

CABLE CATCHER SYSTEMS FOR IMPROVING BLAST RESISTANCE OF GLAZING FAÇADES

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The front face of some facilities (e.g., airport terminals) are covered with a glazing façades, which represent a significant risk to their occupants in the event of the detonation of a vehicle or package bomb outside them. Karagozian & Case (K&C) has designed several cable catcher systems to mitigate these risks. These systems, along with several similar concepts, represent an alternative means of reducing casualties from glazing debris caused by a blast to that of using hardened glazing systems. Moreover, these systems offer substantially higher protection (i.e., impulses well over 300 psi-ms) than is at present available in hardened glazing systems. This paper describes the engineering concepts employed and the methodology used in designing cable catcher systems. Test results verifying the capability of these systems are also shown.