Design Manual for M.C.M.E.L ALUMINUM STAIRCASE System

FOR

DESIGNERS, ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS, CONTRACTORS & INSTALLERS.



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1 - USES OF STAIRCASES

M.C.M.E.L. aluminum staircase systems are used in homes and in residential, commercial, and industrial buildings to provide access to balconies, mezzanines or all structures over one floor.

M.C.M.E.L. aluminum staircase systems consist specifically of 2 aluminum stringers supporting aluminum steps. In some cases, if the length of the staircase exceeds a specified value, columns may be required which support exceeding vertical loads. Assembly is provided by stainless graded metal screws and by anchorages.

FIGURE 1: THE COMPONENT PARTS OF A RAILING



Aluminium staircases have several advantageous characteristics such as resistance to corrosion and bad weather, higher mechanical resistance and are relatively lightweight. Notably for these reasons, aluminium railing systems are widely used in the construction industry for the external perimeters of balconies, footbridges, staircases, etc. M.C.M.E.L. is a business that encourages creativity and development and offers innovative products to its clients. The company distinguishes itself by offering staircase systems that are within reach of all budgets while recognized for their elegance, durability, ease of installation, and low maintenance.

This manual is a design and installation guide for engineers, architects, designers, and installers of M.C.M.E.L. aluminium staircase systems. In this way, installers can determine the type of steps, the spacing of the columns, the arrangement of component parts comprised in the system and the specifications for all anchoring as required. To ensure the safety of the installation, the guidelines established in this manual should be followed.

Following codes are applicable in staircase system designs:

- CAN/CSA-A23.3-F04 (C2010) Design of Concrete Structures
- National Building code of Canada 2010
- Ontario Building Code 2012
- CAN/CSA-S157-05/S157.1-05 (R2010) -Strength Design in Aluminum
- CAN/CSA-A23.3-F04 (C2010) Design of Concrete Structures

2 - TYPES OF STAIRCASES

M.C.M.E.L. offers two types of staircases (S500 and S100) as shown in Figure 2. STRINGERS, STAIRS AND COLUMNS are shown in Figures 3, 4 and 5 respectively.

FIGURE 2: M.C.M.E.L STAIRCASES TYPES

A) S500 STAIRS



B) S100 STAIRS



FIGURE 3: M.C.M.E.L STRINGER PARTS PROFILE

A) S500 STRINGER







B) S100 STRINGER





FIGURE 4: M.C.M.E.L STAIR PROFILE





FIGURE 5: M.C.M.E.L COLUMN PROFILE



3 – ASSEMBLY OF STAIRCASE

FIGURE 6: M.C.M.E.L S500 STAIRCASE



1) 5/16 #18 screws to assemble stringers and stairs.



2) External cover.



3) Aesthetic covers for screws on open edges (5/8 #10-16)



4) 5/8 #10-16 screws



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FIGURE 7: M.C.M.E.L S100 STAIRCASE



1) S100 Stringer extrusion



2) Screws in t-slot



3) S100 Stair support



4) Assembly of stair supports on the S100 stringer



3 - PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Conforming to CSA standard S175-05 Calculation of aluminium structures, the physical characteristics of aluminium alloys are the following:

- Modulus of elasticity, E= 70,000 MPa
- Shearing module, G= 26,000 MPa
- Coefficient of linear thermal expansion, $\alpha = 24 \times 10^{-6} / {}^{\circ}C$
- Poisson coefficient, v =0,33
- Density, ρ =2700 kg/m3

The properties of the sections of the component parts used for M.C.M.E.L staircase systems, columns and stringers are shown in Tables 1, 2 and 3. The mechanical and physical properties of components of the staircase systems are used in order to evaluate the bearing capacity of these component against the stress of the external loads imposed by the Codes.

4 - MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Mechanical properties of the staircase system components used in M.C.M.E.L products are in accordance with the CAN/CSA-S157-05/S157.1-05 R2010) - Strength Design in Aluminum and appear in Table 3 (page 11).

TABLE 1: SECTION PROPERTIES OF STRINGER (SEE FIGURE 3
FOR COMPLETE SECTION PROPERTIES) (6063-T54 ALLOY)

	S16284 (0.100 in) + S16285 (0.070 in)
A	1029 mm ²
lxx	3.98E+6 mm⁴
Vr	51.4 kN
Mr	3.64 kN*m

 TABLE 2: SECTION PROPERTIES OF HANDRAIL (SEE FIGURE 4

 FOR COMPLETE SECTION PROPERTIES)

	MCM0002-JG (0.118 in)
A	1176 mm ²
lxx	2.5E+5 mm ⁴
Vr	58.8 kN
Mr	0.57 kN*m

5 - DESIGN PROCEDURE

5.1 LOADS

Loads applied on the staircase systems, according to the Ontario Building Code 2012, are mentioned in Chapter 4, Rule of Calculation. Loads to consider are the excess loads due to usage. Other loads, such as the permanent load, snow load, and seismic load, are negligible because of the low magnitude of these loads in relation to excess loads due to usage.

5.1.1 SPECIFIED EXCESS LOADS DUE TO USAGE

The excess load from usage according to the 4.1.5.14 section of the Ontario Building Code 2012 and CNBC 2010 are the following:

- (1) Wd = 0.5 kPa on all horizontal surfaces
- (2) WI = 4.8 kPa on all horizontal surfaces
- (3) Ws = 2.48 kPa on all horizontal surfaces
- (4) In Table 3 (page 11), all loads have been added with ponderation according to CNBC 2010 and the Ontario Building Code 2012.

6 - STRUCTURAL ANALYSES

The load distribution and the structural analysis of different staircase systems are determined in accordance with the following parameters:

- Staircase system geometry such as height, length and column spacing;
- Different types of staircase system components such as steps, stringers and columns;
- Limit conditions: the type of connection and attachment at the staircase system ends as well as the anchorage stiffness of the columns to ground.
- The staircase continuity, handrail, and post relative stiffness, etc.

Structural design and verification have been performed according to CAN/CSA-S157-05/S157.1-05 (R2010) - Strength Design in Aluminum, CAN/CSA-A23.3-F04 (C2010) – Design of Concrete Structures and CAN/CGSB-12.20-M89.

According to the Ontario Building Code 2012, a linear static structural analysis is carried out by the SolidWorks software (See Figure 8 for an example of the analysis).

Design Tables 3 and 4 (page 11 and 12) are prepared based on the analysis results considering different steps, the factored load or real load if the staircase has been tested, and the spacing between columns. These calculation tables were established for a step width of 1 m (39 in).

For a different width, the designer should perform a more in-depth analysis.

FIGURE 8: AN EXAMPLE OF SIMULATION:

- A) UNIFORM LOAD: 7.78 KPA (1 KN/M) (35 MPA)
- B) CONCENTRATED LOAD: 1.0 KN (32 MPA)
- C) UNIFORM LOAD: 7.78 KPA ON A STAIR

(A)











7 - DESIGN STAGES

7.1 LOADING TYPE DETERMINATION

We consider two types of minimal specified loads, in accordance with the 4.1.5.14.1 sentence of the Ontario Building Code 2012, vertically on all horizontal exposed surfaces:

- (1) Wd = 0.5 kPa on all horizontal surfaces
- (2) WI = 4.8 kPa on all horizontal surfaces
- (3) Ws = 2.48 kPa on all horizontal surfaces

8 - DESIGN STAGES FOR STAIRCASE SYSTEMS

- 1. Determine the type of staircase to install;
- 2. With Table 4, determine the step width;
- 3. Determine the maximum number of steps that can be aligned without a supporting column. The number of steps is based on a step's height of 7.75 in and a length of 12 in. with an overlap of 1 in.
- 4. If staircase exceeds the allowed length, divide the total length by the allowed length. You obtain the number of columns to install (i.e. 1.3 = 1, 2.5 = 2).
- 5. Install columns to divide the span of the stringer in equal parts, if possible. If not, you should obtain a span value less than the allowed length.

FIGURE 9: M.C.M.E.L STAIRCASE



FIGURE 10: HANDRAIL SYSTEM – DESIGN FOR BANISTERS



Table 3 – Factored Load of 1.125 kN/m (non-factored 0.75 kN/m)

Maximum height of staircase and number of steps without column

	Stringer Profile 1						
	o' o"	5'-9¾" ⁽¹⁾					
	2-0	8 steps					
	2' 10"	5'-9¾" ⁽¹⁾					
	2-10	8 steps					
	o' o"	5'-9¾" ⁽¹⁾					
	3-0	8 steps					
	2' 0"	5'-2" ⁽¹⁾					
	3-2	7 steps					
	2' A"	5'-2" ⁽¹⁾					
	3-4	7 steps					
Width of steps	2' 6"	5'-2" ⁽¹⁾					
(profile 6)	3-0	7 steps					
	2' 0"	5'-2" ⁽¹⁾					
	3-0	7 steps					
	2' 10"	5'-2" ⁽¹⁾					
	3-10	7 steps					
	1' C''	5'-2" ⁽¹⁾					
	4-0	7 steps					
	E' O''	4'-6" ⁽¹⁾					
	5-0	6 steps					
	6' 0''	3'-10" (1)					
	0-0	5 steps					

(1) Inertia of stringer + stringer capacity governed

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Width														
(mm)	2 Stairs		3 Stairs		4 Stairs		5 Stairs		6 Stairs		7 Stairs		8 Stairs	
	Thin/	2	Thick/	2										
900	Stringer													
	Thin/	2	Thick/	2										
1050	Stringer													
	Thin/	3	Thin/	З	Thin/	3	Thin/	3	Thin/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1200	Stringer													
	Thin/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3								
1350	Stringer													
	Thin/	3	Thin/	З	Thin/	3	Thin/	3	Thin/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1500	Stringer													
	Thin/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3								
1650	Stringer													
	Thin/	3	Thin/	З	Thin/	3	Thin/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1800	Stringer													
	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
1950	Stringer													
	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
2100	Stringer													
	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
2250	Stringer													
	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thin/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
2400	Stringer													

TABLE 4 – S-100 / POSSIBLE SECURE COMBINATIONS WITH S100 STRINGERS (WIDTH, TYPE OF STRINGER, NUMBER OF STAIRS)

Width														
(mm)	9 Stairs		10 Stairs		11 Stairs		12 Stairs		13 Stairs		14 Stairs		15 Stairs	
	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2
900	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2	Thick/	2
1050	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	З	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1200	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	З	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1350	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	З	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1500	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	З	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1650	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3	Thick/	3
1800	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
1950	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
2100	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
2250	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	
	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4	Thick/	4
2400	Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer		Stringer	

Continued on page 13

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Width (mm)	16 Stairs	17 Stairs	18 Stairs	19 Stairs	20 Stairs
900	Thick/ 2 Stringer				
1050	Thick/ 2 Stringer				
1200	Thick/ 3 Stringer				
1350	Thick/ 3 Stringer				
1500	Thick/ 3 Stringer				
1650	Thick/ 3 Stringer				
1800	Thick/ 3 Stringer				
1950	Thick/ 4 Stringer				
2100	Thick/ 4 Stringer				
2250	Thick/ 4 Stringer				
2400	Thick/ 4 Stringer				

10 - COLUMN ANCHORING

The anchorage of the base of columns to the ground is very important in order to ensure an adequate performance of the staircase system. According to the type of floor or ground (concrete or wood), it is essential to put an adequate anchorage system in place.

It is to be noted that the resistance and good structural performance of a staircase depends not merely on carrier component parts, such as columns and stringers, but in large part to the anchoring of the components to the floor surface. In the case of a wooden floor, it is also necessary to ensure that the floor in question is of sufficient rigidity to bear the loads imposed by the staircase's columns. Here are the minimum recommended anchorages:

FIGURE 11: REQUIRED ANCHORAGES FOR A CONCRETE FLOOR – RAILING SYSTEM



Column 4 x Titan ¼ X 2 ¾ Galvanised steel anchors



Post - 3 in x 3 in 4 x Titan ¼ X 2 ¾ Galvanised steel anchors

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FIGURE 12: REQUIRED ANCHORAGE FOR WOODEN FLOOR



Column 4 x Lag screw 5/16 X 4 in Galvanised steel