Introduction

The Slotted Rap-Tie (Rod Adjustable Plate Tie) system consists of a Slotted L-Plate (a vertically oriented L-shaped steel plate), a V-Tie™ (a V-shaped steel wire), and an Insulation Support (optional, but recommended). These individual components are shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, respectively. The installed tie system is shown in the Cover illustration and Figure 4.

Tensile and compressive lateral loads acting on the masonry veneer are transferred through the V-Tie™ to the Slotted L-Plate which bears against, and is fastened to, the structural backing. Attachment may be directly to a steel stud or by surface mounting to a sheathing over the stud, as shown in Figures 4 and 5, respectively. Requirements for the structural integrity and moisture protection of any intervening material in the tie load-path, such as a sheathing, are contained in CSA Standard A370, “Connectors for Masonry”, ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 “Building Code Requirements for Masonry Structures” and the International Codes (International Building Code and International Residential Code). The vertical slot along the outboard end of the Slotted L-Plate through which the V-Tie™ is inserted provides a positive connection without the possibility of V-Tie™ disengagement during construction and in-service (in accordance with requirements in CSA A370 and ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402). It permits up to 30 mm (1.2”) of in-situ vertical adjustment so that a bed joint in the outer wythe will always be coincident with the V-Tie™. The slot accommodates differential movement between the masonry veneer and the structural backing to which the L-Plate is connected.
Where vertical adjustment greater than 30 mm (1.2”) is required, use of the Slotted Heavy-Duty Rap-Tie should be considered. The Slotted Heavy-Duty Rap-Tie offers 50 mm (2”) of construction adjustability and in-service movement. See Fero literature for the “Slotted Heavy-Duty Rap-Tie”.

The Insulation Support, which is inserted over the end of the L-Plate and restrained by the V-Tie™, is used to securely and mechanically fix cavity rigid insulation in place.

The Slotted Rap-Tie can accommodate a range of insulation thicknesses from 0 to 102 mm (0 to 4”), and air space widths of 25.4 mm (1”) and greater.

The Slotted L-Plate has sufficient length to accommodate the thickness of the cavity insulation, and further extends 18 mm (0.7”) into the air space to expose its leading edge and facilitate in-situ placement of the V-Tie™ and Insulation Support. The V-Tie™ is inserted through the vertical slot along the leading edge of the L-Plate, coincident with a mortar bed joint, so as to extend horizontally normal to the structural backing without reducing tie capacity. The legs of the V-Tie™ are positioned along the centreline of the veneer within the placement tolerances permitted by the building code having jurisdiction. Adjustment normal to the wall is facilitated by selecting an appropriate length of V-Tie™.

**Slotted L-Plate:** The Slotted L-Plate (Figure 1) is manufactured from 16 gauge sheet steel [1.367 mm (0.0538”)] minimum base steel thickness] and is available in both hot-dip galvanized finish and stainless steel. The weight of hot-dip galvanized finish is not less than 460 g/m²/side (1.5 oz/ft²/side), and satisfies the requirements of CSA A370 (which references ASTM A123), ACI 530.1/ASCE 6/TMS 602 (which references ASTM A153, Class B), and the International Building Code (IBC) (which reference ASTM A153, Class B). The incorporation of holes through the body of the Slotted L-Plate minimizes thermal conductivity through the tie system.

The overall length of the Slotted L-Plate is 18 mm (0.7”) longer than the specification length (L). The specification length is the total distance between the exterior face of the insulation and the exterior face of the component of the structural backing to which the Slotted L-Plate is fastened/bears. The Slotted L-Plate is available in standard specification lengths (L) of 0 (0”), 28 (1.1”), 41 (1.6”), 54 (2.1”), 67 (2.6”), 79 (3.1”), 92 (3.6”) and 105 (4.1”) mm. Intermediate sizes are also available.

**V-Tie™:** The V-Tie™ (Figure 2) is manufactured from 4.76 mm (0.19”) diameter steel wire and is available in both hot-dip galvanized finish and stainless steel. The weight of hot-dip galvanized finish is not less than 460 g/m² (1.5 oz/ft²) and satisfies the requirements of CSA A370 (which references ASTM A123), ACI 530.1/ASCE 6/TMS 602 (which references ASTM A153, 458 g/m²) and the International Building Code (IBC) (which reference ASTM A153, Class B, 458 g/m²).

The V-Tie™ is available in a variety of standard lengths to accommodate different specified thicknesses of masonry veneer and design widths of air space. Varying lengths of V-Tie™ also facilitate in-situ adjustment normal to the structural backing (to accommodate construction tolerances) where the constructed width of air space differs from the design width of air space. Standard lengths of V-Tie™ include 60 mm (2.4”), 80 mm (3.1”), 100 mm (3.9”), 120 mm (4.7”), 140 mm (5.5”), 160 mm (6.3”), 180 mm (7.1”), 200 mm (7.9”), 225 mm (8.9”) and 250 mm (9.8”).

**Components and Specifications**

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**Figure 1** Slotted L-Plate

**Figure 2** V-Tie™
**Insulation Support**: The Insulation Support (Figure 3) is manufactured from polyethylene. It is pressed over the outboard end of the Slotted L-Plate tightly against the cavity insulation to prevent the insulation from separating from the structural backing/air barrier. The friction fit between the Insulation Support and the Slotted L-Plate restrains the insulation during construction which is commonly installed in advance of the exterior masonry wythe. Subsequent installation of the V-Tie™ sandwiches the Insulation Support between the insulation and V-Tie™, thereby locking the Insulation Support in place and ensuring a reliable and permanent insulation support system.

The insulation Support is a standard component of the system, but it is optional where the insulation is otherwise supported, and not required where insulation is not placed within the cavity.

The Slotted Rap-Tie is designed to transfer the lateral load from the exterior masonry wythe (the veneer) axially and normal to the structural backing. The connection between the V-Tie™ and the Slotted L-Plate by way of the vertical slot does not resist differential movement between the structural backing and masonry veneer in the vertical direction and therefore does not offer composite action between the structural backing and the masonry veneer. For the design of shear connected masonry veneer/(steel) stud systems (i.e., wall construction using composite action) see Fero Stud Shear™ Connector product literature. A single fastener will usually prove adequate to connect the L-Plate to the structural backing.

In addition to its use in unit masonry veneer applications (Figures 4 and 5), including both clay brick and concrete masonry, the Slotted Rap-Tie system can be utilized in the application of stone or thin masonry veneer, as illustrated in Figure 6.

**Structural Action**

*Note: Refer to the FERO-FASTENERS brochure for complete specifications.*

**Unit Masonry, Dimension Cut, and Manufactured Stone Veneer Applications**

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**Figure 3** Insulation Support/Retainer

**Figure 4** Slotted Rap-Tie Attached Directly to a Steel Stud

**Figure 5** Slotted Rap-Tie Surface Mounted on Protected Structural Sheathing

**Figure 6** Slotted Rap-Tie System Application for Dimension Cut-Stone Veneer

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**SLOTTED RAP-TIE**
### Slotted Rap-Tie Design Data (Canada)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Parameter</th>
<th>Design Data ((d_0))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Mechanical Free Play:</td>
<td>0.41 mm (max) (1.04 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with FERO V-Tie(^{TM}))</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Serviceability at 0.45 kN (100 lbs);(^{(vii)})</td>
<td>Tie Mounted Directly to Steel Stud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displacement: Displacement + Mechanical Free Play;</td>
<td>0.63 mm (0.025&quot;) (1.67 mm (max))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Factored Resistance ((\phi_{P.U.}))</td>
<td>1.5 kN (340 lbs.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Maximum Recommended Spacing; (^{(vi)})</td>
<td>Horizontal: 820 mm (32&quot;) Vertical: 600 mm (24&quot;)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

- (i) The stated nominal strength and recommended design load do not consider fastener capacity. A compatible fastener (or fasteners) having an adequate strength must be selected (by design in accordance with ACI 370-14). The mechanical free play for hot-dip galvanized components is less.
- (ii) The stated nominal strength is determined by test and is reported as the average ultimate strength of the tie samples. In accordance with ACI 370-14, Connectors for Masonry, with no surcharge and with test samples having the following configuration: 3" (76 mm) cavity; 1" (25 mm) air space; one (1) fastener located in the center hole of the L-Plate; standard FERO V-Tie\(^{TM}\), V-Tie\(^{TM}\) engaged into L-Plate at position of maximum vertical adjustment. The test method for ties in ACI 370-14 is comparable to that of ASTM E754, Test Method for Pullout Resistance of Ties and Anchors Embedded in Masonry Joints, and provides similar and more conservative results. Smaller cavity widths and/or the addition of insulations providing lateral support to the tie L-Plate will increase the nominal strength of the tie and reduce tie deflection. Prescriptive requirements for anchored masonry veneer under ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 limit the cavity to a maximum width of 4" (102 mm) unless the veneer is alternatively designed using a rational, engineered design method (termed "Alternative Design of Anchored Masonry Veneer").
- (iii) These design data reflect both the windward (compression) and leeward (tension) capacities of the Slotted Rap-Tie system, with the governing values listed.

### Slotted Rap-Tie Design Data (United States)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design Parameter</th>
<th>Design Data ((d_0))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Mechanical Free Play;(^{(vii)})</td>
<td>0.41&quot;) (1.04 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Serviceability at 0.45 kN (100 lbs);(^{(vii)})</td>
<td>Tie Mounted Directly to Steel Stud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displacement: Displacement + Mechanical Free Play;</td>
<td>0.025&quot;) (0.63 mm) (0.066&quot;) (1.67 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Nominal Strength: (\phi_{P.U.})</td>
<td>450 lb (2.0 kN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Recommended Design Load: (\phi_{P.U.})</td>
<td>200 lb (0.89 kN)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Maximum Recommended Spacing; (^{(vi)})</td>
<td>Horizontal: 32&quot; (813 mm) Vertical: 18&quot; (457 mm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

- (i) These design data are based on connector testing in accordance with ACI 370-14, Connectors for Masonry, with no surcharge and with test samples having the following configuration: 5" (127 mm) cavity; 4" (102 mm) Slotted L-Plate; 1" (25 mm) air space; one (1) fastener located in the center hole of the L-Plate; standard FERO V-Tie\(^{TM}\), V-Tie\(^{TM}\) engaged into L-Plate at position of maximum vertical adjustment. The test method for ties in ACI 370-14 is comparable to that of ASTM E754, Test Method for Pullout Resistance of Ties and Anchors Embedded in Masonry Joints, and provides similar and more conservative results. Smaller cavity widths and/or the addition of insulations providing lateral support to the tie L-Plate will increase the nominal strength of the tie and reduce tie deflection. Prescriptive requirements for anchored masonry veneer under ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 limit the cavity to a maximum width of 4 1/2" (114 mm) unless the veneer is alternatively designed using a rational, engineered design method (termed "Alternative Design of Anchored Masonry Veneer").
- (ii) The stated nominal strength is determined by test and is reported as the average ultimate strength of the tie samples. In accordance with ACI 370-14, Connectors for Masonry, with no surcharge and with test samples having the following configuration: 5" (127 mm) cavity; 4" (102 mm) Slotted L-Plate; 1" (25 mm) air space; one (1) fastener located in the center hole of the L-Plate; standard FERO V-Tie\(^{TM}\), V-Tie\(^{TM}\) engaged into L-Plate at position of maximum vertical adjustment. The test method for ties in ACI 370-14 is comparable to that of ASTM E754, Test Method for Pullout Resistance of Ties and Anchors Embedded in Masonry Joints, and provides similar and more conservative results. Smaller cavity widths and/or the addition of insulations providing lateral support to the tie L-Plate will increase the nominal strength of the tie and reduce tie deflection. Prescriptive requirements for anchored masonry veneer under ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 limit the cavity to a maximum width of 4 1/2" (114 mm) unless the veneer is alternatively designed using a rational, engineered design method (termed "Alternative Design of Anchored Masonry Veneer").
- (iii) These design data reflect both the windward (compression) and leeward (tension) capacities of the Slotted Rap-Tie system, with the governing values listed.
- (iv) The stated nominal strength is determined by test and is reported as the average ultimate strength of the tie samples. In accordance with ACI 370-14, Connectors for Masonry, with no surcharge and with test samples having the following configuration: 5" (127 mm) cavity; 4" (102 mm) Slotted L-Plate; 1" (25 mm) air space; one (1) fastener located in the center hole of the L-Plate; standard FERO V-Tie\(^{TM}\), V-Tie\(^{TM}\) engaged into L-Plate at position of maximum vertical adjustment. The test method for ties in ACI 370-14 is comparable to that of ASTM E754, Test Method for Pullout Resistance of Ties and Anchors Embedded in Masonry Joints, and provides similar and more conservative results. Smaller cavity widths and/or the addition of insulations providing lateral support to the tie L-Plate will increase the nominal strength of the tie and reduce tie deflection. Prescriptive requirements for anchored masonry veneer under ACI 530/ASCE 5/TMS 402 limit the cavity to a maximum width of 4 1/2" (114 mm) unless the veneer is alternatively designed using a rational, engineered design method (termed "Alternative Design of Anchored Masonry Veneer").
- (v) The mechanical free play for hot-dip galvanized components is less.