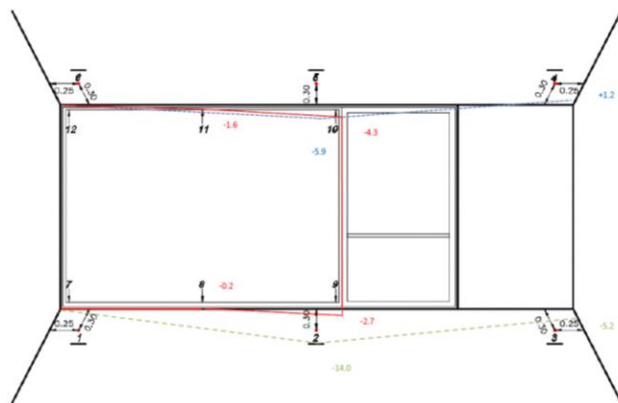
N° points des sondes	Lectures l/min	Altitudes relatives (m)	Différences
1	1.8822	100.0000	0.0
2	1.8929	99.9863	-0.7
3	1.8960	99.9572	-12.9
4	-1.4035	102.7867	1.3
5	-1.8951	102.7765	-9.1
6	-1.4042	102.7854	0.6
7	1.8422	100.0400	-3.7
8	1.8469	100.0363	-9.9
9	1.8511	100.0301	-10.8
10	-1.8972	102.7764	-3.9
11	-1.4042	102.7853	0.6
12	-1.4080	102.7892	0.6

Légende:  
 L 1 Cadre de fenêtre  
 T Point sonde (sens ligne rouge)  
 A Point de la surface



N° points des sondes	Lectures l/min	Altitudes relatives (m)	Différences
1	1.8790	100.0000	0.0
2	1.8880	99.9860	-14.0
3	1.8942	99.9548	-3.2
4	-1.4081	102.7971	1.3
5	-1.4110	102.7900	-5.9
6	-1.4189	102.7959	0.0
7	1.8430	100.0360	-0.6
8	1.8482	100.0358	-0.2
9	1.8497	100.0333	-2.7
10	-1.4019	102.7815	-4.3
11	-1.4052	102.7842	-1.6
12	-1.4080	102.7856	0.6

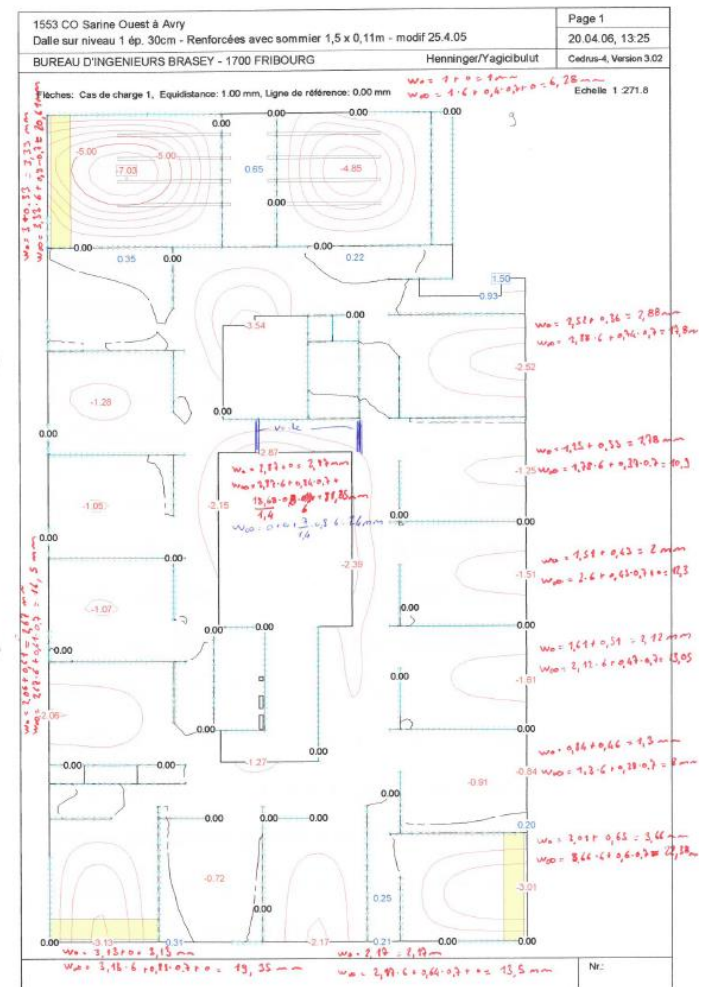
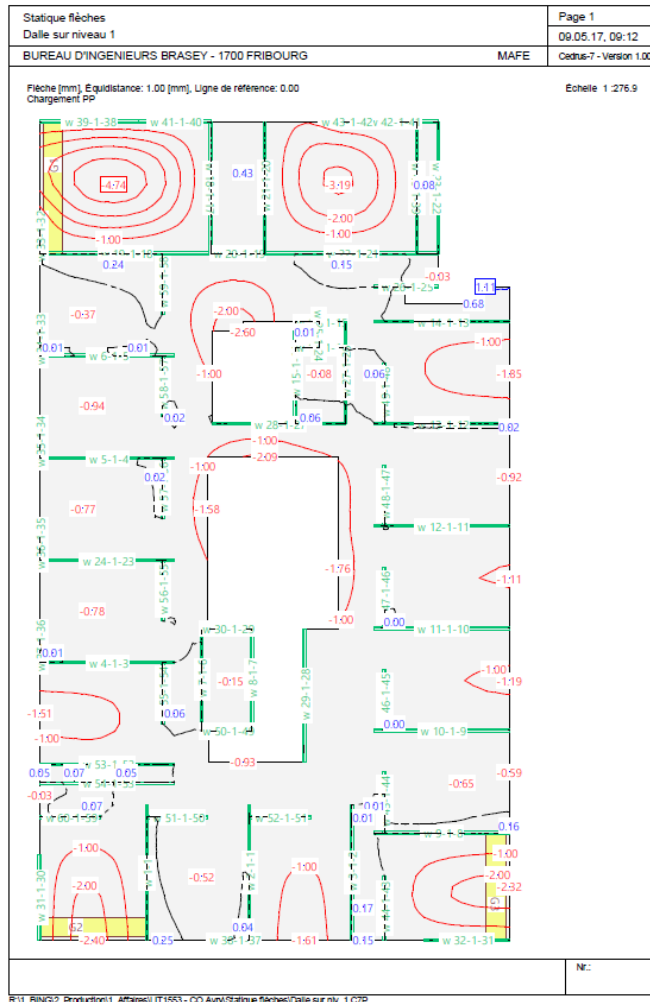
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Vue de l'intérieur



## VERTICAL LOADS



## FACADE SYSTEMS AND FIXINGS

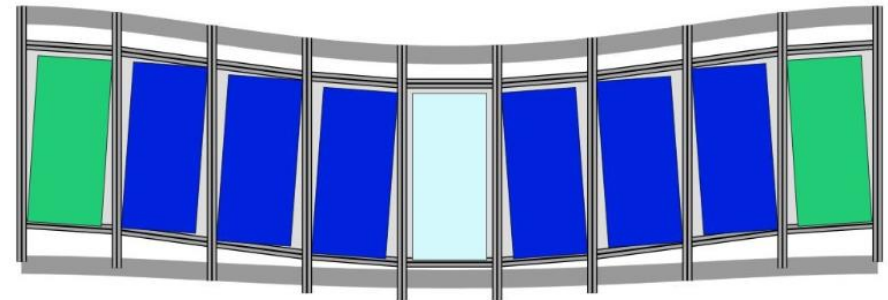
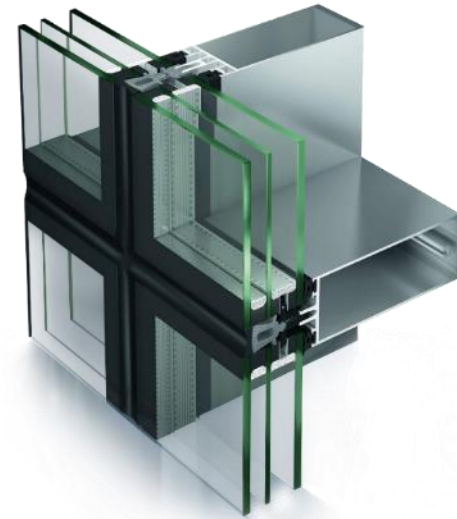
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Unitized Curtain Wall

Glass mullions

Hunged Façades



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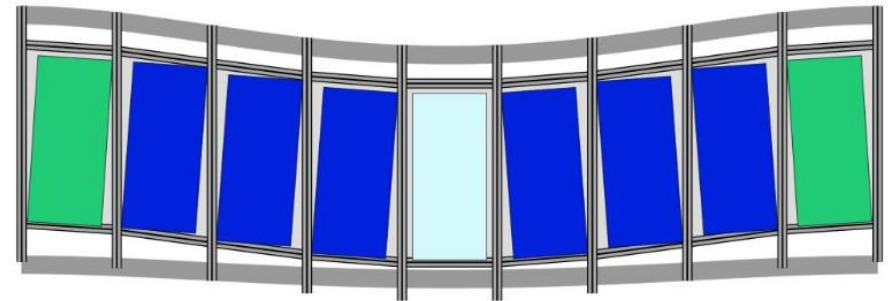
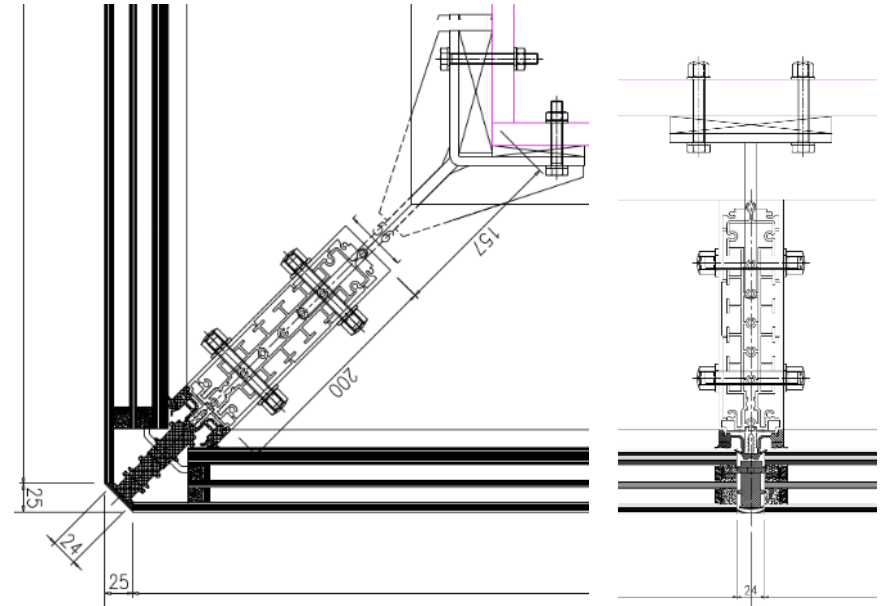
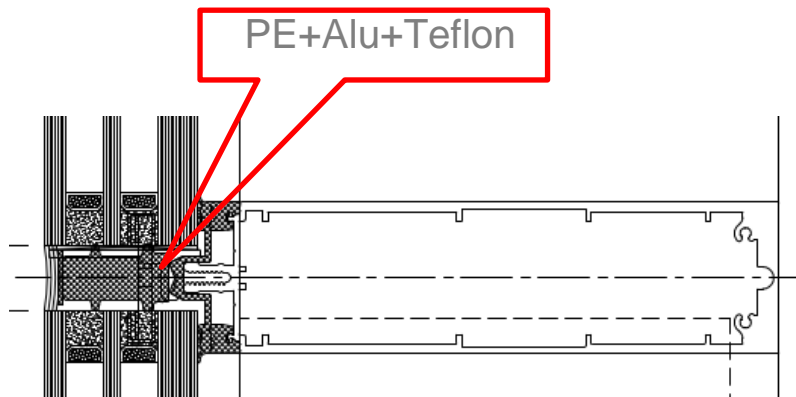
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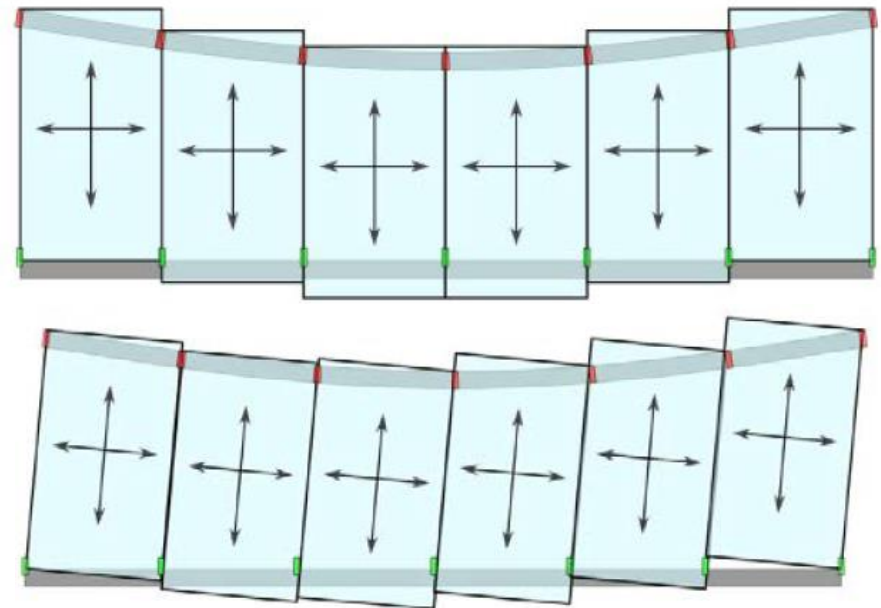
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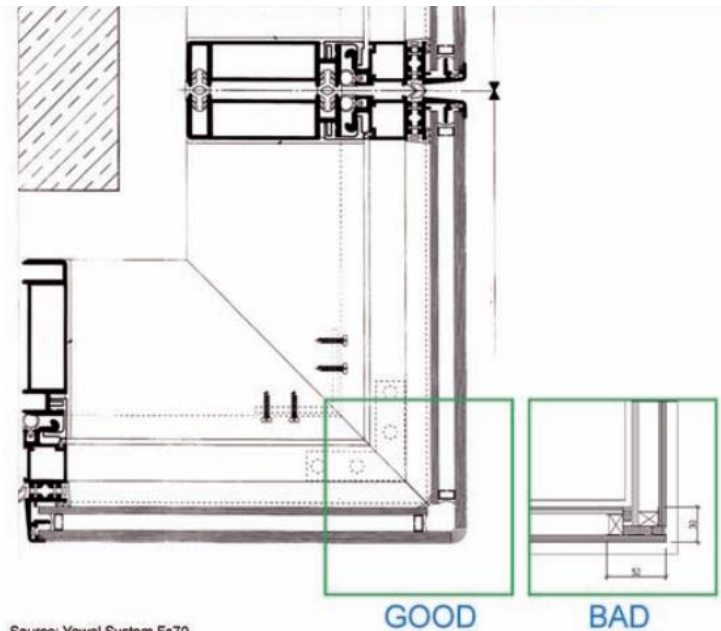
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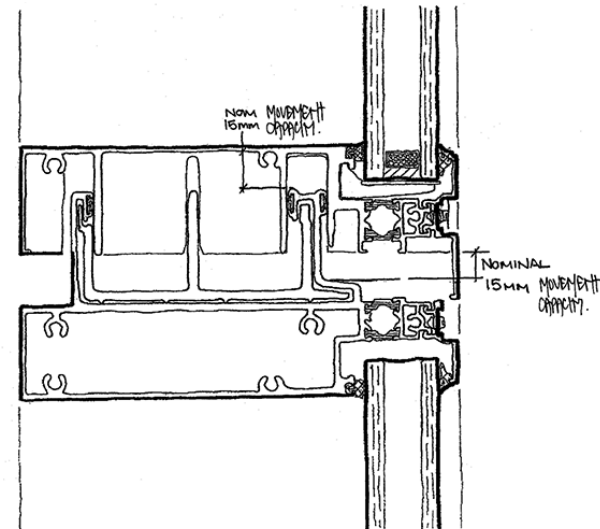
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Source: Yawal System Fs70



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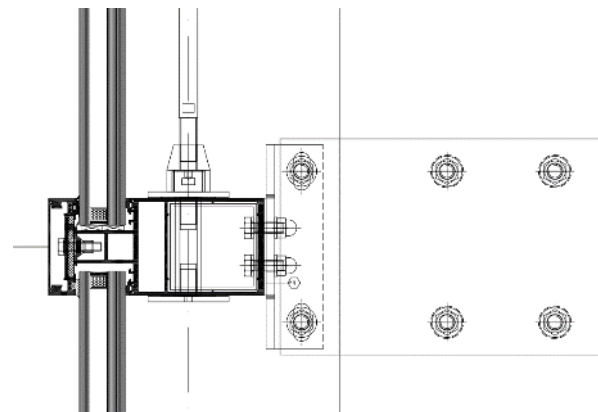
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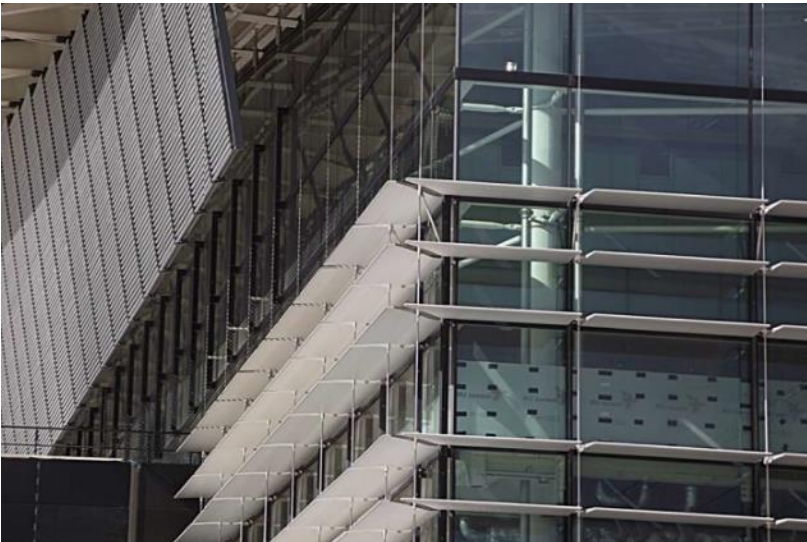
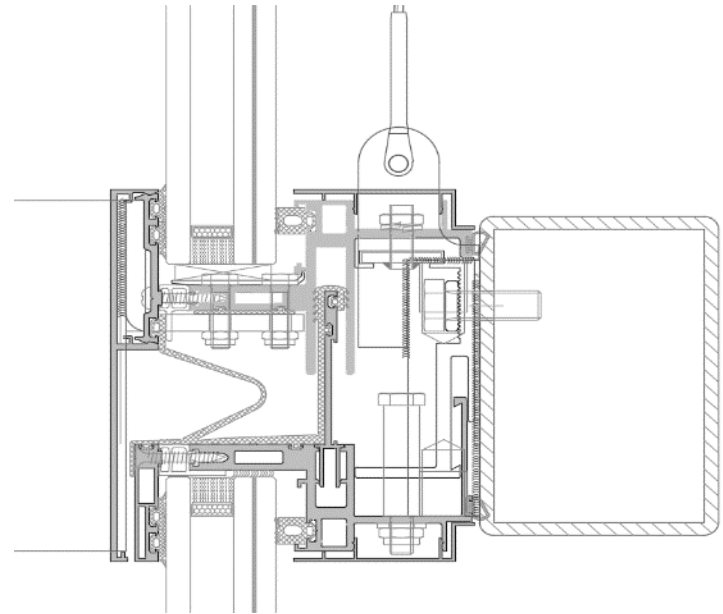
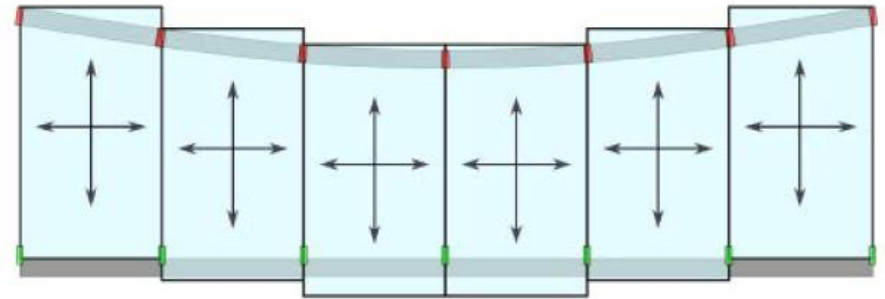
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THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

ANY QUESTION?

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