

Structural Analysis & Design Software





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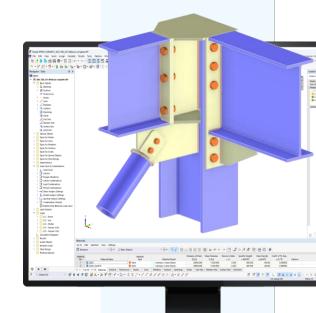
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# AISC 360-22 Steel Connection Design in RFEM 6



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# QuestionsDuring thePresentation









# Content

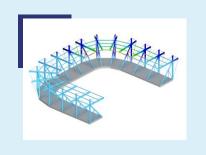
Introduction to Steel Joints Add-on in RFEM 6 01

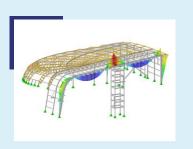




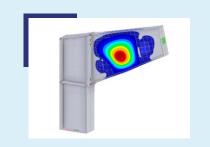


# Steel Design in RFEM 6









RFEM 6



Steel Joints Add-on

Structure Stability
Add-on

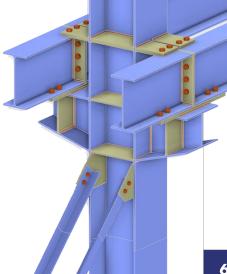




# Why FEA for Steel Connection Design?

- Design of non-standard connections
- Components/members both in-plane and out-of-plane
- Consideration of complex loading
- Automatic submodel generation requiring minimal expertise level
- Additional buckling analysis submodel
- Calculate and classify connection stiffness
- More precise results with less assumptions
- Validation tool for non-standard connections

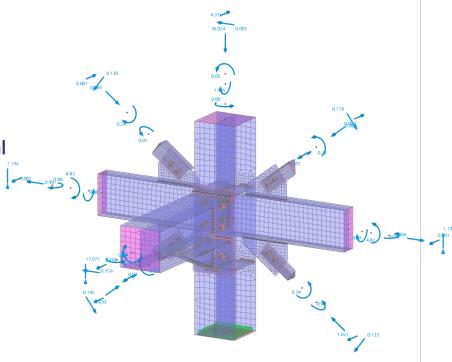






# RFEM Steel Connection Design Concept

- Automatic FEA submodel generation
- 1D member elements → 2D elements
- Bolts and welds → 1D and 2D elements
- Linear elastic material → Nonlinear plastic material
- Geometric nonlinearities
- Automatic member end force transfer
- AISC plate, bolt, and weld design
- Buckling submodel with failure modes and critical load factors
- Integrated member design in RFEM 6





# AISC 360-22 Updates

Sect. J2.4(a) – Welds and Welded Joints | Fillet Welds - Strength

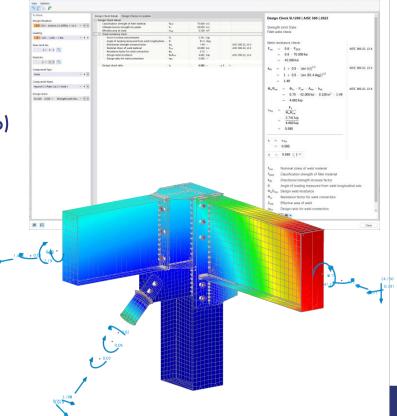
- Clarifications and revisions to Sect. J2.4(a) and (b)
- Eqn. J2-4 Fillet weld design strength, R<sub>n</sub>

$$R_n = F_{nw}A_{we}k_{ds}$$

New, directional strength increase factor, k<sub>ds</sub>

• 
$$k_{ds} = (1.0 + 0.5 \sin^{1.5}\Theta)$$
 [Eqn. J2-5]

•  $k_{ds} = 1.0$  for rectangular HSS ends loaded in tension







# **Steel Joints Add-on Updates**

#### Preloaded bolt input options

- Submodel includes applied bolt prestress force and increased surface friction coefficient for plates in contact
- Load prestress from AISC 360-22 Table J3.1 Minimum Bolt Pretension (0.7 x bolt tensile strength)
- Advantages include increased joint rigidity and tightness, increased contact stress in plates, control of loosening with high vibrations, etc.

#### Connection stiffness and classification

- Calculation of rotational and axial stiffness available
- Two values provided for unsymmetric connections (e.g.,  $S_{My+}$  and  $S_{My-}$ )
- Classification from AISC 360-22 Fig. C-B3.2, B3.3: Rigid, Pinned, Semi-Rigid
- Automatic export to global RFEM model (planned for future)





# Steel Joints Add-on Updates (cont'd)

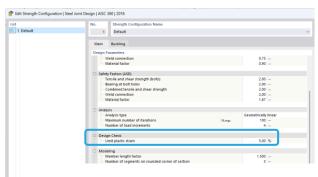
- Round HSS Connections
  - Sections and welds are analyzed using segmentation method
- New Components/Capabilities
  - "Inserted Member" inserted section for stubs, fly bracing, intermediate connection piece, etc.
  - "Auxiliary Solid" complex geometry modification to plates/members with box, cylinder, or section solid
  - "Cap Plate" automatically positioned plate with correct dimensions and weld definitions
  - "Rib" quick stiffener element between two existing plates reducing previous component input settings
  - "Connecting Plate Notched Member" automatically weld connected members to gusset plate through member notch
  - Measure Tools right click in Joints view to activate measurement tools
  - Nonlinear Release in Submodel contact edges w/o weld include nonlinear line/nodal releases (i.e., tension – release is activated; compression – contact between elements)

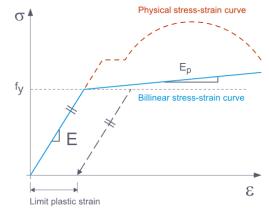




# Plate Design Check – Plastic Strain Limit

- Plastic strain limit is the strength limit state criteria
- Flanges, webs, plates, etc. converted to 2D surfaces
- Nonlinear plastic material model assigned
- Von Mises yield criterion stress failure hypothesis
- $E_p = E/1000$  of steel material
- Utilize plastic behavior of steel with internal force redistribution after slight yielding
- Default value  $\varepsilon_{p-limit} = 5\%$  (EN 1993-1-5 Annex C.8 Note 1)
- Relevant correlation to actual steel plate behavior



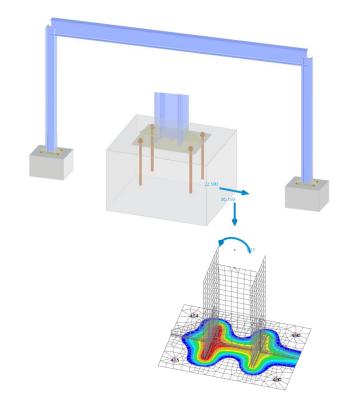






# Steel Joints Add-on Future Developments

- Automatic export of connection stiffness to global RFEM model
- HSS through-bolt connections
- Base plate design (in prerelease mode for EC)
- Graphic display of dimensions
- Modeling improvements (easier insertion of members/plates)
- Calculation optimization (mesh, details, performance)
- Template library improvements (integration in Dlubal Center)





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