

Comparison of Structural Performance of Multi-Story Buildings Under Extreme Events

A report by Nestor Iwankiw of Hughes Associates and Larry Griffis of Walter P. Moore & Associates provides a unified structural engineering review and objective assessment of the structural performance of major multi-story building collapses in the United States due to the extreme exposures of blast, impact, and fire.

The report, "Comparison of Structural Performance of Multi-Story Buildings Under Extreme Events," focuses on the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center (WTC) towers in New York City; the 1995 bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City; the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center towers and collateral damage of surrounding buildings in New York City; and the Sep-

tember 11, 2001 attack on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C.

In addition, a historical survey on the performance of multi-story buildings under normal fires is presented for comparison to these extreme events.

"This document is important because it clarifies issues in an honest way and demonstrates that all materials are equally safe when designed properly and in accordance with today's building codes," according to Charles J. Carter, Chief Structural Engineer of the American Institute of Steel Construction.

Copies of the 60-page document can be downloaded by AISC members and ePubs subscribers at no charge by visiting www.aisc.org/epubs and clicking on "Other Resources." ★

11th International Symposium on Tubular Structures: Call for Papers

The Subcommittee for Welded Tubular Structures XV-E of the International Institute of Welding (IIW) has named the University of Toronto as host of its 11th International Symposium on Tubular Structures (ISTS 11). The Symposium will take place August 31 to September 2, 2006 in Québec City, Québec, Canada. The Symposium coincides with the 59th IIW Annual Assembly, August 27 to September 2, 2006, also to be held in Québec City.

Prospective authors are invited to submit abstracts of 300-400 words (in English) before July 4, 2005. Notification of provisional acceptance will occur by September 30, 2005. Proceedings of the Symposium will be published in a sin-

gle-volume, hard-bound book. All abstracts, papers and oral presentations are required to be in English. No simultaneous language translation will be provided.

Ten past International Symposia have been held in Boston, USA (1984), Tokyo, Japan (1986), Lappeenranta, Finland (1989), Delft, Netherlands (1991), Nottingham, U.K. (1993), Melbourne, Australia (1994), Miskolc, Hungary (1996), Singapore (1998), Düsseldorf, Germany (2001) and Madrid, Spain (2003).

For more preliminary registration or more information, please visit the 11th International Symposium on Tubular Structures web site: www.ists11.org. ★

AISC/MSC to Sponsor Ecobuild America and AEC-ST at Disney

AISC and *Modern Steel Construction* are pleased to announce their sponsorship of the Ecobuild America and AEC-ST Exhibitions and Conferences at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort and Convention Center in Orlando, FL, June 20-23, 2005.

Ecobuild America features green building products that serve the entire scope of designing, constructing, and operating buildings for better energy and environmental performance. AEC-ST addresses the information technology needs of the entire AEC team, and interoperability across all disciplines that exchange data throughout the lifecycle process.

Join us in Orlando for these events, including over 100 educational sessions. Maximize your visit by attending one of several co-located events, including the National Specifier Conference. Please visit www.ecobuildamerica.com and www.aecst.com for more information. For exhibit information, call 800.996.3863. ★

AISC Seminars: Coming to a City Near You!

In 2005, AISC will continue to offer its popular seminars *Fire, Blast, and Progressive Collapse, Field Fixes, and Bolting and Welding*, as well as two new seminars: *Steel Design After College* and *Seismic Braced Frames—Design Concepts and Connections*. As always, leading industry experts will serve as featured speakers for each of the seminars.

AISC will once again offer its successful "Bring a Buddy" program. Each paid registrant can bring one colleague for only \$100 more. And, all AISC continuing education seminars offer CEU credits!

The 2005 seminar schedule is available in the ad on page 10 of this magazine.

New in 2005 is the ability to register online and save \$5 off the registration fee. Visit www.aisc.org/seminars to register or to obtain more information. ★

2005 SEAOC Convention: Call for Papers

The Structural Engineers Association of California issues a Call for Papers to be presented at its 2005 annual convention, to be held at the Loews Coronado in San Diego, CA. The dates of the convention are Wednesday, September 28 through Saturday, October 1.

It is anticipated that the technical program will be composed of papers in the following areas:

- Practical Design
- Research/New Methods/New Applications
- Business

Interested parties should fax a brief (300 words or less) abstract of their paper before May 1, 2005 to Casey Whitsett, Technical Program Committee, 2005 SEAOC Convention, Hope Engineering, 1301 Third Avenue, Suite 300, San Diego, CA, 92101; fax: 619.235.4675. ★

Construction Tolerance Issues Discussed

Leaders of the steel, concrete, glass and cladding, flooring, and general contractor industries met in St. Louis, MO to discuss solutions to tolerance incompatibility conflicts at the Inter-Industry Working Group on Construction Tolerance Incompatibility Issues, February 17-18, 2005.

The event was organized and hosted by the American Society of Concrete Contractors and co-sponsored the American Institute of Steel Construction, the American Concrete Institute, Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute, and several other construction industry associations.

Speakers representing many factions of the construction industry addressed tolerance issues related to

their phases of the construction process.

Almost all emphasized that education and communication early in the design stages can effectively prevent tolerance incompatibility—and expensive fixes.

“Tolerances have to be coordinated every time, for every job like it’s the first time it’s been done,” said Charles Carter, AISC’s Chief Structural Engineer. “For concrete and steel to meet with success, it has to happen in the design phase, not in the construction phase.”

Inconsistencies between industry tolerance specifications were noted as problematic, as well. For instance, AISC tolerances for positioning of weld plates embedded in cast-in-place

concrete are $\pm 1/8$ ”, while the American Concrete Institute specifies ± 1 ”.

“We need to agree upon achievable tolerances,” said Bruce Suprenant, president of Concrete Engineering Specialists.

Attendees suggested inter-industry efforts to coordinate standards, as well as launching joint efforts to educate architects, general contractors, and other project team members through published articles and association partnerships.

“We need to join forces and say, it’s not our problem, it’s not your problem. It’s an issue, and it needs to be dealt with,” said Martin Murdoch of the Floor Covering Installation Contractors Association.

—by Lena Singer

Fabricators and Educators: Join AISC’s Adopt-A-School Program!

AISC’s Adopt-A-School Program began four years ago and has grown into a very successful program. The participation of steel fabricators with local universities introduces faculty and students to the steel industry, thus providing a mutually beneficial relationship. There are currently 137 universities “adopted” by 152 fabricators.

AISC’s University Relations Department has created an Adopt-A-School program booklet describing the activities that fabricators can initiate or participate in with their adopted university, such as plant tours, advising ASCE student chapters, participating with their university in the Student Steel Bridge Competitions, etc. These relationships have proven to be a valuable asset to students and fabricators alike.

Visit www.aisc.org and click on “Learning Opportunities” and then select “University Programs” to find lists of adopted universities and universities available for adoption.

For more information, contact Fromy Rosenberg, P.E., Director of University Relations, at rosenberg@aisc.org (312.670.5408) or contact Megan Maurer, University Relations Coordinator, at maurer@aisc.org (312.670.5418). ★

Got news? Send your news items for *Modern Steel Construction* to Keith Grubb (grubb@modernsteel.com) or Lena Singer (singer@modernsteel.com).

Structural Engineers’ Conference and Expo

The inaugural Structural Engineers’ Buildings Conference & Expo, sponsored by *Structural Engineer* magazine, is the first national event dedicated exclusively to helping structural engineers win and successfully complete projects involving the design and construction of buildings—from residential, multi-purpose, and commercial buildings, to institutional and industrial buildings.

The two-day expo, held December 1-2, 2005 at the Fairmont Hotel in Chicago, will bring together the entire structural engineering team to learn from the industry’s leading experts, as well as from their peers, in an educational, practical program emphasizing technical design and analysis, the latest array of codes, and project management skills.

For more information, contact Michael Scheibach, Ph.D., Conference Director, at 816.350.2049 or via e-mail at mscheibach@zweigwhite.com. Visit www.gostructural.com for more information. ★