

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special issue: *Analysis and design tools*

Software packages for structural analysis and design have developed tremendously in recent years – and will continue to do so, particularly as clients and architects aspire to push the boundaries on high-performance buildings and complex geometry. Although there has been much debate on the relative merits of computer-aided design and hand calculations, the increasing power, functionality and interoperability of these packages will offer ever greater opportunities to structural engineers.

In light of this, we plan to publish a special issue of **The Structural Engineer** devoted to analysis and design tools. As well as a brief introduction to the use of computers in structural engineering and consideration of what we mean by ‘analysis’ and ‘design’, the issue seeks articles exploring:

- modern trends in analysis and design
- the software packages available for this and how to choose between them
- the underlying computational methods of these packages
- the role of hand calculations
- parametric design: when is it appropriate? What tools are available?
- interoperability: how these packages can be integrated into project delivery
- the extent to which undergraduate students should be exposed to such software

We would also welcome articles considering what the future holds. How will this area continue to develop over the coming years? What innovations can we expect from software companies over the next decade? Do structural engineers need to reconsider what they mean by ‘design’?

If you would like to share your expertise on the above topics, or have strong views on any of these questions, we would like to hear from you. To submit an article or discuss how you might be able to contribute, please get in touch at robin.jones@istructe.org

Guest Editor

Peter Ayres, Director – AECOM

Peter is a structural engineer and multidisciplinary team leader at AECOM who has delivered an extraordinary range of high-performance buildings in recent years, from the multiple award-winning Halley VI Antarctic research base to world-class sports venues in Russia, Brazil and the Middle East.

In 2014, Peter was awarded the Association for Consultancy and Engineering’s ‘*Professional Engineer of the Year*’ in recognition of his outstanding commitment and contribution to design excellence.

