

[STEEL BUILDINGS VS CONCRETE BUILDINGS]

## THE RELIABLE SOURCE IN PRE-ENGINEERED STEEL BUILDINGS



- **Faster Overall Project Completion**
- Low Maintenance
- **Fast Modular Expandability**

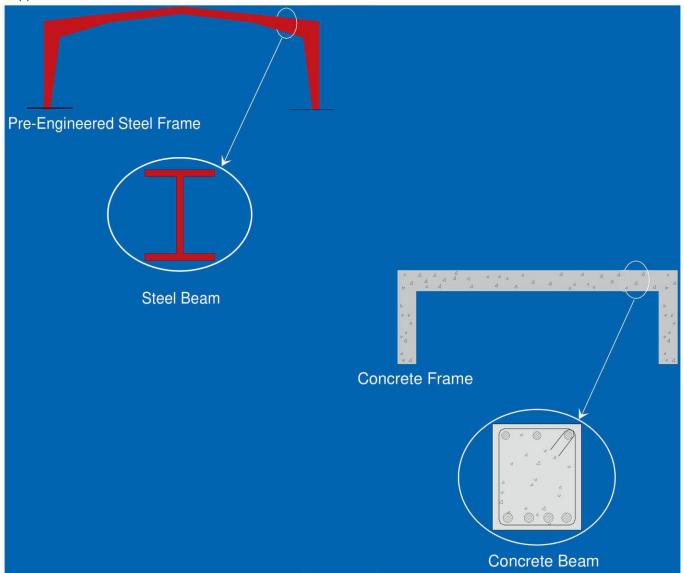
## INTRODUCTION

We've come along way in modern engineering and the ability to manipulate concrete and steel. The world of architecture today reveals vast areas punctuated by buildings so grand and renowned for their special aesthetics and functionality.

Steel is highly homogeneous material which can work equally well in stress reversal conditions of either tension or compression. On the other hand, concrete's homogeneity is always hard to attain and it is a brittle material that performs remarkably good under compressive stresses, but miserably under tensile stress conditions.

Steel's strength and ductility, combined with solid engineering and design, make it a safe choice in seismic zone. Steel framing does very well under high lateral (wind) loads because it is ductile, which means it has the ability to bend without breaking and can absorb that kind of energy.

Steel has the highest strength to weight ratio of any construction material. and with new efficient and fast construction methods, steel buildings remain a popular choice for low-rise as well as for high-rise applications.



Can sustain much larger spans (i.e. 90+meters).  Building's light weight requires reduced size foundations.  Far-spaced columns	Suitable for short span buildings, 5-8m. Becomes complex and heavy for larger spans.  Heavy concrete buildings require sizable foundations.  Closer column spacing	12-50% Cost saving for long span steel building.
Cantilevers are easy to	requires more footings.  Cantilevers are expensive, demanding extensive form work to hold the concrete	
	until it cures.	
Architectural needs may change by time, steel buildings have the highest flexibility to meet future needs.	It is nearly impossible to modify a concrete building to meet changing future needs.	Lower modification cost.
Expansion is easy. Longitudinal expansion is about adding more bays and connecting the secondary members and the sheeting to the old building.	To expand, the contractor has to build a new structure with foundations, columns and might have to break part of the old structure in order to expand it.	
Can easily handle equipment such as multiple cranes within buildings.  Sways can be controlled.  Precision can be achieved during installation.	Heavy equipment usage such as cranes is limited.  To solve precision problems, contractors use steel I beams and platforms in concrete buildings.	Saving on maintenance cost.
Members fabricated in a con- trolled environment.  Precise fabrication.  Optimum automation possible.	Fabrication done on site.  Requires building the reinforcement cage and shuttering work prior to pouring.	90% saving in fabrication time on site.
	Architectural needs may change by time, steel buildings have the highest flexibility to meet future needs.  Expansion is easy. Longitudinal expansion is about adding more bays and connecting the secondary members and the sheeting to the old building.  Can easily handle equipment such as multiple cranes within buildings.  Sways can be controlled.  Precision can be achieved during installation.  Members fabricated in a con- trolled environment.  Precise fabrication.  Optimum automation	Architectural needs may change by time, steel buildings have the highest flexibility to meet future needs.  Expansion is easy. Longitudinal expansion is about adding more bays and connecting the secondary members and the sheeting to the old building.  Can easily handle equipment such as multiple cranes within buildings.  Sways can be controlled. Precision can be achieved during installation.  It is nearly impossible to modify a concrete building to meet changing future needs.  To expand, the contractor has to build a new structure with foundations, columns and might have to break part of the old structure in order to expand it.  Heavy equipment usage such as cranes is limited.  To solve precision problems, contractors use steel I beams and platforms in concrete buildings.  Members fabricated in a con- trolled environment.  Precise fabrication.  Fabrication done on site.  Requires building the reinforcement cage and shuttering work prior to pouring.

Evaluation Criteria	PEB Building	Concrete Building	Steel Building
	Quality of steel is guaranteed because:	Many factors lead to quality deterioration:	
	It is a homogeneous product.	Concrete is not a homogeneous product.	
Quality	Pieces are tailored according to shop drawings.	Concrete mix ingredient ratios are difficult to maintain.	
	Precise machinery is used for fabrication.  It is fabricated under shop	Quality of water used may vary, which affects concrete quality.	Less time is spent to maintain steel quality.
	control.  Quality is not affected by	Concrete is susceptible to weather conditions of site.	
	site weather conditions.	Temperature variances have diverse effect on concrete.	
		Adequate use of vibrators.	
		Using proper curing methods.	
		Concrete shrinkage.	
		Intensive site labor weakens quality control.	
Delivery and Logistics	Can be delivered anywhere in the world.  Can be properly sequenced.	Might have to build batch plant on site if site is secluded or huge.	Capital Investment saving.
	During steel fabrication at shop, concrete foundations are executed on site in parallel which shortens the project schedule.	Slow erection and time consuming because activities are done in series.  Pouring should take place	
Project Time	Fast erection. Virtually no idle time.	in a limited time frame. If exceeded, the concrete quality may be jeopardized.	50% saving in construction time.
	Fast and shorter mobilization and demobilization.	The contractor will have to wait for the d previous cast to harden (14-28 days) to attain strength and cast another batch.	
	Low man power count needed.	another batch.	
Erection Cost	Erection cost is low at site.	Construction cost is high at site.	Lower site cost

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Error Modification	Easy to modify on site, even after erection.  Modification can be done by cutting, welding or attaching steel pieces.	Have to break concrete if modification is necessary.	Lower remedial cost.
Consistency and Reliability	Strength is assured from design.  Steel properties are stable with time.	Strength cannot be guaranteed without testing.  Concrete properties may change over time and environmental conditions.	Longer life expectancy.
Safety	Ductility of steel provides flexible behaviour under seismic loads. Light Steel structures minimize the seismic effect on the structure.  Steel density (7700 kg/m3) is heavier than concrete (1850 kg/m3) but is 18 times stronger. A steel member can hold 6 times its own weight.  Ductility provides early signs of failure when overloaded, allowing to fix the problem.	Poor flexibility under seismic loads. Heavy structures maximize the seismic effect on the structure.  Heavy self weight. Large portion of concrete strength consumed to resist effect of its own weight.  Steel reinforcement is used to prevent brittle failure.	Steel building requires less costly safety measures.
Environment	Steel is fully recyclable. Steel recycling technology is mature and standardized.  Recycled steel results in better quality than Iron Ore.  Construction is dust free utilizing dry techniques.  The energy used in producing steel from recycled steel is roughly one-third of that for new steel.	On- going efforts are being done on recycling of concrete.  No standards adopted.  Quality Problems.  On-site noise, dust and water pollution during construction.	Steel residual value depends on steel process.



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