

LATVIA UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE  
FACULTY OF RURAL ENGINEERING  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING  
DEPARTMENT OF STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

LATVIJAS LAUKSAIMNIECĪBAS UNIVERSITĀTE  
LAUKU INŽENIERU FAKULTĀTE  
ARHITEKTŪRAS UN BŪVNICĪBAS KATEDRA  
BŪVKONSTRUKCIJU KATEDRA

**CIVIL ENGINEERING '11**  
International scientific conference

**ABSTRACTS**

**BŪVNICĪBA '11**  
Starptautiskā zinātniskā konference

**ABSTRAKTI**

Jelgava 2011

ISBN 978-9984-48-048-0

Technical editors: J. Ķikulis, R. Brencis, U. Skadiņš

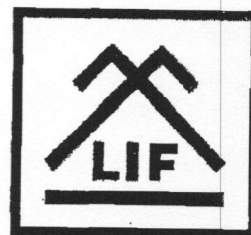
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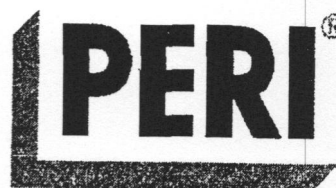
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## IMPLEMENTATION OF EUROCODE STANDARDS IN LATVIA

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Despite of difficult economic situation in Latvia, the implementation of Eurocode standards according to Recommendations 2003/887/EEC of EU Commission form December the 12<sup>th</sup> of 2003 is proceeding. The Latvian Eurocode National Implementation plan for 2008-2011 year was accepted by the Cabinet of Ministers in July, 2008 (Decree No.455 from July the 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008)

Serious step in implementation of Eurocodes was Twinning project LV/2005-IB/EC/01 financed by European Transition facilities funds. The Project was put into effect in June 2006 and carried out by one of the leading European practical research institutions – Deutsches Institut für Bautechnik (German Institute of Construction Technology). Project included training of Latvian experts by the leading German experts, preparation of methodical booklets and drafting of the first national annexes to Eurocode standards. The next step was the training of the Latvian structural designers by Latvian experts trained by German experts. Next practical trainings built on lectures prepared by Latvian experts for Latvian structural designers took place. Detailed information about results of this Project is available on [www.em.gov.lv](http://www.em.gov.lv) → Darbības jomas → Būvniecība → Noderīgi → Eirokodeksa standartu ieviešana.

According to the first phase of the National Implementation plan, amendments were made in the Latvian Building codes, by which the transition period of design of relevant structures started. During this transition period dual approach is on place - it is allowed to apply both methods to construction design. Referring to metal structures the new Building codes should replace the former Soviet codes. At the end of transition period the Eurocode system as the only method should be used for the design of construction works in Latvia. The amendments for the following Latvian Building codes LBN 203-97; LBN 205-97; LBN 206-99, LBN 207-01 and LBN 214-03 were announced at the end of 2007 and beginning of 2008

In October of 2010 subcommittee of the “Eurocodes” was established at the LVS/TC 30 “Construction”.

The designers transition from the national building codes to the Eurocode will cause no conceptual problems as both are based on limit state method. The difference is in more detailed partial factors method and reference period of loads. In LBN and SNiP systems the reference period is 5 or 10 years but in Eurocode – 50 years. The design situations for both systems are analysed.