

ISBN 978-0-626-27407-8

**ARP 040:1998**

Edition 1

## **SABS STANDARDS DIVISION**

Recommended practice

### **The use of reinforcement cover devices for reinforced concrete**

This document does not have the status of a South African National Standard.

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Published by SABS Standards Division  
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## ARP 040:1998

Edition 1

Change No.	Date	Scope

### Acknowledgement

The SABS Standards Division wishes to acknowledge the valuable assistance derived from the Concrete Society, UK, and for their kind permission to base this recommended practice on their publication, *Spacers for reinforced concrete*.

### Foreword

This recommended practice is a technical agreement developed in accordance with SANS 1-1 and approved by SABS TC 59, *Construction standards*.

This recommended practice was approved according to SABS procedures on 14 July 1998.

**Reaffirmed and reprinted in October 2012.  
This document will be reviewed every five years  
and be reaffirmed, amended, revised or withdrawn.**

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## **The use of reinforcement cover devices for reinforced concrete**

### **1 Scope**

**1.1** This recommended practice covers provisions to achieve and maintain cover over reinforcement in *in situ* reinforced concrete members that are subject to normal construction loads. Where appropriate, the basic principles can also be applied to precast concrete or proprietary systems.

**1.2** The provisions in this recommended practice apply to all types of reinforcement that comply with SANS 920 and SANS 1024.

**1.3** Other important areas, such as clear and unambiguous detailing, the need for considering buildability, tolerances in formwork and reinforcement, have not been gone into since they are covered in other standards and reports (see bibliography). Good standards of workmanship and supervision have also been considered to be outside the scope of this ARP.

**1.4** Abnormal loads, such as those exerted by a construction plant, storage of materials and heavy reinforcement cages, can overload reinforcement cover devices (RCDs) and chairs at the spacings recommended in this recommended practice. Under abnormal load conditions, adequate support is most suitably achieved by using heavy category line RCDs at spacings that depend on the exact size and nature of the load.

### **2 Normative references**

The following standards contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this recommended practice. All standards are subject to revision and, since any reference to a standard is deemed to be a reference to the latest edition of that standard, parties to agreements based on this recommended practice are encouraged to take steps to ensure the use of the most recent editions of the standards indicated below. Information on currently valid national and international standards can be obtained from the SABS Standards Division.

SANS 920, *Steel bars for concrete reinforcement.*

SANS 1024, *Welded steel fabric for reinforcement of concrete.*