



Seismology & Structural Standards Committee  
Structural Engineers Association of Northern California

Time: 5:30 – 7:00 pm  
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2008  
Location: *DeSimone Consulting Engineers*  
160 Sansome Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
and on Webex

## MEETING MINUTES

Chair: Nicolas Rodrigues  
Vice-Chair: Geoff Bomba  
Past-Chair: Andy Fennell

### In Attendance:

Nic Rodrigues (NR)	Nrodrigues@de-simone.com	415-398-5740
Geoff Bomba (GB)	geoff@forell.com	415-837-0700
Jasper Chau	Jchau@de-simone.com	415-398-5740
Chung-Soo Doo (CD)	Chung-soo.doo@som.com	415-352-3899
Brian Dean (BD)	bdean@walterpmoore.com	415-963-6300
Bryan Cortnik (BC)	bcortnik@hohbach-lewin.com	650-617-5930
Mohamed Talaat (MT)	mtalaat@sgh.com	415-495-3700
John Chen	jchen@de-simone.com	415-398-5740
Felipe Luevanos	Felipeluevanos@mplusl.com	415-315-3032
Lorraine Young	lyoung@de-simone.com	415-398-5740
Marguerite Bello (MB)	mbello@mabse.com	415-908-0555

### via Webex

Patxi Uriz (PU)	Gary Mochizuki (GM)	Badri Pasad (BP)
Mark Moore	Andy Fennell	Manual Rivas

## 1. Chairs Announcements:

- 1.1. NR announced that all five member organizations in California voted for the NEHRP Provisions.
- 1.2. NR recapped the new Blue Book articles from the State Meeting held on 8/8-8/9.

**2. Review Past Meeting Minutes**

- 2.1. Meeting minutes for July were reviewed and approved.

**3. BSSC Vote and Discussion-Conclusion**

- 3.1. NR summarized the NGA relations from Ramin Golesorkhi of Treadwell and Rollo on how the current method does not take an average of ground motions in two directions but instead take the maximum of two ground motions.
- 3.2. GB discussed whether the Vertical Response Spectrum should be used. Currently there is no clear method and enough background on how to generate the vertical response spectrum.
- 3.3. NR to send BSSC Commentary to the Seismology members.

**4. Discussion of Officer Positions**

- 4.1. Brian Dean was nominated and appointed the position of Treasurer of the Seismology Committee. Congratulations to Brian!

**5. Discussion of State Meeting Held 8/8-8/9**

- 5.1. Blue Book Articles (Concrete Collectors, Concrete Overview, and Braced Frames): In the Concrete Overview article, the strong column/weak beam from the 1999 SEAOC Blue Book is considered conservative and has been overhauled. ACI-08 code now removes the requirement to “basket” diagonal reinforcement in a diagonal link beam. Issues related to the application of the R-Factor for concrete walls were clarified. The Concrete Collectors article addresses that there is a lack of clarity as to how to use the omega factor for collector design for Section 12.1.2.1.
- 5.2. SEAOC Appendix D Anchor Bolt Testing: GM summarized the results from the Simpson lab where the experimental capacities were generally larger than the calculated capacities. Testing is to continue in the lab. The testing protocol should be released sometime next week. The next series of tests is to resume after the SEAOC Convention in October.
- 5.3. The new “Project 07” (Proposal SDPRG-1R4) addressing new ground motions for building codes was presented (by C. Kircher) since SEAOC and SEAONC will be asked to vote on a BSSC ballot item soon. NR summarized that while the science behind the next generation attenuations (NGA) generally reduce the expected seismic input at most locations, the proposed uniform risk method is calibrated such that the design values end up about the

same as current practice (within plus or minus 10%.) The new uniform risk model will utilize not the geo-mean, but instead, what is essentially, the geo-maximum. This may represent a significant change in philosophy since current practice attempts to obtain the mean response of a mean event while the proposed philosophy will ask us to design for the mean response of a maximum event. CD summarized that the uniform risk model essentially means that ground motion maps are adjusted to produce an equal average probability of collapse in all buildings. Member organization votes for the new ground motion procedure will be soon. NR will ask C. Kircher to present to the Northern California Seismology committee.

**6. Discussion of Subcommittee Charges and Budgets:**

- 6.1. General: NR needs charges from all sub-committees for September 9<sup>th</sup>.
- 6.2. Steel Sub-Committee: PU submitted last Blue Book Article. NR to send email to Seismology for Steel Sub-committee monthly involvement.
- 6.3. Wood Subcommittee: GM summarized future tests on a 6 story wood frame building with NEES wood to be done in Japan of next year. GM mentioned the SAPWood program which is used for nonlinear analysis of the wood shearwalls. NR and GB both recommend Helmut Krawinkler for advice on this research project.
- 6.4. Concrete Sub-Committee: BP is looking for more member involvement in Concrete Sub-Committee. NR, BC, and MT showed interest for involvement in the sub-committee.

**7. New Business/Open Discussion/Next Meeting**

- 7.1. GM to present a paper on the History of the Blue Book at Beijing. GM is looking for photos from past major earthquakes for use on his presentation.
- 7.2. MB to follow-up on the previously researched Garage Door Project by providing an article to the SEAONC newsletter summarizing the “Lock Up Door Device” which essentially allows the garage door of a house to act as a shear wall.
- 7.3. No meeting in September due to the SEAOC Convention. Next meeting to be held on October 28th.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nicolas Rodrigues  
Chair 2008-2009