CEN WS 25 N 0136



CEN WS 25

Lifting and Load-bearing Equipment for Stages and other Production Areas within the Entertainment Industry

Part A

Specification for design and manufacture of aluminium and steel trusses and towers

CEN Workshop Agreement

Final Version

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Foreword

This Standard has been prepared by Subcommittee CWA25-3. Lifting and load bearing equipment for stages and other production areas within the entertainment industry.

There are no European Standards that cover the design, manufacture and use of aluminium or steel trusses as used in the entertainment industry.

It should be noted that other European Standards may be relevant depending on the application and intended use.

In an attempt to unify and improve safety in the entertainment industry, CEN established CWA 25 to develop a number of standards. The sub-committee responsible for this standard generally consisted of manufacturers and their structural engineering advisors.

In the drafting of this CWA the following assumptions have been made:

- a) The execution of its design provision is entrusted to competent persons;
- b) the fabrication is carried out by competent persons;
- c) the structure is used in accordance with the engineering documentation; and

d) the construction materials and products are used as specified in this standard or in the relevant material or product specifications.

This standard specifies a coordinated set of requirements that can also be a guide to government, other regulatory bodies and municipal authorities responsible for guarding and inspection of the equipment falling within its scope.

The requirements concerning accident prevention are given both as mandatory and advisory provisions; compliance with both types may be required by employers or their employees.

Safety codes and standards are intended to enhance public safety. Revisions result from committee consideration of factors such as technology advances, new data, and changing environmental and industry needs. Revisions do not imply that previous editions were not adequate.

A European Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of European Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with this Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

1 Scope

This standard covers design and manufacture of aluminium and steel trusses, towers and associated structural components such as tower head blocks, sleeve blocks, bases and corner blocks used in the entertainment industry.

Entertainment activities are included but not limited to leisure, sports, arts, cultural performances, amusement or presentation of products.

Examples of entertainment activities are:

- a) Product presentations;
- b) theatre shows, musicals, opera and ballet;
- c) classical, pop and rock concerts;
- d) festivals;
- e) exhibitions and trade shows;
- f) celebrations and parties;
- g) fairgrounds; and
- h) conventions, demonstration meetings.

It also applies to trusses present in buildings for public gathering such as discotheques, exhibition centres and sports arenas (excluding those used in the structure of the building).

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It covers a variety of uses that are confined to the entertainment industry and applies to a range of structures subjected to normal atmospheric conditions.

It does not cover individual, separate rigging hardware like half couplers, shackles, wire ropes, etc.

It is not intended that it is be used for structures subjected to severe thermal or chemical conditions.

It is not intended to be used for the design of commercial lifting equipment, materials handling equipment, containment vessels, airborne or floating structures or for any application covered by another standard.

Wherever "truss" is referred to in this CWA, it equally applies to "tower" and vice versa. "Truss" also applies to associated structural components like corners, bases, heads...

Truss systems and ground support systems or towers with flexible or movable elements, as well as systems for moving loads, can be declared machines by the manufacturer in the sense of the Machinery Directive, 98/37/EC. Such machines must bear a CE mark and have an EC declaration of conformity.

Repeated use and assembly of portable truss systems at the same location or at different locations is not considered to mean that the product is placed on the market again.

2 Normative reference

EN 47	Non destructive testing - Qualification and certification of NDT personnel - General principles
EN 287-1	Qualification test of welders - Fusion welding - Part 1: Steels
EN 573 (all parts)	Aluminium and aluminium alloys - Chemical composition and form of wrought products
EN 754 (all parts) EN 755 (all parts)	Aluminium and aluminium alloys - Cold drawn rod/bar and tube Extruded rod/bar, tube and profiles
EN 10056-1 EN 10067	Structural steel equal and unequal leg angles - Part 1: Dimensions Hot rolled bulb flats - Dimensions and tolerances on shape, dimensions and mass
EN 10210-2	Hot finished structural hollow sections of non-alloy and fine grain steels - Part 2: Tolerances, dimensions and sectional properties
EN 12062	Non-destructive testing of welds - General rules for metallic materials
EN 13155	Cranes - non-fixed load lifting attachments
EN ISO 5817	Welding - Fusion-welded joints in steel, nickel, titanium and their alloys (beam welding excluded) - Quality levels for imperfections
EN ISO 8493	Metallic materials - Tube - Drift-expanding test
EN ISO 8495	Metallic materials - Tube - Ring-expanding test
EN ISO 9606-2	Qualification test of welders - Fusion welding - Part 2: Aluminium and alumin- ium alloys
EN ISO 15614-1	Specification and qualification of welding procedures for metallic materials - Welding procedure test - Part 1: Arc and gas welding of steels and arc welding of nickel and nickel alloys
EN ISO 15614-2	Specification and qualification of welding procedures for metallic materials - Welding procedure test - Part 2: Arc welding of aluminium and its alloys
EN ISO 15613	Specification and qualification of welding procedures for metallic materials - Qualification based on pre-production welding test
EN ISO 10042	Welding - Arc-welded joints in aluminium and its alloys - Quality levels for im- perfections
ISO 3834 (all parts)	Quality requirements for fusion welding of metallic materials

3 Terms and definitions

3.1 Abrasion loss of material due to wear

3.2 Allowable Load maximum permitted static equivalent load imposed on truss/tower in addition to the self-weight

3.3 Attach to connect to the lifting equipment or the load-bearing structure

3.4 Camber intended vertical deviation of a truss, usually radiused

3.5 Central Point Load (CPL) load applied at mid-span of the truss

3.6 Third Points (TPL) positions of two loads when dividing the overall length into thirds

3.7 Quarter Points (QPL) positions of three loads when dividing the overall length into quarters

3.8 Chord (Main Chord) longitudinal profile of a truss element

3.9 Competent Person person with sufficient practical and theoretical knowledge and experience to carry out the person's duties, and who is aware of the limits of the person's competency, expertise and knowledge

3.10 Connecting Plates plates welded to the end frames of a truss or tower module, used to connect adjacent modules together

3.11 Connection Element loose part for assembling truss elements

3.12 Connectors connection components in a truss element

3.13 Consumable item that requires regular replacement with use

3.14 Corner Block corner/node element for truss constructions vertical or horizontal

3.15 Crack crevice type discontinuity in a material

3.16 Damage condition that adversely affects the intended use of a truss module (usually the load carrying capacity)

3.17 Dent local deformation resulting in measurable change in cross section of member or element

3.18 Design Factor

the arithmetic ratio between the load guaranteed by the manufacturer up to which a piece of equipment, an accessory or machinery is able to hold it and the maximum working load marked on the equipment, accessory or machinery respectively

NOTE In the Machinery Directive the design factor of safety is called "working coefficient".

3.19 Design Strength

capacity of the elements of the structure to withstand normal design loading

3.20 Diagonal Connecting brace/diagonal brace diagonally, vertically or horizontally positioned profile

3.21 Drift Test standard test carried out on aluminium tubing to check structural integrity of the tube walls

NOTE Drift testing highlights splits in the tube that can occur in the extrusion process.

3.22 Dye Penetrant Test standard non-destructive test that highlights cracks in welds

3.23 Dynamic Load load that moves or vibrates

3.24 End Plate see connecting plate

3.25 Equivalent Secondary Suspension

assembly which, in case of failure of the primary suspension, takes over its function and is at least as strong as the primary suspension, for example: steel sling, chain sling, fall-arrestor, chain hoist or winch

3.26 Field Centre point in the middle of two support/suspension points

3.27 Ground Support assembly of towers with guiding elements (sleeve blocks) connected by trusses for the purpose of lifting and controlling guided loads

NOTE 1 The trusses in between sleeve blocks shall predominantly be positioned horizontally.

NOTE 2 Stage roofs have different purposes to lifting structures. They are not covered in this document.

3.28 Hinge Section element of a ground support for erecting/swivelling a tower

3.29 Importer (Distributor)

importers are the persons or entities who/which introduce technical work equipment into the European Economic Area. The law assumes, as it does in the case of manufacturers as well, that the importer is able to assess the safety of the imported technical work equipment

3.30 Incident

occurrence in which damage to one or more truss modules can be sustained

3.31 Lifeline

horizontal safety rope to which personal protective equipment against falls from a height is attached

3.32 Lifting Accessories

components or equipment not attached to the machine and placed between the machinery and the load, or on the load in order to attach it (definition according Machinery Directive)

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NOTE Examples of lifting accessories are shackles, round slings, wire rope steels, slings, O- rings, beam clamps, chain slings, lifting beams etc.

3.33 Lifting Structure

assembly of machinery, equipment and/or structural elements designed to be used for lifting or hoisting loads

NOTE Examples of lifting structures in the entertainment industry are a master grid, theatrical flybars or a ground support.

3.34 Lifting Equipment machinery and accessories for lifting

3.35 Machinery for Guided Lifting machinery engineered and manufactured for vertical and or horizontal movement of guided loads

NOTE Examples of machinery for guided lifting are scissor lifts, wind up stands, ground supports etc.

3.36 Machinery for Unguided Lifting

machinery engineered and manufactured for vertical and or horizontal movement of unguided loads

NOTE Examples of machinery for unguided lifting are hoists and winches etc.

3.37 Manufacturer

the producer of the product, i.e. the person or entity who/which procures the materials or pre-manufactured parts and builds a product with them

3.38 Module

singular framed structure built up entirely from tension and compression members, arranged in panels so as to be stable under load

3.39 Panel Point junction of one or more lacing members with a chord

3.40 Pinned Connection

end tube connection that uses a removable pin to connect truss modules

3.41 Placing into Circulation

any making available of technical work equipment to others (users)

3.42 Plastic Deformation permanent deformation (possibly due to overloading)

3.43 Point Load single, undistributed load

3.44 Qualified Person

person who, by possession of a recognised degree or certificate of professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has demonstrated the ability to solve problems relating to the subject matter and work

3.45 Regular Service normal use with repetitive assembling and dismantling

3.46 Semi-Finished Part profile (pipe or bar)

3.47 Sleeve Block element of a ground support (usually) used to move trusses/rigs vertically

3.48 Span distance between support points

3.49 Static Load load that is not moving

3.50 Structural Type Analysis structural analysis of a truss type

3.51 Support/Suspension Point position from which a truss is suspended or at which it is supported

3.52 Sweep intended lateral deviation of a truss, usually radiused

3.53 Temporary Structures that are suitable and usually intended for repeated assembly and disassembly

3.54 Thermal Influence impairment of stability due to welding heat

3.55 Tower

vertical oriented truss equipped with a base section and a top section designed to transport a load or to hold it in position with machinery for lifting

3.56 Truss girder assembled from individual truss elements

3.57 Uniformly Distributed Load (UDL) load that is evenly spread over the length of a truss

3.58 User person or company who assembles or uses truss or tower modules or systems

4 Engineering

4.1 General

Aluminium and steel trusses and towers shall be designed in accordance with CWA25.

4.2 Design

Design loading shall be determined in accordance with Eurocode 1.

Aluminium trusses shall be designed in accordance with Eurocode 9.

Steel trusses shall be designed in accordance with Eurocode 3.

Welds shall be designed and detailed in accordance with the appropriate material standard (i.e. Eurocode 9 or Eurocode 3.

Fasteners and other components of materials other than aluminium and steel shall be designed in accordance with standards relevant to the material. Consideration shall be given to the effect of electro-chemical corrosion caused by using different types of metals.

All conditions of use considered in design shall be explicitly outlined in the engineering documentation provided by the manufacturer. (This will include but is not limited to: max. wind speed and wind load, snow load and design load).

Strength shall be established using design methods and/or by physical testing. If testing is used to determine the strength of an element or structure the test procedures shall conform to the appropriate material standard (e. g. Euro-code 9 or Eurocode 3).

Truss structures shall conform to the following:

a) Design of truss structures for permanent installation: These structures shall be designed in accordance with either Eurocode 9 or Eurocode 3 as appropriate;

b) Trusses used as non fixed load bearing structures are in repetitive use and therefore subject to wear and tear. These structures shall be designed with an increase safety factor of 1.2.

c) The reduced design strength shall be greater than or equal to the allowable load for intended loading conditions.

Connectors for joining pieces of trussing together shall be defined in the structural calculations and shown on the drawings. They shall require at least two deliberate manual actions to release (e.g. pin and clip) Quarter turn fasteners or other types of connector that require only a single action shall not be used.

Consideration shall be given to any coating or surface finishing techniques used in manufacturing that may affect the structural properties and load-bearing capabilities of the truss or tower structures.

The effect of any pre-tensioning of guy wires or similar elements used to stabilise a structure shall be taken into account. This would include for example additional axial load on towers.

Environmental conditions, especially wind loading, shall be taken into account in the engineering documentation for erection-dismantling of the structure when the full system of guy wires and associated anchorages is not in place.

4.3 Analysis

Analysis of the truss or tower structures for the intended load conditions shall be performed by calculation, modelling, physical testing or a combination of these methods.

Analysis shall consider the worst combination, application and configuration of loads and effects possible within the conditions of use.

Consideration shall be given to overall structural stability and bracing requirements for all applications within the conditions of use.

Consideration shall be given to the effects of eccentricities in element and module connections as well as in connections of chords, diagonal and other secondary elements.

Analysis shall clearly define the assumptions made in the calculations. These would include, but not be limited to, items such as:

- a) One chord loading;
- b) loads applied between nodes;
- c) interaction of axial, shear and bending forces;
- d) orientation of the truss and its connections;
- e) influence of other items such as, but not limited to, corner blocks, sleeve blocks;
- f) influence of truss end frames;
- g) deflections which shall be calculated. The maximum allowable deflection is dependent on use.

4.4 Engineering documentation

Engineering drawings of the truss or tower designs shall be developed and maintained by the manufacturer.

Engineering drawings shall include dimensions, components, subassemblies, material types, self-weight, fastener types, specifications, weld sizes and types and welding consumables.

Engineering calculations, design notes and/or test results shall be developed and maintained to demonstrate conformity to this standard for the intended load conditions and uses.

If a statement about design factor (commonly known as the 'factor of safety') is included in the information for use then the manufacturer shall clearly state to what condition the design factor refers.

5 Manufacture

5.1 General

A level of quality in accordance with acceptable standards shall be maintained throughout the manufacturing process. Each truss shall have a mark so that it is traceable to the manufacturer if a defect occurs.

5.2 Materials

Aluminium alloy shall conform to EN 573, EN 754 and EN 755.

Extruded aluminium alloy tubes shall be drift tested in accordance with EN ISO 8493 or EN ISO 8495 to reduce the possibility of splitting.

Steelwork shall conform to EN 10210-2, EN 10056-1 and EN 10067 ensuring component dimensions are within set limits and tolerances.

5.3 Welding

The manufacturer shall comply with the appropriate quality requirements for welding in accordance with ISO 3834 Welders employed to manufacture aluminium truss or who are involved in producing the truss module through the

welding process shall be qualified in accordance with EN ISO 9606-2.

Welding processes for the manufacture of aluminium truss shall be qualified in accordance with EN ISO 15614-2 and/or EN ISO 15613.

Acceptance levels of imperfections in welds shall conform to EN ISO 10042 and EN 12062 if the imperfections will be determined by means of a non destructive test.

Welders employed to manufacture steel truss or who are involved in producing the truss module through the welding process shall be qualified in accordance with EN 287-1.

Welding processes for the manufacture of steel truss shall be qualified in accordance with EN ISO 15614-1 and/or EN ISO 15613.

Acceptance levels of imperfections in welds shall conform to EN ISO 5817 and EN 12062 if the imperfections will be determined by means of a non destructive test.

5.4 Inspection

The manufacturer must ensure that the product is inspected prior to being placed on the market. The scope of the inspection for truss systems comprises:

a) All welds shall be visually inspected after completing the welding process;

b) all welds that do not appear sound shall be tested using the dye penetrant test;

c) the person who conducts the test shall be qualified in accordance with EN 473 at least level 2. Repairs shall be carried out as required;

d) all products shall be inspected during and after fabrication to ensure conformity to the design drawings.

5.5 Identification

Each truss module shall bear an identification mark unique to the manufacturer and to the module.

The mark shall be easily recognisable durable and difficult to remove. The mark shall at least include the manufacturer's name, type of truss, date of manufacture, identification number.

The manufacturer shall be responsible for keeping appropriate records relating to the truss identification marks.

6 Care and use

6.1 General

Information shall be provided for the user to ensure that:

the individual aluminium and steel trusses, towers and associated structural components such as tower head blocks, sleeve blocks, bases, and corner blocks are handled correctly during storage, transportation, erection and dismantling;

The assembled truss systems can be used on site within the limitations of the manufacturer's engineering documentation.

6.2 User information

A user manual or other documentation shall be provided with each type of truss in a consignment and shall include the following:

a) Sizes and dimensions for chords and diagonals;

b) connection parts (such as, but not limited to: endplates, lugs & forks, roll pins or conical receivers);

c) components, as for example internal tubes, conical couplers, bolts or pins;

d) material specifications for the above;

e) the cross sectional orientation of the truss to which the data in the load table(s) is referring; (See Annex A);

f) the position of the support or suspension points;

g) the position or distribution of the applied load;

h) loading tables should be based on the worst combination of truss module lengths;

i) the maximum load that can be applied to a truss in UDL, CPL, 3rd-points, and 4th-points for given spans;

j) interaction of vertical and horizontal loading (combined loads);

k) the allowable point load that can be applied to the centre of a chord member in adjacent fields between two node points;

I) theoretical deflection expected at given load(s) and span;

m) the maximum height to which a tower can be erected; and the allowable "off vertical" position in degrees or millimetres;

n) the maximum axial load that can be supported by the tower for given heights and restraint situation (in compression and/or buckling);

o) a list of the standards to which the truss or towers have been designed;

p) the extent of dynamic loading considered in the design;

q) the correct way to store, handle, transport, maintain and erect the trussing, and warnings against foreseeable hazards in each of those stages;

r) the correct method of making connections; type of tools required, and where required, torque data for bolt & nut connections;

s) requirements for regular inspections of the trussing and connection components, and criteria for discard;

t) details of how to obtain full engineering documentation for the truss;

u) static data on the type of truss, including allowable normal (N), bending (M) and shear (V) force for the truss related to the truss span (See Annex A);

v) data with regard to the effect of continuous undetermined spans on multiple support points, with regard to combined bending and shear forces in maximum UDL and CPL;

w) data with regard to the effect of cantilevered trusses for combined bending and shear forces in maximum UDL and point loading;

x) Advice on use of appropriate accessories such as clamps lifting brackets etc.;

y) Mixing of truss-types of one or multiple manufacturers;

z) Handling and procedure during assembly and dismantling;

aa) data on electrical potential equalisation;

ab) handling and procedure during operation;

ac) maintenance instructions;

ad) instructions regarding action to be taken if damage occurs;

ae) information about procurement of spare parts;

af) for truss systems, towers and similar structures, in addition to the user manual a copy of the minutes of the structural report shall be provided;

ag) any additional information appropriate to the truss or assemblage of trussing;

ah) a truss shall be CE marked when reconised as a piece of lifting equipment as per Machine Directive.

6.3 Inspection

Inspection prior to product being placed on market

The manufacturer must ensure that the product is inspected prior to being placed on the market. The scope of the inspection for truss systems comprises:

a) The manufacturer or the supplier is required to provide appropriate certificates of conformity for the parts and raw materials, in which case there is no further requirement for additional testing of these items;

b) that all products shall be inspected during and after fabrication to ensure conformity to the appropriate standards, design drawings and structural analysis;

c) that all welds shall be visually inspected after completing the welding process. All welds that do not appear to meet the required standards shall be tested using the dye penetrant test. Repairs shall be carried out as required;

d) inspection of the production facility and the production method by an appropriate notified body;

e) each truss module shall bear an identification mark that is clearly visible and unique to the manufacturer and to the module. The mark shall be easily recognisable, durable and difficult to remove. The mark shall at least include the manufacturer's name, type of truss, date of manufacture, identification number.

f) The manufacturer shall be responsible for keeping appropriate records relating to the truss identification marks.

ANNEX A

The manufacturer shall supply information for use with the product.

In additional to the general technical data, the manufacturer shall give instructions how to use the truss.

If a loading table is provided the manufacturer shall give clear information regarding the following conditions.

Loading tables should be based on the worst combination of truss module lengths.

Theoretical deflection expected at given load(s) and span.

Data shall be provided with regard to the effect of continuous undetermined spans on multiple support points, with regard to combined bending and shear forces in maximum UDL and CPL.

Data shall be provided with regard to the effect of cantilevered trusses with regard to combined bending and shear forces in maximum UDL and point loading.

Truss types and orientation

The instructions should include a drawing of the **cross sectional orientation** of the truss to which the data in the load table refers

Examples of possible cross sectional orientation:

- Ladder truss can be orientated in a





Figure 1 b — Horizontal plane

- Triangular truss can be orientated in



Figure 2 a — Apex up



Figure 2 b — Apex down



Figure 2 c — Apex out

- Square truss with webbing in all planes can be in



Figure 3 a — Square shape



Figure 3 b — Diamond shape

- Square or Rectangular truss with webbing in two sides only, can be in





Figure 4 — Examples Vertical plane

Combinations of characteristics and properties as mentioned above are all possible and should be described properly.

Loading conditions

The maximum load that can be applied to a truss in UDL, CPL, 3rd-points, and 4th-points for given spans

The allowable point load that can be applied to the centre of a chord member in adjacent fields between two node points



Figure 5 a — Loading in node point







Figure 6 — The allowable load if only one chord is loaded

In cases of point loads near a coupler, it must be clearly shown how the loads are to be applied. See examples below:



Figure 7 a



Figure 7 b



Figure 7 — Examples for point loads near coupler

In case of vertical and horizontal loading interaction of both forces must be considered.



Figure 8 — Interaction of vertical and horizontal loading of both forces

Bearing conditions

The manufacturer shall define the bearing conditions to which the data in the load table refers.



Figure 9 — Types of bearing positions

Example of a Datasheet

Technical basis

Truss type:

Extract of Structural Report No.:





Relevant standard:		<u> </u>	
Deadweight truss:			
Cross section single tubes:			
	D[mm]	t[mm]	material
Chords			
Diagonals vertical			_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Diagonals horizontal			
End frame			

Truss geometry:



Figure 11 — Truss geometry

Height:	a[cm]	
Width:	b[cm]	
Length:	l[cm]	
Angles diagonals vertical	ß _v	
Angles diagonals vertical	հ հ	
	e[cm]	

Cross section complete truss:

Cross sectional area	а	
Moment of inertia y-axis	l _v	
Moment of inertia z-axis	ĺz	
Moment of inertia x-axis	Ι _Τ	 (torsion)

Connection type:

Description of the connection with all single elements, its' materials and all relevant dimensions.

For Example

Pin	diameter material	
Female coupler Male coupler Connection fitting-	material material tube	

Allowable normal force of the connection:_____

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Allowable normal forces of the tubes:

Chord	compression: Tension:	
Diagonal	compression: tension:	

Allowable internal forces complete truss:

Bending moment	M _v :
Bending moment	M _z :
Normal force -compression	N:
Normal force -tension	N:
Transversal force	Q _z :
Transversal force	Q _y :

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BCG 912/GUV 66.15	Testing of Safety and Mechanical Equipment in Staging and Production Facilities for the Entertainment Industry
BS 4-1:1993	Structural steel sections-specifications for hot rolled sec- tions
BS 1139-1.2:1990	Metal scaffolding-part 1-tubes specifications for alumin- ium tubes
BS 5950 (all parts) BS 6399 (all parts) BS 7905-2	Structural steelwork in building Loading for buildings Specification for design and manufacture of aluminium
BS 8118	and steel trusses and towers Structural use of Aluminium part 1 code of practice for
DIN 1055 (all parts)	design Actions on structures
DIN 4112	Temporary structures, fairground amusements, directives for dimensioning and construction
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ISO 4026	Hexagon socket set screws with cone point, ISO 4026 modified
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NEN 6710	Technical principles for building structures. Aluminium structures. Basic requirements and basic rules for calculations of predominantly statically loaded structures.
NPR 8020-10	Entertainment-rigging-design factors of safety
SS 767 1501	Aluminium trusses with in the entertainment industry
TISE	The institution of Structural Engineers, Temporary De-
	mountable structures, guidance on use, procurement and design
UNI 8634	Strutture di leghe di alluminio. Istruzioni per il calcolo e l' esecuzione.