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USACE / NAVFAC / AFCEC UFGS-04 01 20.75 (May 2025)

Preparing Activity: USACE

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Superseding  
UFGS-04 01 20.75 (November 2015)

## UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

References are in agreement with UMRL dated July 2025

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#### SECTION 04 01 20.75

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05/25

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### SECTION 04 01 20.75

#### MASONRY STRENGTHENING USING SURFACE APPLIED FRP COMPOSITES 05/25

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NOTE: This guide specification covers the requirements for strengthening of masonry walls and is intended for use in defining those requirements for procurement of structural strengthening using fiber reinforced polymer (FRP) composite systems.

Adhere to [UFC 1-300-02](#) Unified Facilities Guide Specifications (UFGS) Format Standard when editing this guide specification or preparing new project specification sections. Edit this guide specification for project specific requirements by adding, deleting, or revising text. For bracketed items, choose applicable item(s) or insert appropriate information.

Remove information and requirements not required in respective project, whether or not brackets are present.

Comments, suggestions and recommended changes for this guide specification are welcome and should be submitted as a [Criteria Change Request \(CCR\)](#).

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## PART 1 GENERAL

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NOTE: In general, reinforced masonry is defined as masonry construction containing vertical bar reinforcement, horizontal bar reinforcement, mortar, and grout combined so that the component materials will act together to resist the design loading conditions. Under certain circumstances, joint reinforcement may be designed as structural reinforcement to resist applied loads, but is typically used only to resist shrinkage cracking in concrete masonry.

Masonry not meeting the above definition, but bonded

together with mortar and containing, if necessary, the minimum amount of reinforcement for crack control, is classified as unreinforced masonry (URM).

The project drawings should show all necessary details, architectural and structural, including wall sections, masonry bond and pattern, control joint locations, joint dimensions, reinforcement locations, anchors, bond beam and special units, masonry dimensions, and FRP composite details to complement this section.

The masonry to be strengthened with surface-applied FRP composites should first be assessed for suitability. Considerations include the extent of repairs that might be required to provide a suitable surface for achieving bond, the effect of reduced vapor permeability of the masonry, and the design requirements for covering the composite surface, both for visual aesthetics and fire resistance (when required). The presence of efflorescence or corrosion may inhibit bond of the FRP composite. Simply cleaning the staining addresses the symptom only and does not correct the cause of the problem.

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#### [1.1 SUMMARY

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NOTE: It may be useful to include this SUMMARY Article at the beginning of this Specification Section.

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This section includes design, performance, and construction requirements for strengthening masonry walls by adding surface applied composites to the masonry walls. The scope includes assessment of existing masonry conditions, including cracks, and providing (furnishing and installing) materials, labor, equipment and other items necessary for masonry strengthening as indicated. Any existing delaminations, spalls or surface defects must be identified and repaired prior to application of FRP system repairs.

#### ]1.2 REFERENCES

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NOTE: This paragraph is used to list the publications cited in the text of the guide specification. The publications are referred to in the text by basic designation only and listed in this paragraph by organization, designation, date, and title.

Use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature when you add a Reference Identifier (RID) outside of the Section's Reference Article to automatically place the reference in the Reference Article. Also use the Reference Wizard's Check Reference feature

to update the issue dates.

References not used in the text will automatically  
be deleted from this section of the project  
specification when you choose to reconcile  
references in the publish print process.

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The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the  
extent referenced. The publications are referred to within the text by  
the basic designation only.

AMERICAN CONCRETE INSTITUTE (ACI)

ACI 440.3R (2012) Guide Test Methods for  
Fiber-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) for  
Reinforcing or Strengthening Concrete  
Structures

ACI 440.7R (2010) Guide for the Design and  
Construction of Externally Bonded  
Fiber-Reinforced Polymer Systems for  
Strengthening Unreinforced Masonry  
Structures

ASTM INTERNATIONAL (ASTM)

ASTM C581 (2020) Standard Practice for Determining  
Chemical Resistance of Thermosetting  
Resins Used in Glass-Fiber-Reinforced  
Structures, Intended for Liquid Service

ASTM D2240 (2015; R 2021) Standard Test Method for  
Rubber Property - Durometer Hardness

ASTM D3039/D3039M (2017) Standard Test Method for Tensile  
Properties of Polymer Matrix Composite  
Materials

ASTM D3045 (2018) Standard Practice for Heat Aging of  
Plastics Without Load

ASTM D3171 (2011) Standard Test Method for  
Constituent Content of Composite Materials

ASTM D4541 (2022) Standard Test Method for Pull-Off  
Strength of Coatings Using Portable  
Adhesion Testers

ASTM E84 (2024) Standard Test Method for Surface  
Burning Characteristics of Building  
Materials

ASTM G154 (2023) Standard Practice for Operating  
Fluorescent Ultraviolet (UV) Lamp  
Apparatus for Exposure of Materials

ICC EVALUATION SERVICE, INC. (ICC-ES)

ICC ES AC125 (2014; R 2015) Acceptance Criteria for Concrete and Reinforced and Unreinforced Masonry Strengthening Using Externally Bonded Fiber-reinforced Polymer (FRP) Composite Systems

ICC ES AC178 (2013; R 2017) Acceptance Criteria for Inspection and Verification of Concrete and Reinforced and Unreinforced Masonry Strengthening Using Fiber-reinforced Polymer (FRP) Composite Systems

1.3 PRE-INSTALLATION MEETING

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NOTE: Add requirements for Special Inspector qualifications, observations, and testing of this FRP composite system to Section 01 45 35 SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.  
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Prior to commencement of work, arrange and conduct a meeting between the Contracting Officer, Contractor, and the Special Inspector to discuss the project requirements.

- a. Review the requirements of the Specification and overall project requirements.
- b. Review and discuss all aspects of the project, including containment, environmental control, surface preparation, strengthening system application, quality assurance, schedule requirements, and safety.
- c. Request clarification of ambiguities and advise the Contracting Officer of potential conflicts [and][or] any technical requirements that appear improper or inappropriate.

1.4 SUBMITTALS

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NOTE: Review submittal description (SD) definitions in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES and edit the following list, and corresponding submittal items in the text, to reflect only the submittals required for the project. The Guide Specification technical editors have classified those items that require Government approval, due to their complexity or criticality, with a "G." Generally, other submittal items can be reviewed by the Contractor's Quality Control System. Only add a "G" to an item, if the submittal is sufficiently important or complex in context of the project.

For Army projects, fill in the empty brackets following the "G" classification, with a code of up to three characters to indicate the approving authority. Codes for Army projects using the Resident Management System (RMS) are: "AE" for

Architect-Engineer; "DO" for District Office (Engineering Division or other organization in the District Office); "AO" for Area Office; "RO" for Resident Office; and "PO" for Project Office. Codes following the "G" typically are not used for Navy and Air Force projects.

The "S" classification indicates submittals required as proof of compliance for sustainability Guiding Principles Validation or Third Party Certification and as described in Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES.

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Government approval is required for submittals with a "G" or "S" classification. Submittals not having a "G" or "S" classification are for Contractor Quality Control approval. Submittals not having a "G" or "S" classification are for information only. When used, a code following the "G" classification identifies the office that will review the submittal for the Government. Submit the following in accordance with Section 01 33 00 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES:

#### SD-01 Preconstruction Submittals

Quality Control Plan; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

Contractor Qualifications; G

Contractor's Field Representative Qualifications; G

#### SD-02 Shop Drawings

FRP Composite System; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

#### SD-03 Product Data

Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

System Properties; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

#### SD-04 Samples

System Material Sample; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

Anchors; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

#### SD-05 Design Data

Design Calculations; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

Hygrothermal Analysis; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

#### SD-06 Test Reports

Laboratory Testing During Construction

Witness Panel Test Report

Field Testing



Mixed Resin Hardness Test Report

Shore Hardness Values

Delaminations; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

ICC Evaluation Services Report; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

#### SD-07 Certificates

Regulatory Requirements

Manufacturer Qualifications

Contractor Qualifications

Contractor's Field Representative Qualifications; G

Installers' Qualifications

System Properties

Finish Coat Compatibility Letter from FRP Manufacturer

Finish Coat Compatibility Letter from Finish Coat Manufacturer

Certificate Of Compliance

#### SD-08 Manufacturer's Instructions

System Installation Instructions; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

Repair Methods for Application Defects; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

#### SD-10 Operation and Maintenance Data

Record Retention; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

Maintenance Procedures; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]

### 1.5 QUALITY CONTROL

#### 1.5.1 Quality Control Plan

Submit a Quality Control Plan for installation and curing of FRP materials, including personnel safety, installer certification, application and inspection of the FRP system, location and placement of splices, curing provisions, means to assure dry surfaces, quality assurance samples and cleanup.

#### 1.5.2 Regulatory Requirements

Submit [Safety Data Sheets \(SDS\)](#) to demonstrate that the composite system will not release volatile organic compounds (VOC) into the air in excess of the most restrictive of NIOSH RELs, OSHA PELs or ACGIH TLVs for worker or occupant exposure during installation [and][or] over the useful life of the structure. If VOCs exceed any of these exposure limits during installation or use, provide additional ventilation for the duration of

the excess outgassing. Ensure that at no time will they exceed STEL, even if additional ventilation or air supply is provided. Provide the necessary equipment to comply with these requirements. Once cured, ensure the FRP composite system does not exhibit detectable odor at a distance of 300 mm one foot from the FRP surface.

Submit certification that resins proposed for use meet Federal VOC regulations and those of the local Air Pollution Control Districts having jurisdiction over the geographical area in which the project is located.

### 1.5.3 Qualifications

#### 1.5.3.1 Manufacturer Qualifications

Submit an approved ICC Evaluation Services Report for the selected manufacturer's system.

Submit a certified list of a minimum five successfully completed FRP composite strengthening projects completed with the manufacturer's composite system. Include the following information, at a minimum:

- a. The dates of work
- b. Type, description and amount of work performed
- c. Point of contact for an owner representative to include:
  - (1) Name
  - (2) Address
  - (3) Company/Agency Name
  - (4) Telephone Number

#### 1.5.3.2 Contractor Qualifications

Submit a list of a minimum five FRP composite strengthening projects completed by the Contractor on masonry surfaces, with a minimum of three of those jobs using the manufacturer's composite system. Include the following information, at a minimum:

- a. The dates of work
- b. Type, description and amount of work performed
- c. Point of contact for an owner representative to include:
  - (1) Name
  - (2) Address
  - (3) Company/Agency name
  - (4) Telephone number

#### 1.5.3.3 Contractor's Field Representative Qualifications

Provide a Field Representative who will be present on site during installation of the FRP system. Submit the name of the Contractor's Field Representative that will perform the actual work supervision and a list of a minimum of five FRP composite strengthening projects supervised by that Field Representative, at least three of which use the manufacturer's composite system. Include the following information, at a minimum:

- a. The dates of work

- b. Type, description and amount of work performed
- c. Point of contact for an owner representative to include:

- (1) Name
- (2) Address
- (3) Company/Agency name
- (4) Telephone number

#### 1.5.3.4 Installers' Qualifications

##### 1.5.3.4.1 Training

Submit certification for the FRP composite applicators who have completed, as a minimum, a course provided by the FRP manufacturer which includes hands-on application of FRP systems to masonry substrates in accordance with the ICC Engineering Services Report.

Train workers in the safe handling and application, and the exposure limit, for each material that the worker will use or otherwise be exposed to during the course of the project.

##### 1.5.3.4.2 Experience

Only assign qualified applicators meeting these requirements and those having prior experience in the specified application preparation to perform the work described herein.

##### 1.5.3.4.3 Laboratory

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**NOTE: Due to the sensitivity of ASTM D3039/D3039M,  
not all testing laboratories are capable of  
performing this test. The testing laboratory used  
must have a history of performing ASTM D3039/D3039M  
tests prior to the contract.**  
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Provide a testing laboratory experienced in testing FRP materials in accordance with the requirements set forth in the ICC Engineering Services Report. Laboratory must have successfully completed testing on a minimum of 3 prior projects.

#### 1.6 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

##### 1.6.1 Labeling

Deliver polymer resin materials in original factory-sealed containers with the manufacturer's labels intact and legible with verification of product nomenclature, manufacturer's name, product identification and batch number, date of manufacture and shelf life or expiration date. Do not use polymer resin materials that have exceeded the shelf life as indicated in the ICC Engineering Services Report.

##### 1.6.2 Storage

Store materials in a covered, well-ventilated area protected from exposure to detrimental conditions including: airborne contaminants, dirt, dust, sunlight, adverse temperatures, rainfall, sparks or flame and in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements as indicated in the ICC

Engineering Services Report. Store polymer resins and hardeners in a separate area from construction materials that can absorb odors.

## 1.7 PROJECT/SITE CONDITIONS

### 1.7.1 Environmental Requirements

#### 1.7.1.1 Application Temperature

##### 1.7.1.1.1 Cold Surfaces

Do not apply primers, saturating resins and adhesives to cold or frozen surfaces. When the surface temperature of the masonry surface falls below a minimum level, as specified by the FRP system manufacturer, stop work until both the air and masonry temperature rise above the specified minimums. Do not use supplemental sources of heat to raise the air or masonry surface temperature unless approved by the FRP composite system manufacturer.

##### 1.7.1.1.2 Hot Surfaces

When the surface temperature of the masonry [and][or] the air temperature rise above the maximum level, as specified by the FRP system manufacturer, stop work until both the air temperature and masonry temperature cool below the specified maximum.

##### 1.7.1.1.3 Wet or Damp Surfaces

Unless they have been formulated for such applications, do not apply resins and adhesives to damp or wet surfaces.

#### 1.7.1.2 Environmental Temperature

Should the potential for adverse temperatures occur during installation, stop the application of FRP until temperatures return to within the range specified in the Manufacturer's Instructions. Obtain approval from the FRP manufacturer and the Contracting Officer before using supplemental heating or cooling sources.

#### 1.7.1.3 Other Environmental Factors

Provide temporary protection from direct contact by rain, dust and dirt, excessive sunlight, and high humidity during installation and until the resins have cured. Provide and install tents [and][or] plastic screens as required to protect the FRP system as it cures. Assure resins are cured before removal of temporary shoring or allowing the structure to be exposed to new loads. In the event of suspected damage to the FRP system during installation, notify the Contracting Officer..

### 1.7.2 Existing Conditions

As-built drawings of the structure[ are attached][ can be accessed at [\_\_\_\_\_]].

## 1.8 WARRANTY

Furnish a warranty for FRP composite system installation. Ensure the warranty covers the FRP composite system[ design,] installation, bond to the substrate, and interlaminar bond, as well as mechanical property

retention, and fabric-resin compatibility. Furnish the warranty for a period of not less than 5 years from the date of Government's acceptance.

## PART 2 PRODUCTS

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NOTE: FRP system forms can be categorized based on how they are delivered to the work site and installed. Externally applied FRP composite systems come in a variety of forms including wet lay-up systems, prepreg systems, and precured systems.

Wet lay-up FRP systems consist of dry unidirectional or multi-directional fiber sheets or fabrics that are impregnated onsite with a saturating resin. The saturating resin is used to bond the sheets to the masonry surface. Wet lay-up systems are saturated with resin and cured in place and in this sense are analogous to cast-in-place concrete. For dry lay-up systems, the fabric is placed on the wall and then saturated in-place with resin and cured in place.

Prepreg FRP systems consist of unidirectional or multidirectional fiber sheets or fabrics that are preimpregnated with a saturating resin in the supplier's facility. Prepreg systems are bonded to the concrete surface with or without an additional resin application, depending upon specific system requirements. Prepreg systems are saturated offsite and, like wet lay-up systems, are cured in place. Prepreg systems usually require heat for cure.

Precured FRP systems consist of composite shapes (plates, strips, ribbons, and bars configured as an open mesh grid or solid laminate) manufactured in the system supplier's facility and shipped to the job site. Typically, an adhesive is used to bond the precured shapes to the masonry surface.

A single system manufacturer should supply all materials and system components (reinforcements, resins and adhesives) for a specific job. The arbitrary selection of a fiber reinforcement and a resin/matrix material can lead to failure of the FRP composites system due to matrix-reinforcement incompatibilities and are, therefore, not allowed.

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### 2.1 SYSTEM DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE

#### 2.1.1 Design Requirements

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NOTE: The resin system used in the FRP composite system seals up the surface of the wall where it is applied and can impede air and moisture migration through a wall. If the wall should not be sealed tight, full coverage of the wall with the FRP system should be avoided thus allowing normal air and water

## vapor transmission.

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- a. Design the FRP composite system in accordance with ACI 440.7R to provide seismic wind and blast strengthening for clay and concrete masonry walls.
- b. Submit complete shop drawings signed and sealed by the professional engineer responsible for their preparation for each installation of the composite system showing details of fiber architecture, fiber type, dimensions, number and thickness of layers, direction of fiber layers, sequence of layer applications, lap splices, joint and end details, anchorage of the FRP composite system, proposed connections to diaphragms and adjacent walls, and locations to be applied as specified.
- c. Submit design calculations for the FRP composite system, prepared by or on behalf of the Contractor and stamped by a licensed professional engineer, for approval of the Contracting Officer. Develop an FRP layout that does not adversely affect moisture permeation through the masonry walls. Include a hygrothermal analysis of the wall system in its environment to assess the impact of reducing air and vapor transmission by the application of the proposed FRP system.

### 2.1.2 Performance Requirements

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**NOTE:** Provide the parameters of strength or force that must be provided by the FRP composite application. The following variables must be considered in determining the enhanced performance requirements: the load on the wall, the size of the wall, the wall aspect ratio, wall openings, etc.

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Provide the FRP composite system with seismic wind and blast strengthening for clay concrete masonry walls to provide the flexure and shear demand indicated on the Drawings on the shop drawings. Provide a system that transfers seismic wind and blast loading in concert with the existing masonry to the building foundation.

## 2.2 FRP SYSTEM

### 2.2.1 General Requirements

Ensure that all FRP system components are provided by a single manufacturer of FRP systems. Do not substitute the submitted reinforced FRP composite system or any of its components during the course of the project.

Assure that delivered FRP materials meet the specified requirements prior to starting the project. Submit certificate of compliance. Reject all materials that do not meet the minimum requirements, as specified in Table 1 and by the Contracting Officer. In addition, determine the setting time, pot life, and curing hardness of the resins.

### 2.2.2 FRP Composite System

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**NOTE: Select the appropriate system from the three choices below and delete the others.**

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#### [2.2.2.1 Wet Lay-up System

A wet lay-up FRP system consists of [glass][carbon][aramid] fiber in [an epoxy][a polyester][a polyurethane] resin.

#### ]2.2.2.2 Prepreg System

A prepreg FRP system consists of [glass][carbon][aramid] fiber in an uncured polymer resin.

#### ]2.2.2.3 Precured System

A precured FRP system consists of [glass][carbon][aramid] fiber, fabricated as [strips][plates][ribbons][bars] in[ an open mesh grid][ a solid laminate] configuration with a resin matrix of [vinyl ester][polyester][epoxy][polyurethane][specialty resin] applied to the surface of the masonry wall using [a polyurethane][an epoxy] structural adhesive.

#### ]2.2.3 FRP Composite System Properties

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**NOTE: The values listed in the following table should be provided by the design engineer and be based on the values and assumptions that were used in developing the design. The items in Table 1 below will be the minimum acceptable property values for the FRP system to be installed and potential FRP systems submitted which do not meet these minimums should be rejected.**

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#### 2.2.3.1 Property Requirements

Table 1 lists the minimum allowable gross laminate properties for the cured [glass][carbon][aramid][hybrid] reinforced FRP composite system.

Proposed FRP systems must utilize the same primary fiber reinforcement type (e.g., carbon fiber, aramid fiber, or E-glass fiber) as the specified system.

TABLE 1		
	FRP COMPOSITE REQUIREMENT	TEST METHOD
Elongation: max.	[_____] percent	ASTM D3039/D3039M
Guaranteed Tensile Strength, min., in primary fiber direction	[_____] kPa psi	ASTM D3039/D3039M

TABLE 1		
	FRP COMPOSITE REQUIREMENT	TEST METHOD
Ult. Breaking Load, min., in primary fiber direction width	[_____] kg/mm lb/in	ASTM D3039/D3039M
Modulus of Elasticity, min. based on cross sectional area of primary fibers	[_____] kPa psi	ASTM D3039/D3039M
Percent Tensile Strength Retained after: 7 days exposure at 100 percent humidity	[_____] percent	ASTM G154
2,000 hours exposure to UV	[_____] percent	ASTM G154
3,000 hours exposure to ozone	[_____] percent	ASTM C581
3,000 hours exposure to alkali	[_____] percent	ASTM C581
3,000 hours exposure to salt water	[_____] percent	ASTM C581
3,000 hours exposure at 60 C 140 F	[_____] percent	ASTM D3045
Guaranteed Tensile Strength at 90 degrees to primary fibers, min.	[_____] kPa psi	ASTM D3039/D3039M
Ultimate Tensile Strength of Lap Splices in Primary Fiber Direction	[_____] kPa psi	ASTM D3039/D3039M
Ply Thickness	[_____] mm inch	ASTM D3039/D3039M
Fiber Volume Fraction	[_____] percent	ASTM D3171

### 2.2.3.2 FRP System Submittals

#### 2.2.3.2.1 Product Data Sheets

Submit manufacturer's product data sheets indicating physical, mechanical, and chemical characteristics of materials used in the FRP system application and certification from the system manufacturer of the material and section properties for the supplied material.

#### 2.2.3.2.2 System Material Sample

The required system sample material submittal is an FRP plate 300 x 300 mm 12 x 12 inch or plate of equivalent area when one of the fiber reinforcing dimensions is less than 300 mm 12 inches.



#### 2.2.3.2.3 System Properties

Submit documented evidence that the proposed system meets the requirements of Table 1. Determine elastic modulus by the strength and rupture strain values. Determine ultimate tensile strength and rupture strain values by subtracting three standard deviations from the average values of 20 or more tensile tests. Provide test report.

#### 2.2.3.2.4 System Durability

System environmental durability test results conducted and reported by an independent testing facility. Include the following information in the report:

- (1) FRP System nomenclature
- (2) Testing facility name
- (3) Testing facility address
- (4) Testing facility telephone number
- (5) Testing facility point of contact
- (6) Freeze-thaw test results
- (7) UV test results
- (8) Fire resistance test results

#### 2.2.3.2.5 System Performance

Test results by an independent testing facility on walls which are representative of the actual configuration and loading conditions for this contract, showing the following information:

- (1) FRP System nomenclature
- (2) Primer/filler system nomenclature
- (3) Coating/finishing system nomenclature
- (4) Testing facility name
- (5) Testing facility address
- (6) Testing facility telephone number
- (7) Testing facility point of contact
- (8) Test wall substrate material
- (9) Test wall aspect ratio
- (10) FRP fiber orientation and fiber density
- (11) FRP composite application process
- (12) Cyclic in-plane test results in accordance with ICC ES AC125 to include the following:
  - (a) Description of test setup.
  - (b) Rate and method of loading.
  - (c) Deformation and strain measurements.
  - (d) Modes of failure.

#### 2.2.3.2.6 System Installation Instructions

Submit manufacturer's printed installation instructions, including the following:

- (1) Brand name
- (2) Catalog numbers
- (3) Names of manufacturers for each material to be used. Include with instructions the estimated quantity of each material to be used on the job.

- (4) Detailed mixing and application instructions to include:
  - (a) Mixing instructions
  - (b) Curing times between coats or layers
  - (c) Application procedures for surface coatings
  - (d) Cold weather installation to include the minimum application temperature recommended by the FRP system manufacturer.
  - (e) Hot weather installation to include the maximum application temperature recommended by the FRP system manufacturer.
  - (f) Inclement weather installations
  - (g) Application procedures of top coating material

## 2.3 COMPONENTS

### 2.3.1 [Primer][Filler]

Provide a [primer][filler], for the protective seal coat and for filling voids, that consists of a thickened [epoxy][polyester].

### 2.3.2 Finish and Coating

Perform final finish and apply architectural coatings as prescribed in architectural specifications and drawings [\_\_\_\_\_].

- a. **Finish coat compatibility letter from FRP manufacturer:** Submit letter from FRP system manufacturer stating that the finish coating is compatible with the FRP System.
- b. **Finish coat compatibility letter from finish coat manufacturer:** Submit letter from finish coat manufacturer stating that the finish coating is compatible with the FRP System.

#### [2.3.2.1 Flame Spread/Fire Protection

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOTE: Include the following paragraph unless the FRP materials are installed on the exterior of a structure, or if a flame barrier is installed between living space and the FRP materials system, or unless stated otherwise by the local fire building code.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

Meet requirements for Class 1 fire rating in accordance with **ASTM E84** and meet or exceed local building code requirements for flame spread and smoke generation.

## ]2.4 MIXES

Mix [resin][adhesive] in accordance with the FRP system manufacturer's recommended procedure. Assure that [resin][adhesive] components are at a proper temperature and are mixed in the correct ratio until there is a complete mixing of components and a uniform color. Mix each batch of [resin][adhesive] in quantities sufficiently small to ensure that the mixed [resin][adhesive] can be used within the [resin][adhesive] pot life. Do not use mixed [resin][adhesive] that exceeds its pot life, as defined by the system manufacturer.

## 2.5 ACCESSORIES

Provide **anchors** for the FRP system as prescribed by the FRP system manufacturer and designated in the Shop Drawings. Submit two of each type of anchor to be used.

## PART 3 EXECUTION

### 3.1 EXAMINATION

#### 3.1.1 Verification

Examine existing conditions to assess the quality of the masonry substrate, identify potential obstructions, and verify dimensions/geometries shown on shop drawings.

#### 3.1.2 Surface Moisture

Ensure that all surfaces to receive the strengthening system are as dry as recommended by the FRP system manufacturer.

### 3.2 PREPARATION

#### 3.2.1 Protection

Protect building occupants, other Contractor personnel, and visitors from exposure to FRP system dust and mists from preparation, FRP system application and clean-up operations.

#### 3.2.2 FRP Material Verification

Prior to starting the project and together with the Special Inspector, ensure that delivered FRP materials meet the specified requirements.

#### 3.2.3 Worksite Ventilation

Ventilate work areas during FRP application per ICC Engineering Service Report requirements or required by a more stringent applicable local regulation.

#### 3.2.4 Substrate Repair

##### 3.2.4.1 Surface Conditions

\*\*\*\*\*  
NOTE: If the masonry surface to be treated has been inspected and found to not need repair, select the first bracketed option. If the masonry surface to be treated has been inspected and found to have distress that requires repair, but the repairs have not been identified, select the second bracketed option. Select the third and fourth bracketed options only when these repair approaches have been determined to be appropriate and applicable to the masonry surface to be treated.  
\*\*\*\*\*

[The area to receive FRP composite is relatively sound structurally.]  
[There are known problems associated with the condition of the original

masonry and the masonry substrate that can compromise the integrity of the FRP system.] [Fill surface cracks greater than 1.6 mm 1/16-inch to a minimum depth of 25 mm 1 inch.] [Remove areas of loose or spalling masonry material.]

#### 3.2.4.2 Sub-Surface Conditions

Do not apply externally bonded FRP systems to areas of substandard masonry exhibiting lack of structural integrity (such as signs of corroded embedded steel elements, excessive cracking and spalling, excessive deflections, etc.). Stop work in these areas, notify the Contracting Officer, and indicate the locations and type of masonry distress. Do not proceed with work until directed to do so by the Contracting Officer.

#### 3.2.5 Surface Preparation

##### 3.2.5.1 Surface Cleaning

Remove loose and unsound materials and other conditions that would inhibit bond, such as laitance, dust, dirt, oil, curing compound, existing paint or coatings, efflorescence, and other matter that could interfere with the bond of the FRP system to the masonry or repaired surfaces to which the FRP system is to be applied.

##### 3.2.5.2 New Masonry Preparation

Unspoiled new masonry only requires wire brushing to remove loose surface particles.

##### 3.2.5.3 Old Clay Masonry Preparation

Prepare surface of older clay masonry using hand tools, power tools or water blasting techniques. Do not use abrasive blasting.

##### 3.2.5.4 Old Concrete Masonry Preparation

Concrete masonry may be blasted using a light blast abrasive or cleaned using hand tools, power tools or water blasting techniques.

##### 3.2.5.5 Cleaned Surface Protection

After the cleaning operations are complete, protect the surface prior to FRP installation so that no materials that may interfere with bond are redeposited on the surface. Apply the FRP composite system to the prepared wall within [24][48] hours of performing the surface preparation.

#### 3.2.6 Mortar Joint Preparation

##### 3.2.6.1 Tooled Mortar Joints

Fill tooled mortar joints with putty or another epoxy-based paste to make mortar joints flush with the masonry units. Ensure that localized out-of-plane variations between masonry units do not exceed 1.6 mm 1/16-inch or the tolerances recommended by the FRP system manufacturer, whichever is smaller. Smooth localized out-of-plane variations in the masonry units using putty as needed. It is not necessary to screed filler onto the surface to fill all bug holes. Fill larger holes greater than 6 mm 1/4 inch in diameter and other voids with putty.

### 3.2.6.2 Untooled Mortar Joints

Grind or chisel untooled mortar joints that protrude beyond the masonry surface or other protuberances or irregularities flush with the surface.

### 3.2.6.3 [Putty][Filler]

Ensure [putty][filler] used is compatible with the masonry and the FRP strengthening system and complies with the FRP system manufacturer's specifications. Use putty or another epoxy-based paste with adequate bonding properties to masonry only to fill voids and smooth surface discontinuities prior to application of other materials. Allow putty to cure to the degree specified by the FRP manufacturer before applying subsequent materials. Grind rough edges or trowel lines of cured putty smooth prior to continuing the installation.

### 3.2.7 Obstructions, Corners and Non-Planar Surfaces

Obstructions, re-entrant corners, concave surfaces and embedded objects can affect the performance of the FRP system. Modify surfaces scheduled to receive FRP system until localized out-of-plane variations between masonry units do not exceed 1.6 mm 1/16-inch or the tolerance recommended by the FRP system manufacturer, whichever is smaller. Movable obstructions and embedded objects may need to be removed prior to installing the FRP system.[ Give special care to re-entrant corner detailing and concave surface detailing to ensure that the bond of the FRP system to the substrate is maintained.]

## 3.3 FRP INSTALLATION

### 3.3.1 General

Do not install the FRP composite if environmental conditions are outside the permitted range defined by the FRP system manufacturer.

### [3.3.2 Primer

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE: Wet lay-up systems typically require a primer to saturate and penetrate the masonry surface and enhance the bond strength of the FRP system. Adhesives used with pre-cured systems, depending upon its chemistry, may not require use of a primer.**

**Include this paragraph unless the project utilizes a pre-cured system that does not require a primer.**

\*\*\*\*\*

- a. Mix primers according to the FRP system manufacturer's installation instructions. Assure resin components are at a proper temperature and mixed in the Manufacturer's prescribed mix ratio for its prescribed mixing time until there is a uniform and complete mixing of components.
- b. Apply primers to areas on the masonry surface where the FRP system is to be placed. Place primer uniformly on the prepared surface at the manufacturer's specified rate of coverage. Allow primer to cure to the degree specified by the FRP manufacturer before applying subsequent materials.

### 13.3.3 System Installation

#### 3.3.3.1 Wet Lay-Up and Prepreg Systems

Install the FRP system in strict accordance with the FRP system manufacturer's recommendations. Apply sufficient saturating resin to achieve full saturation of the fibers in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications. Release or roll out entrapped air between layers before the resin sets. Place successive layers of saturating resin and fiber materials before complete cure of the previous layer of resin. Handle sheet and fabric materials in a manner to maintain the fiber straightness and orientation. Remove and repair fabric kinks, folds, or other forms of severe waviness.

#### Precured Systems

Install the FRP system in strict accordance with the FRP system manufacturer's recommendations. Uniformly apply adhesives to the prepared surfaces where pre-cured systems are to be placed. Apply adhesives at a rate recommended by the FRP manufacturer to ensure full bonding of successive layers. Release or roll out entrapped air between layers before the adhesive sets.

#### 3.3.4 Splices

Locate splices in accordance with the approved Shop Drawings.[ Stagger lap splices unless noted otherwise in the Shop Drawings and by the Contracting Officer.][ Lap splices are not permitted except as shown in the Shop Drawings.]

#### 3.3.5 Curing of Resins

Inspect the primer and FRP resin to ensure proper cure according to the manufacturer's recommendation. Do not modify resin chemistry in the field.

#### [3.3.6 Surface Finish - Coating Application

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOTE: Determine what finishes are required for appearance, fire protection, UV protection, etc. If coatings will be used, keep the following two paragraphs.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

##### 3.3.6.1 Preparation

Apply paints and coatings prior to final resin cure for best results. After the FRP resin has cured, the coating can be applied by performing a light dust blast of 30-mesh silica sand (or equivalent method) to break the gloss finish in preparation of a finish coating. Remove dust and residue from all surfaces by flushing with clean water before applying the coating. Ensure all surfaces are dry before applying the surface finish coating.

##### 3.3.6.2 Multiple Coats

Use coatings compatible with the FRP strengthening system and applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Apply two finish layers of coating according to the coating manufacturer's instructions

prior to full cure of the FRP system.

#### ]3.3.7 Installation Procedure Modification

Installation procedures may be modified to achieve maximum results, subject to approval by the Contracting Officer prior to implementation.

#### 3.3.8 Interface with Wall Features

##### 3.3.8.1 Weeps

Maintain all weeps. Do not cover existing weeps with the FRP composite and prevent resin from entering weeps.

##### 3.3.8.2 Movement Joints

###### [3.3.8.2.1 Control Joints

Maintain all concrete masonry control joints. Ensure that the FRP composite does not bridge existing control joints.

###### ]3.3.8.2.2 Expansion Joints

Evaluate design loads to determine whether or not to maintain existing clay masonry expansion joints.

###### ]3.3.8.3 Diaphragms

Anchor the FRP system into the floor, ceiling and roof diaphragms in accordance with the Shop Drawings. Ensure anchorage does not create local stresses that may locally fracture the walls when deflection occurs due to out-of-plane loading.

#### ]3.4 FIELD QUALITY CONTROL

Comply with the approved Quality Control Plan.

##### 3.4.1 Laboratory Testing During Construction

###### 3.4.1.1 Witness Panels

###### 3.4.1.1.1 Wet Lay-up and Prepreg

Fabricate witness panels onsite using installation procedures identical to the method used to install the FRP system to the masonry surfaces. Fabricate two witness panels for each day of production or one for each 46 square m 500 square feet of production whichever is more. From a standard polymer resin mix, saturate a 300 x 300 mm 12 x 12 inch piece of fabric according to specified fiber-resin ratio. On a smooth, flat, level surface covered with polyethylene sheeting or 0.4 mm 16-mil plastic film, prime the surface with polymer resin and then prepare the witness panel by placing two layers of saturated fabric oriented in the same direction on the flat surface. Apply an additional topping of polymer resin and cover the completed sample with plastic film and squeegee out all bubbles. Store samples in a sample box at the work site and do not move them for a minimum 48 hours after casting. Mark the panels with the date of fabrication, location of application, number of plies and primary fiber direction. Ship the samples within two weeks of fabrication to the pre-approved testing laboratory for evaluation.

#### 3.4.1.1.2 Precured

Witness panel samples for precured sheet and strip material are the width of the procured sheet and a length sufficient to achieve 92,900 square mm 144 square inches in total area taken randomly from the material received at the job site.

#### 3.4.1.2 Witness Panel Testing

Determine lap splice strength, tension strength, and elastic modulus of FRP materials. Test not fewer than two (2) coupons from each witness panel in the laboratory in accordance with ASTM D3039/D3039M. If one coupon from a witness panel fails to meet the minimum strength specified in Table 1, test five additional coupons from the witness panel with the failed coupon. If a second one fails, test five coupons from all panels for that day of production. Take appropriate remedial measures to ensure integrity of the FRP system applied for the day the failed witness panels were prepared. In addition, test a minimum of five coupons from each witness panel for the remainder of the job or until ten successive witness panels are tested with no coupon failures. Then two coupon tests per witness panel may be resumed. The Contracting Officer may waive or alter the frequency of testing.

#### 3.4.1.3 Witness Panel Test Report

Prepare a laboratory report to document the mechanical properties of the witness panels, in accordance with ASTM D3039/D3039M. Submit a copy of the report to the Contracting Officer and Special Inspector for review.

#### 3.4.2 Inspection

Provide a Special Inspector, who is trained and certified by the FRP system manufacturer and approved by the Contracting Officer, to perform inspections in accordance with Section 01 45 35 SPECIAL INSPECTIONS, and ICC ES AC178. Provide a Special Inspector who is not an employee of the Contractor nor financially associated with the Contractor beyond the inspection contract. Perform all tests indicated within the Special Inspections section of the ICC Evaluation Services report.

##### 3.4.2.1 Field Testing

###### 3.4.2.1.1 Mixed Resin Hardness

###### 3.4.2.1.2 Mixed Resin Hardness Sample Preparation

\*\*\*\*\*  
NOTE: The required resin samples are a minimum of 6 mm 0.25-inch in thickness, whereas FRP placed on a wall is much thinner, typically 3 mm 1/8-inch or less. During initial stages of curing, thicker cross sections tend to be softer than thin ones. There is, therefore a variation in the required hardness to account for this phenomenon.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Prepare two samples of each mixed resin, primers, binders, saturants, and adhesives, per day from two, separate, nonconsecutive batches of each. The required resin sample size is a minimum of 6 mm 1/4-inch thick and 50



mm 2 inches in diameter. Retain the mixed resin samples for testing to evaluate curing progress.

#### 3.4.2.1.3 Mixed Resin Hardness Testing

Evaluate relative curing progress of the resin on the job site by measuring the hardness of the resin sample at 24 hours and 48 hours of cure in accordance with provisions of the manufacturer's ICC Evaluation Services Report. Ensure the polymer resin exceeds the Shore hardness reported by the manufacturer evaluated at the lowest air temperature for the curing time period. Take measurements at a minimum of three different points distributed over the resin specimen's surface at least 6 mm 1/4-inch apart from each other.

#### 3.4.2.1.4 Mixed Resin Hardness Test Report

Report the mean hardness value obtained, resin identification and manufacturer, resin batch number, resin mixing date and time, test date and time, air temperature when the resin was mixed, air temperature when the testing was performed, the minimum air temperature for the curing period, and the type and serial number of durometer used. Submit test reports for resin samples taken at 24 hours and 48 hours.

#### 3.4.2.1.5 Resolution of Noncompliances

In the event that measured hardness is less than the manufacturer's reported hardness for the temperature range, in accordance with paragraph REMEDIAL MEASURES under paragraph IN-PLACE FRP HARDNESS.

#### 3.4.2.2 In-Place FRP Hardness

##### 3.4.2.2.1 In-Place FRP Hardness Testing

Evaluate relative curing progress of the in-place FRP resin at 24 hours and at 48 hours using the Shore Hardness test in ten-degree intervals between 4 and 38 degrees C 40 and 100 degrees F for both neat resin and for FRP laminate on masonry substrate, as described in ASTM D2240. Perform a minimum of five tests on each 9 square m 100 square ft of wall or portion thereof with FRP composite applied to it. Ensure the Shore Hardness exceeds the manufacturer's values for the time period measured and the lowest air temperature during that time period. Submit minimum Shore Hardness values for fully cured resin and fully cured FRP laminate on masonry substrate.

##### 3.4.2.2.2 In-Place FRP Hardness Test Report

Report both the individual and mean hardness values obtained, the locations where each hardness test was performed, the FRP application date, test date and time, air temperature when the FRP was applied, air temperature when testing performed, and the type and serial number of durometer used.

##### 3.4.2.2.3 Remedial Measures

In the event that hardness is less than the manufacturer's reported hardness for the temperature range, take remedial measures as follows. Where testing indicates that the installed composite system does not meet the minimum specified hardness values, immediately halt the FRP installation and notify the Contracting Officer. Remove the affected,

installed FRP composite at no expense to the Government and replace with FRP composite meeting or exceeding the minimum hardness values.

#### 3.4.2.3 Adhesion Strength

##### 3.4.2.3.1 Adhesion Testing

- a. Using the method described by [ACI 440.3R](#) or [ASTM D4541](#) conduct direct tension adhesion testing of cored samples. Perform a minimum of three tests for each day of production or for each [46 square m](#) [500 square ft](#) of FRP application, whichever is less. Perform pull-off tests on each area of fiber sheet installed on a single day. Perform tests on each type of masonry substrate or for each surface preparation technique used.
- b. Allow the FRP system to cure a minimum of 24 hours before execution of the direct tension pull-off test. Select locations for the pull-off tests that are representative and on flat surfaces. If possible, conduct the tests on areas of the FRP system subjected to relatively low stress during service. The minimum acceptable value for any single tension test is [1.2 MPa](#) [175 psi](#). The minimum acceptable average adhesion strength of the three tests at each location is [1.38 MPa](#) [200 psi](#). Acceptable tension adhesion tests exhibit failure of the masonry substrate, indicated by a layer of masonry, on at least 80 percent of the underside of the test puck following the test.

##### 3.4.2.3.2 Adhesion Strength Test Report

Report the adhesive strength values for each test and the average strength for each day's production. Report the type of failure for each. Report percentage of masonry on the FRP surface adhered to the test puck to the Contracting Officer.

##### 3.4.2.3.3 Resolution of Noncompliances

In the event that the adhesive strength does not meet the minimum allowable strength, take remedial measures. Halt FRP installation and notify the Contracting Officer. Remove affected, installed FRP composite. Clean the substrate surface and apply FRP composite that meets or exceeds the minimum specified values.

##### 3.4.2.3.4 Repair After Adhesion Test

After testing, fill the hole in the FRP composite with putty and smooth it. Apply a [100 mm](#) [4-inch](#) or more overlapping sheet patch of equivalent plies over the location where the sample was taken.

#### 3.4.2.4 Void Detection

After allowing at least 24 hours for initial resin cure to occur, perform a visual and acoustic tap test inspection of the layered surface. Other methods for detecting voids may be employed provided that all parties concerned agree upon these methods prior to the submission of bids or proposals. Together with the Special Inspector, mark voids requiring corrective action in accordance with the specified FRP maintenance and repair procedure. Acoustic Guided Wave (AGW) inspection technology has been shown to be an objective method for detecting voids.

#### 3.4.2.5 Delaminations

Together with the Special Inspector, evaluate the cured FRP system for delaminations and air voids between multiple plies or between the FRP system and the masonry. Use inspection methods capable of detecting delaminations of 1300 square mm 2 square inches or greater. Submit identification of delaminations and other anomalies for evaluation. Acoustic Guided Wave (AGW) inspection technology has been shown to be an objective method for detecting delaminations.

##### 3.4.2.5.1 Wet Lay-Up and Prepreg Systems

\*\*\*\*\*  
**NOTE: Determine and correct the cause of  
delamination prior to application of the patch.**  
\*\*\*\*\*

- a. Small delaminations and air voids less than 1300 square mm 2 square inches each are permissible, so long as the delaminated area is less than 5 percent of the total laminate area and there are no more than 10 such delaminations or air voids per 0.93 square m 10 square ft.
- b. Delaminations and air voids less than 16,000 square mm 25 square inches may be repaired by resin injection or ply replacement, depending upon the size and number of delaminations and their locations. With the Contractor's Engineer of Record, determine the cause of the delamination and an appropriate repair. Obtain the Contracting Officer's approval of the repair method.
- c. For large delaminations and air voids, greater than Delaminations or air voids less than 16,000 square mm 25 square inches, determine the cause of the defect and design an appropriate repair using the Contractor's Engineer of Record. Obtain the Contracting Officer's approval of the repair method.

##### 3.4.2.5.2 Pre-Cured Systems

For pre-cured FRP systems, evaluate each delamination and air void and, with the Contractor's Engineer of Record, design an appropriate repair. Obtain the Contracting Officer's approval of the repair method.

#### 3.4.2.6 Fiber Orientation

Together with the Special Inspector, evaluate fiber or pre-cured laminate orientation by visual inspection during application. Evaluate for fiber waviness, a localized appearance of fibers that deviate from the general straight-fiber line in the form of kinks or waves. Report fiber or pre-cured laminate misalignment of more than 5 degrees from that specified on the design drawings (approximately 80 mm/m 1 in/ft) to the Contracting Officer.

#### 3.4.2.7 Record Retention

Retain the records of inspection and witness panels throughout the warranty period. Retain samples of mixed resin and maintain a record of the placement of each batch. Upon completion of repairs, re-inspect the laminate to verify that the repair was properly accomplished. Evaluate the FRP systems and accept/reject based on conformance or nonconformance

with the design drawings and specifications. Include FRP system material properties, as-built fiber orientation, presence of delaminations, cure of resins, and adhesion to substrate in the evaluation. Submit these records upon completion of the project.

### 3.5 ADJUSTING AND CLEANING

#### 3.5.1 Identification and Repair of Defects

##### 3.5.1.1 Repair Methods for Application Defects

Repair defects spanning more than 5 percent of the surface area according to the FRP maintenance and repair procedure that is prepared by the system manufacturer and submitted for approval. There are two types of repairs; resin injection and removal followed by reapplication of the FRP system.

##### 3.5.1.2 Tears in the Reinforcing Fibers

Repair tears in the reinforcing fibers that cross fiber rows greater than 50 mm 2 inches in length by adding additional plies of FRP material.

##### 3.5.1.3 Adhesion Defects

Review and get approval of anchor details for correcting deficient adhesion from the Contracting Officer prior to installation. Should the Contracting Officer determine that anchors are inappropriate, remove the FRP composite and replace with new composite meeting the minimum adhesion requirements.

#### 3.5.2 Work Area Clean Up

Upon completion of the work, remove staging, scaffolding, and containers from the work site or destroy them in an approved manner. Remove FRP composite, resin, and other deposits on adjacent surfaces and leave the entire job cleaned to equal or better condition to that prior to the start of the job. Place cloths, cotton waste and other debris, which might constitute a fire hazard, in closed metal containers removed at the end of each day. Dispose of resins and adhesives properly as indicated on the SDS sheets. Store and transport resins and adhesives as indicated in SDS directions. Contain and dispose of spent abrasive blast media properly as required by local authorities. Contain material to be discarded at the site until properly disposed of.

### 3.6 MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

Submit procedures to properly maintain the installed FRP system and written manufacturer recommended repair procedures for damage to the in-place FRP system.

-- End of Section --