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(54) Title: IMPROVED C-SECTION STRUCTURAL MEMBER

(57) Abstract

An elongate structural member which is cold formed from rolled steel and which is in the form of a purlin. The structural member has a C-shaped cross section composed of two spaced-apart parallel flanges (10), a web (11) joining one end of the respective flanges, a lip (15) located at the other end of each of the flanges, a lip return (13) projecting into the C-shaped cross section from the marginal edge of each of the lips (15), and at least one longitudinally extending channel-shaped recess (16 or 17) formed within the web (11) and projecting into the C-shaped cross section. The structural member is characterised in that both of the lips (15) project outwardly from the C-shaped section to form an obtuse angle θ with the respective flanges. In forming both of the lips so as to establish the obtuse angle θ between the lips and the associated flanges, the flexural-torsional buckling stress of the structural member is enhanced without substantially increasing the potential for local and distortional buckling.

