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Reviewers are selected by the Editors among the IBRACON members with recognized competence in the specific field of each contribution. They are acknowledged at the end of each volume.

We are now opening the volume six of the IBRACON Structures and Materials Journal (Volume 6 Number 1 – February 2013). In this issue, eight articles approaching interesting topics on concrete structures and materials are being published. The first article presents experimental analysis on the behavior of reinforced concrete beams strengthened to shear with carbon fiber composites. Results were used to evaluate the Cracking Sliding Model, showing good agreement. The next article presents a suggestion for automatizing procedures for design of bonded and unbonded prestressed concrete flexural members, according to the Brazilian (NBR 6118:2007) and French (Règles BPEL 91) code specifications. The third article describes preliminary studies, design and construction of a platform for dynamic tests. A study of the gamma z coefficient used to evaluate global second order effects in reinforced concrete structures is addressed in the fourth article. Numerical-computational analysis of reinforced concrete structures considering damage, fracture and failure criteria is discussed in the fifth article. Another article has the purpose of creating a short-term monitoring plan to check the structural behavior of a curved highway concrete bridge, based on a case study. The seventh paper deals with strut-and-tie models and the performance index of the structure. In the last paper a numerical analysis of three-pile caps is developed to study the influence of concrete compressive characteristic strength on load bearing capacity.

We would like to acknowledge the efforts of all the IBRACON community, that contributed for the results achieved by our Journal.

Amrico Campos Filho, José Luiz Antunes de Oliveira e Sousa, Luiz Carlos Pinto da Silva Filho and Romildo Dias Toledo Filho
Editors