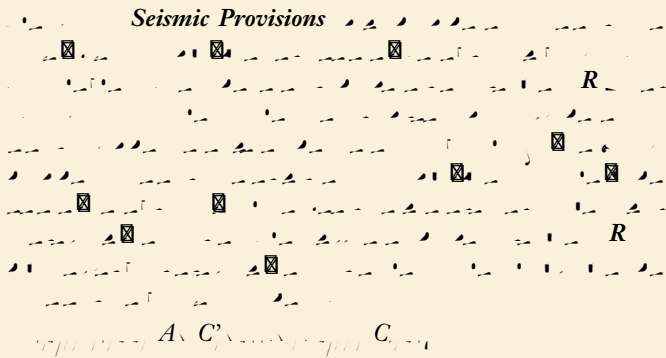


IF YOU'VE EVER ASKED YOURSELF "WHY?" about something related to structural steel design or construction, *Modern Steel Construction's* monthly Steel Interchange column is for you!

Seismic Response Modification Coefficient (R-Factor)



Yes, as stated in the scope to the 2005 *International Building Code*, "These provisions shall apply when the seismic response modification coefficient, R , (as specified in the applicable building code) is taken greater than 3." Use of R greater than 3 assumes a certain level of ductility is present and that the system has specific modes of failure that are ductile and controlled. Accordingly, the

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