AD 421: Design responsibility for welds in fabricated plate girders

In recent months the SCI has received a number of questions about responsibility for the design of the welds between the web and flanges of a plate girder. These longitudinal welds are an integral part of the member design – and should therefore be sized by the engineer responsible for the design of the beam.

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AD 422: Punching shear check for fin plates in P358

This AD note relates to Check 10 for fin plates in P358 Simple Joints to Eurocode 3 (the Eurocode "Green Book" on simple connections). Check 10 includes two checks for punching shear (conservative and rigorous), but the value of $\gamma_{\rm M2}$ is not specified in the text. Confusion is possible because $\gamma_{\rm M2}$ appears in both BS EN 1993-1-1 and BS EN 1993-1-8, but with different values (1.1 and 1.25 respectively, as given in the relevant UK National Annex).

Since the check does not concern the bolts or welds, but does concern the ultimate material strengths of the fin plate and supporting member, the value of $\gamma_{\rm MS}$ should be taken as 1.1 from the UK NA to BS EN 1993-1-1.

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