Architects and Designers Should Understand Loads Exerted By Rolling Sheet Doors

It is important for architects and building designers to understand the loads that rolling sheet doors exert on the wall above the opening and on the jambs. Dead loading would include the weight of the curtain, counterbalance, hood, operator, etc., that is supported by the wall above the opening. Live loading would result from wind loads that act on the door curtain that is transferred to the jambs through the guides.

On doors without windlocks, the only wind load force that the curtain exerts on the guides is normal to the opening. On doors with windlocks, there is an additional load that is parallel to the opening. This load is the catenary tension that results when the curtain deflects sufficiently to allow the windlocks to engage the windbar in the guides. This force acts to pull the guides toward the center of the opening. The door is exposed to a positive load by wind on the outside of the building. A negative load on the door comes from inside of the building.

Calculating the parallel force involves several variables, most prominent of which are the width of the opening and the specified wind load. It is also important to note that the door must withstand both positive and negative wind loads. Including these forces in the design of the jamb and its supporting structure can help prevent a jamb failure and allow the building to fully withstand its specified wind load requirements.

It should be noted that catenary forces computed by rolling sheet door manufacturers assume that vertical jambs are rigid. Flexibility of vertical jambs could affect the magnitude of such catenary forces.

The DASMA rolling sheet door manufacturers can provide you with a guide data sheet for the rolling sheet doors for your next project. Copies of the forms manufacturers can use are included with this Technical Data Sheet.
The following four site conditions are to be avoided:

- **Building designed with roll-formed “C” jambs that cannot handle the normal and parallel forces exerted by the door guide assemblies.** The “C” jambs will rotate under wind load and the door curtain can be blown out of the guides. Openings on the steel buildings must have jambs designed for rolling sheet door loads.

- **Wall above the opening not designed to handle the total hanging dead load.** Face of wall mounted doors will extend above the opening. The door brackets must be mounted to the wall above the opening to support the door. When the door has a hood to cover the coiled curtain and counterbalance, some provision must be made to fasten the top of the hood and hood supports to the wall.

- **Concrete masonry unit wall without concrete and rebar reinforced jambs cannot handle the forces imposed by the door.** The design of a steel reinforced CMU jamb should have at least a 2500 psi concrete rating. A rebar free location for installation of expansion anchors is preferred.

- **Building designed with tilt-up concrete panel walls that include steel jambs not securely attached to the concrete panels.** Thus, the jambs cannot handle the forces imposed by the door. The steel jambs must be securely fastened to the wall along the full height of the opening.

---

Note: Technical Data Sheets are information tools only and should not be used as substitutes for instructions from individual manufacturers. Always consult with individual manufacturers for specific recommendations for their products and check the applicable local regulations.

This Technical Data Sheet was prepared by the members of DASMA’s Commercial & Residential Garage Door Division Technical Committee. DASMA is a trade association comprising manufacturers of rolling doors, fire doors, grilles, counter shutters, sheet doors, and related products; upward-acting residential and commercial garage doors; operating devices for garage doors and gates, sensing devices, and electronic remote controls for garage doors and gate operators; as well as companies that manufacture or supply either raw materials or significant components used in the manufacture and installation of the Active Members’ products.
GUIDE DATA SHEET
(Rolling Sheet Door - Face Mounted Door Without Windlocks)

DATE: ______________

Door Model: __________  Gauge: _____  Serial No.: __________________
Customer: ___________________________  Job: _________________________________
Opening Size: ________________  Windload: ________ P.S.F.

The forces shown below are provided so you can determine that the building jambs are capable to withstand the loads imposed by the rolling door under specified load. These forces impose a load on the building; they are not reactions.

Note: All forces are pounds per foot of height.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Windload</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>F1</th>
<th>F2</th>
<th>F3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Load Dir. 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Dir. 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Technical Data Sheets are information tools only and should not be used as substitutes for instructions from individual manufacturers. Always consult with individual manufacturers for specific recommendations for their products and check the applicable local regulations.

This Technical Data Sheet was prepared by the members of DASMA’s Commercial & Residential Garage Door Division Technical Committee. DASMA is a trade association comprising manufacturers of rolling doors, fire doors, grilles, counter shutters, sheet doors, and related products; upward-acting residential and commercial garage doors; operating devices for garage doors and gates, sensing devices, and electronic remote controls for garage doors and gate operators; as well as companies that manufacture or supply either raw materials or significant components used in the manufacture and installation of the Active Members’ products.
GUIDE DATA SHEET
(Rolling Sheet Door - Face Mounted Door With Windlocks)

DATE: ______________

Door Model: __________     Gauge: _____     Serial No.: __________________
Customer: _____________________     Job: ________________________________
Opening Size: __________     Windload: _______ P.S.F.

The forces shown below are provided so you can determine that the building jambs are capable to withstand the loads imposed by the rolling door under specified load. These forces impose a load on the building; they are not reactions.

Note: All forces are pounds per foot of height.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Windload</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>F1</th>
<th>F2</th>
<th>F3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Load Dir. 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Load Dir. 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Page 2 (Applies to Doors With and Without Windlocks)

Note: Technical Data Sheets are information tools only and should not be used as substitutes for instructions from individual manufacturers. Always consult with individual manufacturers for specific recommendations for their products and check the applicable local regulations.

This Technical Data Sheet was prepared by the members of DASMA's Commercial & Residential Garage Door Division Technical Committee. DASMA is a trade association comprising manufacturers of rolling doors, fire doors, grilles, counter shutters, sheet doors, and related products; upward-acting residential and commercial garage doors; operating devices for garage doors and gates, sensing devices, and electronic remote controls for garage doors and gate operators; as well as companies that manufacture or supply either raw materials or significant components used in the manufacture and installation of the Active Members' products.