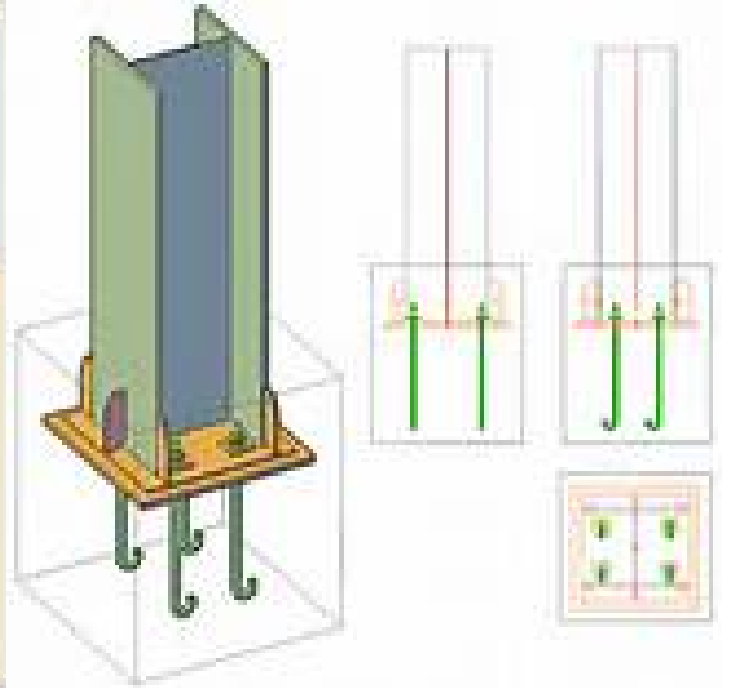
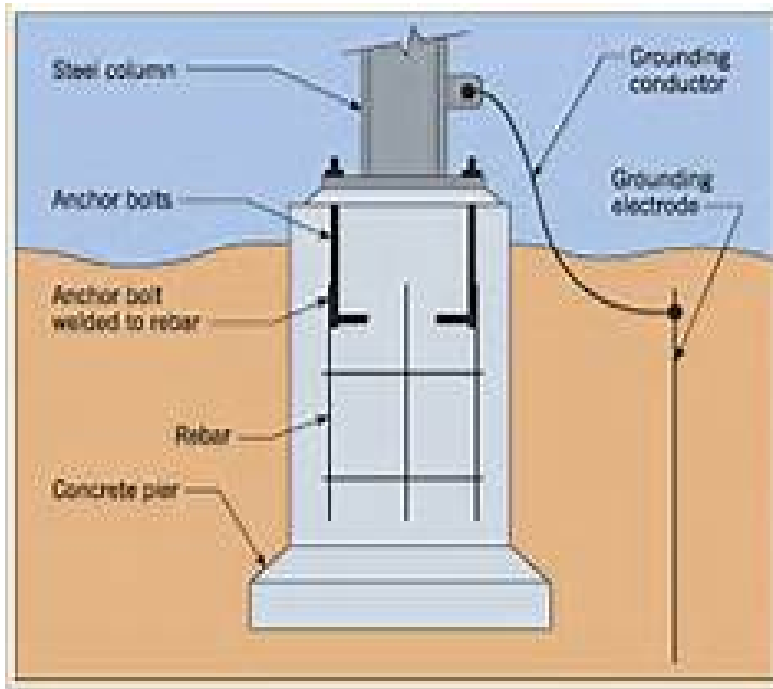




# STRUCTURAL STEEL DESIGN



## Column Base Plates

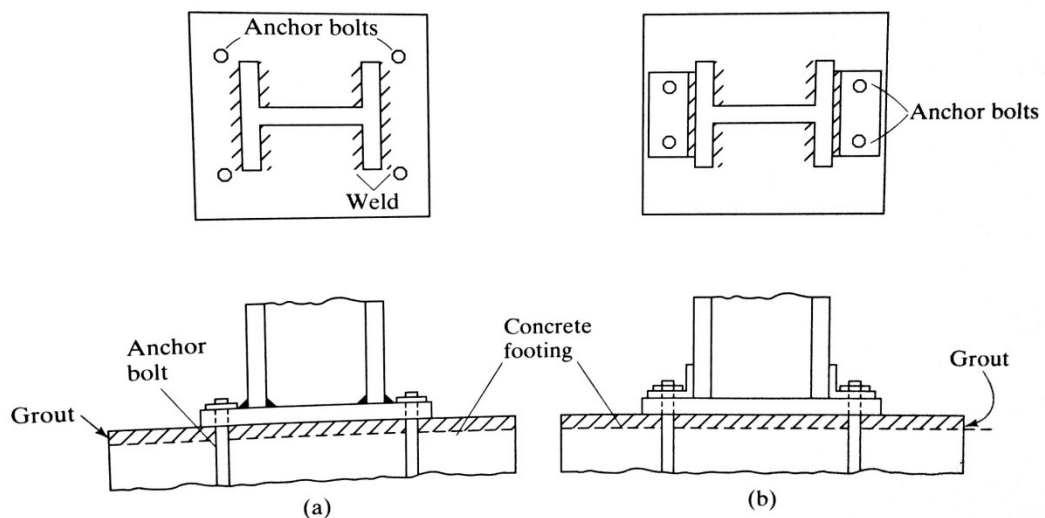
**Dr.Mu'taz K.M**  
**Ass. Prof. in Civil Engineering**



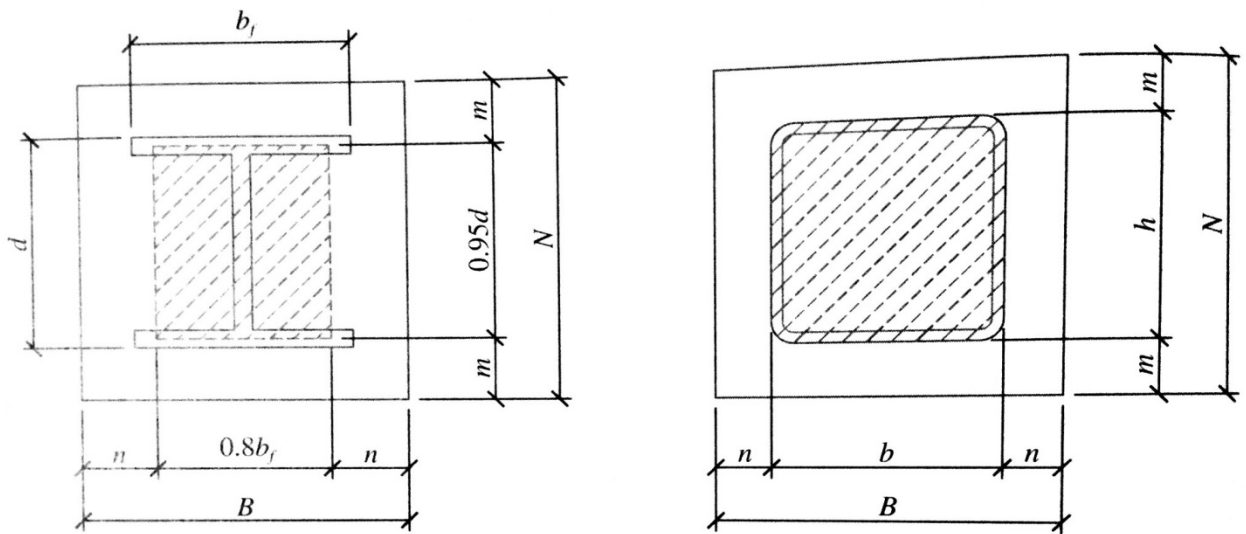
## Base Plates For Centrally Loaded Columns

When a steel column is supported by a footing it is necessary for the column load to be spread over a sufficient area to keep the footing from being overstressed. Loads from steel columns are transferred through a steel base plate to large area of the footing.

The base plate can be welded directly to the columns, or they can be fastened by means of some type of bolted or welded lug angles. These connection methods are illustrated below :

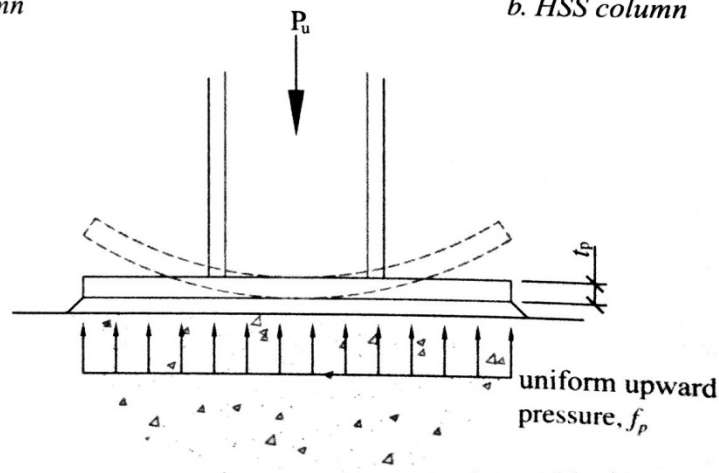






a. WF column

b. HSS column



where

$A_1 =$  Base plate area  $= B \times N$ ,

$B =$  Width of base plate,

$N =$  Length of base plate,

$A_2 =$  Area of concrete pier concentric with the base plate area,  $A_1$ , projected at the top of the concrete pier (or at the top of the concrete footing when the column base plate is supported directly by the footing) without extending beyond the edges of the pier or footing,

$f'_c =$  Compressive strength of the concrete pier or footing, ksi, and

$\phi_c =$  Strength reduction factor for concrete in bearing  $= 0.65$  (ACI 318).

$$1 \leq \sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}} \leq 2$$



## Plate Thickness

In determining the base plate thickness, the base plate is assumed to be rigid enough to ensure a uniform bearing pressure distribution at the base plate. The required plate thickness is as follows:

$$t_p = \ell \sqrt{\frac{2P_u}{\phi_b B N F_y}}$$

$$m = \frac{N - 0.95d}{2},$$

$$n = \frac{B - 0.80b_f}{2}, \text{ and}$$

$$n' = \frac{1}{4} \sqrt{db_f}.$$

The above equations are valid for W-shaped columns. For a **square HSS column**,

$$m = \frac{N - b}{2},$$

$$n = \frac{B - b}{2}, \text{ and}$$

$$n' = \frac{b}{4},$$

where

$\phi_b = 0.9$  (strength reduction factor for plate bending),

$F_y$  = Yield strength of the base plate,

$d$  = Depth of column,

$b_f$  = Flange width of column,

$m, n, \lambda n'$  = Cantilever lengths of the base plate beyond the edges of the critical area of the column,

$\ell$  = Maximum of  $(m, n, \lambda n')$ ,

$\lambda$  is conservatively taken as 1.0 [10] in this text, and

$b$  = Width of square HSS column.

$$N \approx \sqrt{A_1} + \Delta$$

$$A_1 = \text{area of plate} = BN$$

$$\Delta = 0.5 (0.95d - 0.80b_f)$$

$$N = \sqrt{A_1} + \Delta$$

$$B \approx \frac{A_1}{N}$$



**Example (1)**

Design a base plate of A36 steel ( $F_y = 36$  ksi) for a W12  $\times$  65 column ( $F_y = 50$  ksi) that supports the loads  $P_D = 200$  k and  $P_L = 300$  k. The concrete has a compressive strength  $f'_c = 3$  ksi, and the footing has the dimensions 9 ft  $\times$  9 ft.

**Solution.** Using a W12  $\times$  65 column ( $d = 12.1$  in,  $b_f = 12.0$  in)

LRFD	ASD
$P_u = (1.2)(200) + (1.6)(300) = 720$ k	$P = 200 + 300 = 500$ k
$A_2 = \text{footing area} = (12 \times 9)(12 \times 9) = 11,664$ in <sup>2</sup>	$A_2 = 11,664$ in <sup>2</sup>

Determine required base plate area  $A_1 = BN$ . Note that the area of the supporting concrete is for greater than the base plate area, such that  $\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}} \geq 2.0$ .

LRFD $\phi_c = 0.65$	ASD $\Omega_c = 2.50$
$A_1 = \frac{P_u}{\phi_c(0.85f'_c)\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}$ $= \frac{720}{0.65(0.85)(3)(2)} = 217.2 \text{ in}^2$	$A_1 = \frac{P_u\Omega_c}{0.85f'_c\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}$ $= \frac{(500)(2.50)}{(0.85)(3)(2)} = 245 \text{ in}^2$

The base plate must be at least as large as the column  $b_f d = (12.0)(12.1) = 145.2$  in<sup>2</sup> < **217.2** optimize base plate dimensions to make  $m$  and  $n$

LRFD	ASD
$\Delta = \frac{0.95d - 0.8b_f}{2}$ $= \frac{(0.95)(12.1) - (0.8)(12.0)}{2} = 0.947 \text{ in}$	$\Delta = 0.947$ in
$N = \sqrt{A_1} + \Delta = \sqrt{217.2} + 0.947 = 15.7$ <p style="text-align: center;">Say 16 in</p>	$N = \sqrt{245} + 0.947 = 16.6$ <p style="text-align: center;">Say 17 in</p>
$B = \frac{A_1}{N} = \frac{217.2}{16} = 13.6 \text{ in}^2$	$B = \frac{245}{17} = 14.41$

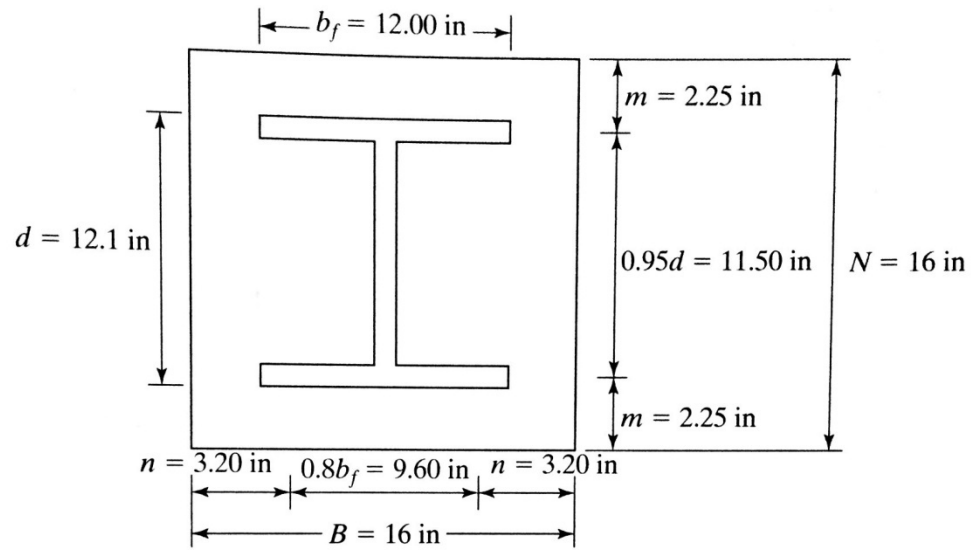


FIGURE 7.15

As previously mentioned, we might very well simplify the plates by making them square—say, 16 in × 16 in.

**Check the bearing strength of the concrete.**

LRFD $\phi_c = 0.65$	ASD $\Omega_c = 2.50$
$\phi_c P_p = \phi_c 0.85 f'_c A_1 \sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}$ $= 0.65 (0.85)(3)(16 \times 16)(2)$ $= 848.6 > 720 \text{ k OK}$	$\frac{P_p}{\Omega_c} = \frac{0.85 f'_c A_1}{\Omega_c} \sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}$ $= \frac{(0.85)(3)(16 \times 16)(2)}{2.50} = 522.2 \text{ k} > 500 \text{ k OK}$

**Computing required base plate thickness**

$$m = \frac{N - 0.95d}{2} = \frac{16 - (0.95)(12.1)}{2} = 2.25 \text{ in}$$

$$n = \frac{B - 0.8b_f}{2} = \frac{16 - (0.8)(12.0)}{2} = 3.20 \text{ in}$$

$$n' = \frac{\sqrt{db_f}}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{(12.1)(12.0)}}{4} = 3.01 \text{ in}$$

$$\ell = \text{largest of } m, n, \text{ or } n' = 3.20 \text{ in}$$

LRFD	ASD
$t_{\text{reqd}} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{2P_u}{0.9F_yBN}}$ $= 3.20 \sqrt{\frac{(2)(720)}{(0.9)(36)(16 \times 16)}} = 1.33 \text{ in}$ <p>Use PL <math>1\frac{1}{2} \times 16 \times 1 \text{ ft } 4 \text{ in A36}</math>.</p>	$t_{\text{reqd}} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{3.33P_a}{F_yBN}}$ $= 3.20 \sqrt{\frac{(3.33)(500)}{(36)(16)(16)}} = 1.36 \text{ in}$ <p>Use PL <math>1\frac{1}{2} \times 16 \times 1 \text{ ft } 4 \text{ in A36}</math>.</p>



Example (2)

A base plate is to be designed for a W12 × 152 column ( $F_y = 50$  ksi) that supports the loads  $P_D = 200$  k and  $P_L = 450$  k. Select an A36 plate ( $F_y = 36$  ksi) to cover the entire area of the 3 ksi concrete pedestal underneath.

Solution. Using a W12 × 152 column ( $d = 13.7$  in,  $b_f = 12.5$  in)

LRFD	ASD
$P_u = (1.2)(200) + (1.6)(450) = 960$ k	$P_a = 200 + 450 = 650$ k

Determine the required base plate area, noting that the term  $\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}$  is equal to 1.0, since  $A_1 = A_2$ .

LRFD $\phi_c = 0.65$	ASD $\Omega_c = 2.50$
$A_1 = \frac{P_u}{\phi_c(0.85f'_c)\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}$ $= \frac{960}{0.65(0.85 \times 3)(1)}$ $= 579.2$	$A_1 = \frac{P_a\Omega_c}{0.85f'_c\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}$ $= \frac{(650)(2.5)}{(0.85)(3)(1)}$ $= 637.3 \text{ in}^2 \leftarrow$
$A_1 \text{ min} = db_f = (13.7)(12.5)$ $= 171.2 \text{ in}^2$	$A_1 \text{ min} = db_f = (13.7)(12.5)$ $= 171.2 \text{ in}^2$

Optimizing base plate dimensions  $n \sim m$

LRFD	ASD
$\Delta = \frac{0.95d - 0.8b_f}{2}$ $= \frac{(0.95)(13.7) - (0.8)(12.5)}{2} = 1.51 \text{ in}$	$\Delta = 1.51 \text{ in}$
$N = \sqrt{A_1} + \Delta =$ $= 25.6 \quad \text{Say } 26$	$N = \sqrt{637.3} + 1.51$ $= 26.75 \text{ in.} \quad \text{Say } 27 \text{ in}$
$B = \frac{A_1}{N} = \frac{579.2}{27} = 22.3$ $\text{Say } 23$	$B = \frac{637.3}{27} = 23.60 \text{ in}$ $\text{Say } 24 \text{ in}$





Check the bearing strength of the concrete.

LRFD $\phi_c = 0.65$	ASD $\Omega_c = 2.50$
$\phi_c P_p = \phi_c 0.85 f'_c A_1 \sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}$ $= 0.65 (0.85)(3) \mathbf{23 \times 26} (1)$ $= \mathbf{991.2} > 960 \text{ k } \mathbf{OK}$	$\frac{P_p}{\Omega_c} = \frac{0.85 f'_c A_1 \sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}{\Omega_c}$ $= \frac{(0.85)(3)(24 \times 27)}{2.50} (1.0)$ $= 661 \text{ k} > 650 \text{ k } \mathbf{OK}$

Computing required base plate thickness

$$m = \frac{N - 0.95d}{2} = \frac{27 - (0.95)(13.7)}{2} = 6.99 \text{ in}$$

$$n = \frac{B - 0.8b_f}{2} = \frac{24 - (0.8)(12.5)}{2} = 7.00 \text{ in}$$

$$n' = \frac{\sqrt{db_f}}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{(13.7)(12.5)}}{4} = 3.27 \text{ in}$$

$$\ell = \text{maximum of } m, n \text{ or } n' = 7.00 \text{ in}$$

LRFD	ASD
$t_{\text{reqd}} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{2P_u}{0.9F_yBN}}$ $= 7.00 \sqrt{\frac{(2)(960)}{(0.9)(36) \mathbf{23 \times 26}}}$ $= \mathbf{2.05}$	$t_{\text{reqd}} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{3.33P_a}{F_yBN}}$ $= 7.00 \sqrt{\frac{(3.33)(650)}{(36)(24 \times 27)}}$ $= 2.13 \text{ in}$

Use  $2 \frac{1}{8} \times 23 \times 2$  ft 2 in A 36 plate with 23x26 concrete pedestal ( $f_c = 3$  ksi).

Example (3)

Repeat Example 2 if the column is to be supported by a concrete pedestal 2 in wider on each side than the base plate.

Solution. Using a W12 x 152 (d = 13.7 in, b\_f = 12.5 in)

LRFD	ASD
$P_u = (1.2)(200) + (1.6)(450) = 960 \text{ k}$ $A_1 \text{ required from Example 2 solution was } \mathbf{579.2}$	$P_a = 200 + 450 = 650 \text{ k}$ $A_1 \text{ required from Example 7-6 solution was } 637.3 \text{ in}^2$



If we try a plate  $24 \times 25$  ( $A_1 = 600 \text{ in}^2$ ), the pedestal area will equal  $(24 + 4)(25 + 4) = 812 \text{ in}^2$ , and  $\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}$  will equal  $\sqrt{\frac{812}{600}} = 1.16$ . Recalculating the  $A_1$  values gives

LRFD $\phi_c = 0.65$	ASD $\Omega_c = 2.31$
$A_1 = \frac{P_u}{\phi_c(0.85f'_c)\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}$	$A_1 = \frac{P_u\Omega_c}{0.85f'_c\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}$
$= \frac{960}{(0.65)(0.85)(3)(1.16)} = 499.3 \text{ in}^2$	$= \frac{(650)(2.31)}{(0.85)(3)(1.16)} = 507.6 \text{ in}^2$

**Optimizing base plate dimensions  $n \sim m$**

LRFD	ASD
$\Delta = \frac{0.95d - 0.8b_f}{2}$ $= \frac{(0.95)(13.7) - (0.8)(12.5)}{2} = 1.51 \text{ in}$	$\Delta = 1.51 \text{ in}$
$N = \sqrt{A_1} + \Delta = \sqrt{490.8} + 1.51$ $= 23.66 \text{ in} \quad \text{Say, 24 in}$	$N = \sqrt{A_1} + \Delta = \sqrt{499.0} + 1.51$ $= 23.85 \text{ in.} \quad \text{Say, 24 in}$
$B = \frac{A_1}{N} = \frac{490.8}{24} = 20.45 \text{ in}$ $\text{Say, 21 in}$	$B = \frac{A_1}{N} = \frac{499}{24} = 20.79 \text{ in}$ $\text{Say, 21 in}$
<p>Use pedestal <math>25 \times 28</math></p> $\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}} = \sqrt{\frac{(25)(28)}{(21)(24)}} = 1.18$	<p>Same.</p>

**Check the bearing strength of the concrete**

LRFD $\phi_c = 0.65$	ASD $\Omega_c = 2.31$
$\phi_c P_p = \phi_c 0.85f'_c A_1 \sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}$ $= (0.65)(0.85)(3)(21 \times 24)(1.18)$ $= 985.7 \text{ k} > 960 \text{ k} \quad \text{OK}$	$\frac{P_p}{\Omega_c} = \frac{0.85f'_c A_1 \sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}}}{\Omega_c}$ $= \frac{(0.85)(3)(21 \times 24)}{2.31} (1.18)$ $= 656.5 \text{ k} > 650 \text{ k} \quad \text{OK}$



Computing required base plate thickness

$$m = \frac{N - 0.95d}{2} = \frac{24 - (0.95)(13.7)}{2} = 5.49 \text{ in}$$

$$n = \frac{B - 0.8b_f}{2} = \frac{21 - (0.8)(12.5)}{2} = 5.50 \text{ in}$$

$$n' = \frac{\sqrt{db_f}}{4} = \frac{\sqrt{(13.7)(12.5)}}{4} = 3.27 \text{ in}$$

$$\ell = \text{maximum of } m, n \text{ or } n' = 5.50 \text{ in}$$

LRFD	ASD
$t_{reqd} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{2P_u}{0.9F_yBN}}$	$t_{reqd} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{3.33P_a}{F_yBN}}$
$= 5.50 \sqrt{\frac{(2)(960)}{(0.9)(36)(21)(24)}}$	$= 5.50 \sqrt{\frac{(3.33)(650)}{(36)(21)(24)}}$
$= 1.89 \text{ in}$	$= 1.90 \text{ in}$

Use 2 × 21 × 2 ft 0 in A36 base plate with 25 × 28 concrete pedestal ( $f'_c = 3 \text{ ksi}$ ).

Example 4

A HSS 10 × 10 ×  $\frac{5}{16}$  with  $F_y = 46 \text{ ksi}$  is used to support the service loads  $P_D = 100 \text{ k}$  and  $P_L = 150 \text{ k}$ . A spread footing underneath is 9 ft-0 in × 9 ft-0 in and consists of reinforced concrete with  $f'_c = 4000 \text{ psi}$ . Design a base plate for this column with A36 steel ( $F_y = 36 \text{ ksi}$  and  $F_u = 58 \text{ ksi}$ ).

Solution. Required strength

LRFD	ASD
$P_u = (1.2)(100) + (1.6)(150) = 360 \text{ k}$	$P_a = 100 + 150 = 250 \text{ k}$

Try a base plate extending 4 in from the face of the column in each direction—that is, an 18 in × 18 in plate.

Determine the available strength of the concrete footing.

$$A_1 = (18)(18) = 324 \text{ in}^2$$

$$A_2 = (12 \times 9)(12 \times 9) = 11,664 \text{ in}^2$$

$$P_p = 0.85f'_cA_1\sqrt{\frac{A_2}{A_1}} = (0.85)(4)(324)\sqrt{\frac{11,664}{324}} = 6609.6 \text{ K}$$



since  $\sqrt{\frac{11,664}{324}} = 6.0 > 2.0 \therefore P_p = 1.7f'_c A_1$   
 $P_p = 1.7f'_c A_1 = 1.7(4)(324) = 2203.2 \text{ k}$

LRFD $\phi_c = 0.65$	ASD $\Omega_c = 2.31$
$\phi_c P_p = (0.65)(2203.2)$	$\frac{P_p}{\Omega_c} = \frac{2203.2}{2.31}$
$= 1432.1 \text{ k} > 360 \text{ k} \quad \text{OK}$	$= 953.8 \text{ k} > 250 \text{ k} \quad \text{OK}$

Determine plate thickness.

$$m = n = \frac{N - (0.95)(\text{outside dimension of HSS})}{2}$$

$$= \frac{18 - (0.95)(10)}{2} = 4.25 \text{ in}$$

Notice that these values for  $m$  and  $n$  are both less than the distance from the center of the base plate to the center of the HSS walls. However, the moment in the plate outside the walls is greater than the moment in the plate between the walls. You can verify this statement by drawing the moment diagrams for the situation shown in Fig. 7.16.

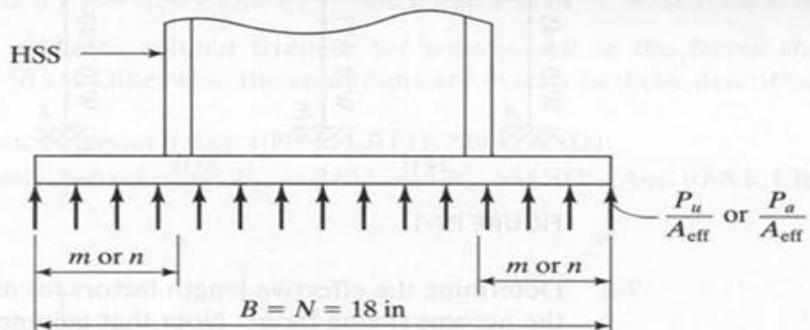


FIGURE 7.16

LRFD	ASD
$f_{pu} = \frac{P_u}{A_{eff}} = \frac{360}{(18)(18)} = 1.11 \text{ ksi}$	$f_{pa} = \frac{P_a}{A_{eff}} = \frac{250}{324} = 0.772 \text{ ksi}$
$t_{reqd} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{2P_u}{0.9F_yBN}}$	$t_{reqd} = \ell \sqrt{\frac{3.33P_a}{F_yBN}}$
$= 4.25 \sqrt{\frac{(2)(360)}{(0.9)(36)(18)(18)}} = 1.11 \text{ in}$	$= 4.25 \sqrt{\frac{(3.33)(250)}{(36)(18)(18)}} = 1.14 \text{ in}$

Use  $1 \frac{1}{4} \times 18 \times 1 \text{ ft } 6 \text{ in A36 base plate for both LRFD and ASD.}$