INTERPRETATIVE BULLETIN E-I-76
ALTERNATE TEST PROCEDURE IN LIEU OF TESTING TO FAILURE; ALLOWABLE DESIGN LOAD DETERMINATION FOR TESTED ASSEMBLIES - 3280.401(b)

In lieu of testing to failure under the ultimate test procedure, the qualifications of any material, component, assembly or sub-assembly may be determined by the capability of each tested member to sustain a minimum test loading of the dead load plus 2.50 x the design live load in addition to meeting the deflection criteria at design live load.

To qualify under this section, no material, component assembly or sub-assembly shall indicate failure prior to reaching a test loading of the dead load plus 2.50 x the design live load.

The allowable design live load for any material component, assembly or sub-assembly tested in accordance with the provisions of this section may be established by:

(I) Determining the average ultimate loading, which may be no less than the dead load plus 2.50 x the design live load.

(2) Deducting the dead load from the average ultimate loading, and

(3) Dividing by 2.50

Allowable design live load

= Average ultimate load B dead load x 2.50