

# fib BULLETIN NO. 83

## TITLE: PRECAST SEGMENTAL BRIDGES

**Category:** Guide to good practice

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### Abstract:

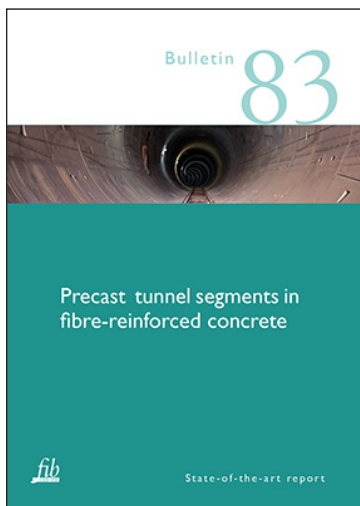
With the publication of this bulletin, fib Commission 1 is initiating a new series of documents related to the use of structural concrete in underground construction, where structural concrete plays a major and increasingly important role. The usage of underground space is more than ever a key issue of urban planning and fib decided to start addressing the issues related to the design and construction of concrete structures in this particular environment.

In this context one of the most significant applications of structural concrete is tunnel lining, for which the properties of reinforced concrete are particularly well suited through compressive strength, water tightness, ductility, and durability. Reinforced concrete tunnels linings have mostly been traditionally cast in situ, but the development of Tunnel Boring Machines has led to the invention of precast concrete segmental lining technology, which is nowadays one of the most promising applications of Fibre Reinforced Concrete (FRC).

Thanks to the courage and dedication of innovative designers and contractors, a number of large tunnels have already been built around the World with FRC precast linings, and this report presents the experience acquired with these projects, and also provides guidance about the way to apply 2010 fib Model Code recommendations on FRC to these structures.

The main drivers of this evolution from RC to FRC are a better ductility, more durability, and easier fabrication and construction process.

As Commission 1 chair, I am very grateful to Alberto Meda and to all members of this task group for opening the way to this new field of underground structures within our commission, and to have efficiently produced a document that will be useful to our members and to the construction community around the World.



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## TITLE: PRECAST INSULATED SANDWICH PANELS

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### Abstract:

During the mid-20th century, with the rise of industrial prefabrication, precast concrete sandwich panels started being used as cladding for buildings. Since then, society and construction industry have become increasingly aware of energy efficiency in all fields, including affordability and sustainability consciousness, while maintaining the buildings' durability. As such, buildings have been subject to increasingly stringent requirements which has kept the technology of sandwich panels continually at the forefront of building envelope evolution.

Nowadays, sandwich panels have reached the highest standards of functional performance and aesthetic appeal. In building construction, these sandwich panel attributes combine with the well-known advantages of prefabrication including structural efficiency, flexibility in use, speed of construction, quality consciousness, durability, and sustainability. Sandwich panels have gained more exposure, thus representing quite a significant application within the prefabrication industry and a vital component of the precast market.

The fib Commission "Prefabrication" is eager to promote the development of all precast structural concrete products and to share the knowledge and experience gained, to aid with practical design and construction. By issuing this comprehensive overview, "Guide to Good Practice", a better understanding of design considerations, structural analysis, building physics, use of materials, manufacturing methods, equipment usage and field performance will be provided. This document contains the latest information currently available worldwide.

The Commission is particularly proud that this document is a result of close cooperation with PCI and that it is published by both the fib and PCI. This cooperation started six years ago, first with comparing the different approaches to several issues, then progressively integrating and producing common documents, like this one, that hasn't yet been treated in a specific Guide by either body.

This Guide is intended to be the reference document to all who are interested in utilising the advantages of Precast Sandwich wall panels. In conjunction with the previously published Planning and Design Handbook on Precast Building Structures, the designer will have significant resources to integrate sandwich wall panels into any applicable structure.

The Commission is grateful to all the Task Group members for this accomplishment, particularly to Simon Hughes, who convened and led it successfully.

