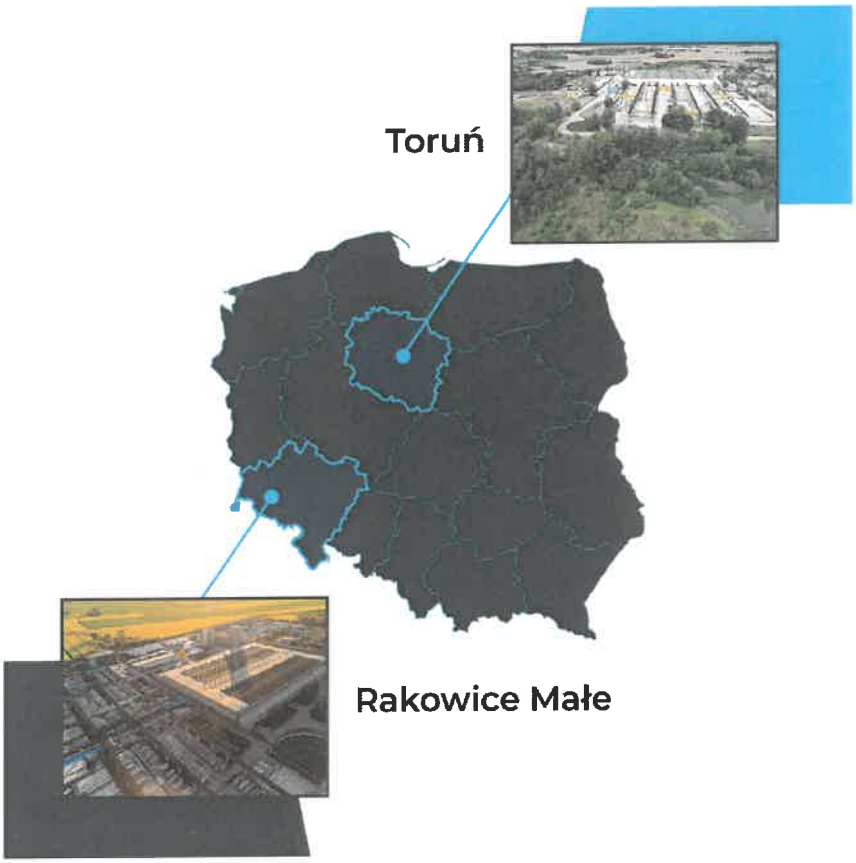
CONDITIONS OF USE AND MAINTENANCE OF PRECAST REINFORCED CONCRETE ELEMENTS



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1. Introduction

Precast reinforced concrete elements are the structural elements made from concrete reinforced with steel bars. They ensure durability, strength and resistance to atmospheric conditions, on the condition of correct operation and regular maintenance.

2. Rules of use

- Precast reinforced concrete elements should be used in conformity with their intended purpose and design instructions.
- Overloading of elements, exceeding the admissible standards defined in technical documentation, should be avoided.
- Elements should not be exposed to mechanical damage, impact or vibration exceeding the design assumptions.
- It is forbidden to interfere with concrete structure, e.g. by high pressure cleaning, sand blasting, application of chemical agents, etc.
- In case of elements operated in the surroundings characterised with chemical aggression (e.g. salts, acids), it is necessary to apply adequate means of protection or protective coats.

3. Control and inspection of precast elements

- Visual inspection of precast elements should be conducted regularly (at least once a year) in respect of:
    - Cracks, scratches, surface defects,
    - Reinforcement corrosion (if visible),
    - Mechanical damage or deformations,
    - Marks of moisture.
- Should any irregularities be found, their character needs to be assessed and decision on repair should be taken.

4. Maintenance

- Surfaces of precast elements should be kept clean. It is recommended to remove any impurities, dust, alga and moss.
- In case of any surface defects (e.g. concrete spalling), the following repairs should be undertaken:
    - Remove loose fragments of concrete,
    - Clear the place of repair from any dust and rust,

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- Fill in any losses with repair (patching) mortar, in conformity with the manufacturer's instructions.

- In the places exposed to corrosion of reinforcement, anti-corrosive agents or protective coats can be used.
- The elements exposed to aggressive environmental conditions (e.g. roads sprinkled with salt) should be additionally secured with protective coats.

5. Storage of precast elements at the construction site

- Precast elements should be laid on even and stable ground / base, protected against mechanical damage.
- Storage of elements at the construction site is admissible on racks - in case of wall elements and according to the support scheme defined in technical documentation - in case of bar elements.

6. Transport and assembly

- Precast elements should be transported according to the manufacturer's instructions, using adequate methods of protection from damage.
- Any visible defects and irregularities of the products should be reported immediately after their delivery to the construction site.
- Delivered elements need to be assembled in conformity with the intended purpose, specified in design documentation.
- During lifting and assembly equipment used must be in good working order, and also correct points of attachment need to be used.
- Vertical transport should be effected in conformity with the diagram included in technical documentation.
- After the assembly of precast elements their stability and correct positioning should be controlled.

7. Guarantee

- The manufacturer gives guarantee for precast reinforced concrete elements, according to the terms and conditions of guarantee on the manufacturer's website and the conditions defined in the sales agreement and in the technical documentation.
- The guarantee covers material defects and manufacturing defects revealed in the period of guarantee, on the condition of correct use and maintenance.

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- In case of finding any defects covered by the scope of guarantee, the user should immediately report them to the manufacturer, along with documentation confirming correct operation of precast elements.
- The guarantee does not include damage caused as a result of incorrect use, overloading, neglected maintenance, mechanical actions or impact of external factors that do not conform with the intended use of the elements.
- Any additional works exceeding the scope of design documentation are the basis for loss of guarantee.
- Admissible dimensional deviations of precast elements defined in the respective standards do not form a basis for guarantee claims.

8. Procedure in the case of breakdown

- In case of detecting any damages that may threaten the safety of structure (e.g. serious cracks, exposing and corrosion of reinforcement, deformations), operation of the affected element needs to be stopped immediately.
- Breakdown needs to be reported to adequate technical services, or the manufacturer's service, in order to conduct the evaluation of technical condition of a precast element.
- On the basis of the evaluation by an expert, decision should be taken on necessity of repair.
- In the case of repairs conducted by a user, the manufacturer's instructions need to be observed and solely recommended materials and repair technologies must be used.
- After completion of repair, quality inspection should be conducted, along with documenting of the actions performed.

9. Related documents

03/PO/KJ/2025/T,R Terms and conditions of guarantee for precast reinforced concrete elements

10. Additional information

Not applicable

11. Annexes

Not applicable

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