



Structural Engineers Association of
Southern California
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SEAOSC

Founded in 1928

Vol. 14 Nov. 2004

NEWS

President's Message

Thanksgiving is a traditional American holiday where families all over the United States sit for dinner at the same time – Halftime. I



got a chuckle out of this statement, probably because it is so true. Eating and watching football are two of my favorite activities.

Thanksgiving is a good time of year to reflect on all of our blessings. We are fortunate to have so

many dedicated members in our Association that volunteer their time and efforts for the advancement of the profession. We are lucky to have the outstanding support we receive from our executive director, Don Gilbert.

And, we are extremely fortunate that here in the United States we hold elections in an environment free from harassment or threats of any kind. A luxury we see other parts of the world do not

(Continued on Page 4)

PD&D Seminars Nov. 3 & 10

The following Practical Design & Detailing (PD&D) Seminar and Dinner Meeting will be held Nov. 3 in Monterey Park: *Comparison Between the NDS 2001 & 1997 Editions* by David Tyree, Southwest Region Representative of the American Forest & Paper Association; *Wood Connections* by Jeff Ellis, S.E. of Simpson Strong-Tie Co. (Because Simpson Strong-Tie Co. is a big player in the wood connection industry, they are at the forefront of dealing with any NDS changes that affect connections. Jeff will speak on how to accommodate applicable wood-related national and regional code differences for allowable forces, stresses and attachment methodologies that apply to connections.)

(Continued on Page 3)

L.A. Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 3

Program: Part 3 of PDD: Structural Observation for Wood
Speaker: John Coil, S.E., John Coil & Assoc.

Location: Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park

Time: 5 p.m. Social Hour
6 p.m. Dinner
7 p.m. Program

Menu: Beef. (Vegetarian available if requested by Noon, Nov. 1.)

Cost: \$30 (Full-time students \$15)

(See blue insert for reservation form and details.)

Tri-Counties Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 10

Program: Part 3 of PDD: Design to Anchors/Support Nonstructural Elements in Buildings

Speaker: John Silva, S.E.

Location: Big Yellow House Restaurant, Summerland

Time: Social hour: 5 p.m.
Dinner: 6 p.m.
Program: 7 p.m.

Menu: Menu choice.

Cost: \$30 (Full-time students \$15)

(See green insert for reservation form and details.)

November & December Calendars

NOVEMBER

2	10 a.m.	Research Committee Meeting	SEAOSC Offices, Whittier
3	Noon	SEAOSC Board Meeting	Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park
	3:30 p.m.	L.A. PD&D Seminar	Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park
	5 p.m.	L.A. Dinner Meeting	Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park
9	2 p.m.	Quality Assurance Committee	SEAOSC Offices, Whittier
	4 p.m.	Existing Buildings Committee	SEAOSC Offices, Whittier
24	Noon	January Newsletter Deadline	

December

1	Noon	SEAOSC Board Meeting	Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park
	3:30 p.m.	L.A. PD&D Seminar	Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park
	5 p.m.	L.A. Dinner Meeting	Luminarias Restaurant, Monterey Park
8	3:30 p.m.	Orange County PD&D Seminar	Costa Mesa Country Club
	5 p.m.	O. C. Dinner Meeting	Costa Mesa Country Club
22	Noon	February Newsletter Deadline	

New Members



SEAOSC welcomes its newest members:

Ricardo Acosta, *Associate*, City of L.A., Engineering

Dorit Kahen, *Associate*, Brandow & Johnston Associates.

SEAOSC Co-Sponsors ACI/PCA Seminar

SEAOSC is pleased to co-sponsor with the American Concrete Institute (ACI) and Portland Cement Association (PCA) a seminar: *Simplified Design of Concrete Buildings of Moderate Size and Height* Dec. 15, 2004, at Four Points Sheraton, Fullerton/Anaheim, 1500 S. Raymond Ave., Fullerton. Members of SEAOSC may enroll at the ACI member price by printing SEAOSC after their name on the registration form. For each SEAOSC member attending, SEAOSC will

receive \$10. The following publications valued at \$143 will be distributed at the seminar: ACI IPS-1(02) *Essential Requirements for Reinforced Concrete Buildings*; PCA EB104 *Simplified Design of Reinforced Concrete Buildings of Moderate Size and Height*; as well as seminar notes authored by PCA. Please refer to the registration flyer insert or call Joyce Jackson, ACI, at (248) 848-3707 for more information.

Nov. 3 & 10 SEAOSC PDD Seminars (Continued From Page 1)

The third topic, *Structural Observation for Wood* by John Coil, S.E. of John Coil & Associates will be presented after dinner. (John will review structural observation in general, with emphasis on wood construction, from the post-Northridge earthquake period to the present and beyond. There is likely to be handouts noting observations of key elements, as well as, enlisting audience discussion about how various engineering firms implement structural observation.) This seminar will be repeated April 13, 2005 in Orange County and May 11, 2005 for the Tri-Counties' Chapter.

The following Practical Design & Detailing (PD&D) Seminar and Dinner Meeting will be held Nov. 10 in Summerland, CA for the Tri-Counties Chapter: *Metal Building Systems* by Jim Miller, S.E. (includes presentation of general information, terminology, structural design, performance specification, structural coordination, common structural issues and recommendations related to manufactured metal buildings. The goal is to provide practicing engineers and building officials with useful guidelines for projects involving metal

buildings); *Non-building Structures* by Rick Drake, S.E. (Includes examples of non-building structures, explains code provisions for seismic design and application of code provisions to different situations, including design examples. An explanation of the recent past, on-going and future code discussion relative to non-building structures is provided.)

The third presentation, *Evolving Design Rules for Post-Installed Anchors* by John Silva, S.E. will be presented after dinner. (Includes new strength design procedures that incorporate rational design models and a clear differentiation between modes of failure have been formulated by ACI, based on contemporary testing. This along with the transformation of Evaluation Services under the new ICC and emergence of new anchor systems focuses attention on understanding the nature of the anchorage problem. This presentation attempts to distill the fundamental elements of the problem as well as current and future rules governing design for seismic applications.)

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

share. This month we will elect a president along with other political officials. Here in California, we have several important ballot measures to consider as well.

Will Rogers once said, "I'm not a member of any organized political party, I'm a democrat." The good news, or bad news depending upon your political persuasion, is that the Democrats are now very organized. So are the Republicans.

Some members of SEAOSC have told me that we should not be politically active. They say that we should be a non-political, technical association. I could not disagree more. Decisions that are being made by our elected officials today will have a dramatic affect us.

For example, the Governor is considering abolishing the Building Standards Commission, the appointed body that determines the building codes we use, and the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, the body that licenses us. I am not necessarily opposed to these changes, but I feel we need to have a voice in the decisions that are being made.

To be effective, we need to know the various State and local officials, and more importantly, they need to know us.

That's why I'm glad that Richard Hess has agreed to be the chair of our Legislative Committee. Richard will keep us informed on proposed critical legislation. And he will inform us on how we can be more effective when attempting to influence decisions made by our elected officials.

In addition to our efforts in the political arena, we need to become better known to the public at large. The best way to do this is through the media. If you ask a reporter "who would you call for information on building damage after an earthquake?" they would probably say an architect or a building official. Obviously, the press should be calling on structural engineers for this information. That's the charge of the SEAOSC Media Relations Committee. They will be trying to bring awareness to the public on the role of the structural engineer in building design. There will be more on this committee in the near future.



Have a happy thanksgiving and I hope to see you at the dinner meetings.

Larry Brugger

President

Existing Buildings Committee Update

OCTOBER 2004

The Existing Buildings Committee continues to be very active working on codes, code commentary and guidelines regarding existing buildings. Our local focus for the coming year will include:

- Support and shepherding code change proposals through NCSEA and ICC
- Assistance to cities in the L.A. Basin in updating and modifying existing building codes
- Review of methodologies for analysis of existing buildings (FEMA 356, International Existing Buildings Code (IEBC) Appendix Chapter 5, Guidelines for Seismic Retrofit of Existing Buildings (GSREB) Chapter 5, ATC-40, etc.)
- Work toward development of design examples for the GSREB chapters

Our statewide focus for the coming year will include:

- Comparison Studies for Concrete Frame Buildings with or without Masonry Infill. These studies would include development of example analyses and comparisons between different methodologies as well as between different computer programs.
- Review and Comments for the IEBC Commentary being prepared by ICC

These efforts will require much work and participation by our local members and we would encourage participation and input in these efforts. We would especially encourage the participation of engineers and code officials who have been working on voluntary retrofits of buildings covered in these codes and documents.

Although we will hold monthly meetings at the SEAOSC office in Whittier (the second Tuesday of each month) much of our work will likely be done through emailing of documents and discussions. We believe that this provides an easier way to review documents and transmit comments on our members own schedules rather than at a fixed meeting location and time. We hope that this will lead to broader participation from the structural engineering community in Southern California.

We will be updating our membership list soon to remove engineers that are no longer interested in participating in our committee as well as adding members that would like to participate in our work. If you are interested in joining our committee please email David Pomerleau at: dpomerleau@fwcse.com. You will then be placed on our emailing list and will then begin to receive documents and a rough guide for providing comments and rationale for those comments.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated!



David Pomerleau

Co-Chair, SEAOSC Existing Buildings Committee

SEAOC Convention Celebrates 75th Anniversary; Recognizes Members and Excellence in Engineering

At the recently completed Annual Convention and Exhibit in Monterey, California, the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC) celebrated its 75th year of continuous operation, inducted six association members into the prestigious SEAOC College of Fellows, and recognized 15 firms for creative achievement and innovation in structural engineering design through its 6th annual Competition for Engineering Excellence Awards.

Mixed in with a heavy dose of daily educational technical sessions was a special presentation celebrating SEAOC's 75th anniversary as an organization depicting landmark events and activities over the decades.

As part of a luncheon program, six SEAOC members were honored with SEAOC's highest form of rec-

ognition for outstanding contributions to the profession and the organization -

induction into the SEAOC College of Fellows. The inductees were: Robert Hendershot, San Diego; James "Jim" Roberts, Sacramento; Ronald "Rawn" Nelson, Hermosa Beach; John Shipp, Santa Ana; Maryann Phipps, El Cerrito, and Anil Chopra, Berkeley.

A highlight of the convention program was the announcement of the winners of the Excellence in Engineering Awards Competition. Fifteen firms out of over thirty entries were selected by a team of structural engineer judges as projects demonstrating exceptional innovation and creativity in finding economic solutions to complex engineering problems. The award winners by category were:

Best Use of New Technology in New Construction

Excellence in Engineering:

Charles Pankow Builders, Ltd—The Paramount, 680 Mission Street, San Francisco

Certificate of Merit:

John A. Martin & Associates—Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles

Best Use of New Technology in Retrofit/Alteration

Excellence in Engineering:

Saiful/Bouquet, Inc.—8920 Wilshire Seismic Retrofit, Los Angeles

Certificate of Merit:

Miyamoto International—Adaptive Reuse of the Hotel Stockton

Best Use of Conventional Technologies in New Construction

Excellence in Engineering:

ARUP—Mondavi Center for Performing Arts, UC, Davis

(Continued on Page 7)

SEAOC Convention Celebrates 75th Anniversary; Recognizes Members and Excellence in Engineering

Certificate of Merit:

DASSE Design—Sharon Heights Golf & Country Club New Clubhouse & Swim Center

Best Use of Conventional Technologies in a Building Retrofit

Excellence in Engineering:

Integrated Design Services—Liberal Arts Building, Cerritos Community College

Certificate of Merit:

Tennebaum – Manheim—Golden Gate Park Conservatory of Flowers, San Francisco

Best Historic Preservation

Excellence in Engineering:

Nabih Youssef & Associates—Los Angeles City Hall Historic and Seismic Preservation

Certificate of Merit:

Saiful/Bouquet, Inc.—University of southern California North Science Renovation

Landmark Structures

Excellence in Engineering:

John A. Martin & Associates—Walt Disney Concert Hall, Los Angeles

Certificate of Merit:

Thornton-Tomasetti Engineers—PETCO Park, San Diego

Special Use Structures

Excellence in Engineering:

CH2M Hill—Seismic Protection of East Bay Municipal Utility District Mokelumne No. 3 Aqueduct

Certificate of Merit:

Risha Engineering Group—The Terminal, Hollywood Movie Set

Study/Research/Guidelines

Excellence in Engineering:

Buehler & Buehler—Sacramento Municipal Utility District Station A Retrofit Study

Certificate of Merit:

None Awarded

SEAOSC

BUILDING CODE COMMITTEE

BUILDING CODE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

The following questions on building code requirements were submitted to the SEAOSC Building Code Committee by members of the association. If you have a question you may submit it in writing to Warren Minner by fax 661-324-3416 or e-mail wminner@mksaengineering.com or to Carl Sramek by fax 562-597-5756 or e-mail sramekca@aol.com.

The answers provided here are for information only. Only the building department with jurisdiction over your construction work has the legal authority to interpret codes.

1. Question: Allowable Lateral Load Diaphragm Shear for 2x6 T&G straight sheathing

The building code does not specify an allowable lateral load diaphragm shear value for straight 2x6 T&G sheathing. Is there an accepted value for this item?

Answer: Years ago (in the 1950's), the Los Angeles city code allowed a lateral load shear of about 30 lb/ft if 2-16d common nails were used at each bearing of each 2 x 6. This was based on a shear determined by the nail couple value of the 2-16d nails. You also may toe nail the adjacent boards together with 6d nails and add this to the allowable shear. Another method is to overlay the straight sheathing with a nailed plywood roof sheathing.

Consult your building official for what he will accept for an allowable diaphragm shear.

2. Question: Masonry Fireplaces

Does the building code still allow and specify requirements for residential masonry fireplaces?

Answer: Yes. The requirements are given in UBC, Chapter 31, Section 3102, Pages 1-289 thru 1-291. The minimum reinforcement is 4 - #4 full height vertical rebar and the fireplace shall be anchored to each floor, ceiling and roof line for lateral loads.

Masonry fireplaces are not used that much anymore because approved factory built metal fireplaces and chimneys are more economical. Also, gas fired logs are recommended over wood burning units because they produce less air pollution.

It should be mentioned the many building departments in Southern California have adopted an amendment to Chapter 31 that requires a structural design of masonry or concrete chimneys and their lateral support elements. This includes the cities of Los Angeles, Glendale, etc. Check with your local building official for their requirements.

3. Question: Sawn Lumber Allowable Shear Stress

The allowable shear stress parallel to grain, F_v , given in Table 4A of the 1991 (1997 UBC) National Design Specification for Douglas Fir- Larch Structural Lumber is 95 psi. But a value as high as 190 psi can be used under certain conditions. What are these conditions?

Answer: The tabular value given in Table 4A is for structural lumber that has splits, checks or shakes in its cross section parallel to the grain. If these defects are minor or are not present, the allowable shear stress may be increased up to a maximum value of twice the table value. See Table 4A- Adjustment Factors, Shear Stress Factor, C_H , for further details.

Note that in the 2001 edition of the National Design specification, the adjustment factor has been eliminated and a shear value of 180 psi is used for all visually graded Douglas Fir-Larch dimension lumber with or without splits, checks or shakes. The reason is the American Forrest and Paper Association found the stress reduction for splits, checks and shakes had been accidentally applied twice. They removed one reduction and the adjustment factors. This change has not yet been adopted for the 1997 UBC.

4. Question: Concrete Rebar Grade Specification

Some engineers specify ASTM A615 Grade 40 for #3 & #4 rebar and Grade 60 for larger bars. Should they revise their specification to Grade 60 for all rebar because of availability problems?

Answer: The reason for Grade 40 use in the smaller sizes is this rebar is more ductile than Grade 60 and thus better for use as ties and stirrups in confined concrete. Unfortunately, this grade is difficult to obtain. Also, specifying two rebar grades complicates the job of the rebar fabricator. Most engineers specify only Grade 60. This includes Caltrans for their bridge rebar. They consider Grade 60, although less ductile, adequate in ductility for ties and stirrups. I would suggest you consider revision of your specification.

5. Question: Wood Wind / Earthquake Design Stress Increase

The National Design Specification, Table 2.3.2, for Structural Lumber allows the use of a 60% stress increase over the specified normal design stresses in Table 4 for occupancy live load when subjected to wind or earthquake forces. The UBC allowable increase, per Section 2316, is 33%. Why the difference?

Answer: The reason for the stress increase is that wood can withstand short term loading at substantially higher stresses than long term loading. Also, safety factors for extreme and unlikely loading conditions are customarily reduced.

The UBC 33% increase is for all materials (wood, concrete, steel, etc.) and therefore standardizes and simplifies the lateral load design procedure. Most engineers feel the 33% increase is about right and been proven acceptable over the many years it has been used. Others feel test results justify the 60% increase for wood (except shear walls). In Europe, Euro code 3 does not allow a 33% decrease in the safety factor for wind / earthquake design.

The reason for the difference is that design safety factors are different in different codes. It is unlikely the UBC 33% increase will be revised upward for wood but this may change when the International Building Code (IBC) is adopted.

6. Question: Corrosion Protected Fasteners For Treated Wood

Pressure-preservative-treated and fire retardant treated wood can be highly corrosive to metal fasteners (i.e. nails, bolts, etc). The UBC code specifies that fasteners be hot-dipped galvanized, stainless steel, silicon bronze or copper. An exception are fasteners used above grade and not exposed to weather. Why are these provisions in the code?

Answer: Some chemicals used in treated wood are highly corrosive and can reduce the effectiveness of anchor bolts, nails, holdowns, etc., used in wood frame construction. Because of this, the treated wood industry has recommended the use of corrosion resistant fasteners for many years. The exception is based on the fact that corrosion is not considered a problem if the fasteners are not exposed to moisture. See Sections 2304.3 of the 1997 UBC and 2311.1 of the 1994 UBC.

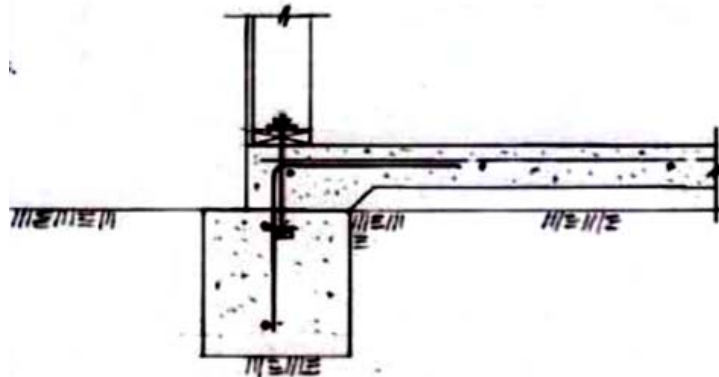
One problem is that this provision in the code is often not enforced. The framing contractors do not want to change fasteners during construction. The usual assumption is that the fasteners fall under the exception and will not be exposed to moisture. This hopefully will be the case and the design of the structure should take this into account.

The Western Wood Preservers Institute recommends the use of corrosion resistant fasteners (hot dip galvanized, stainless steel, copper flashing, etc.) irregardless of the presence of moisture or not.

7. Question: Wood Sill Plate Anchorage

UBC Section 1806.6 (Foundations-Footings) required wood sill plates in Zone 4 be bolted to concrete foundations with 5/8" dia. anchor bolts embedded at least 7" into the concrete. In a two-pour slab to footing system, can the embedment in the slab be counted as part of the required 7"?

Answer: Yes, as long as the slab is properly dowelled to the footing to provide full uplift resistance for the anchor bolt. This minimum embedment requirement has been in the code for over 40 years. Its purpose is to provide both uplift resistance as well as maximum lateral load horizontal shear resistance.



New Committee Holds 1st Meeting



Attending the first meeting of the SEAOC Quality Assurance/Quality Control Committee Sept. 11 at the LAX Sheraton are, from left, Dave Breiholz and Herb Stockinger (SEAOSC), Chair Art Dell (SEAONC), Coordinator Allan Porush (SEAOSC), Mark Gilligan (SEAONC), and David Wilson (SEAOSD). Also in attendance was Cecil Teoh, who took this photo.



Thank You Contributors!

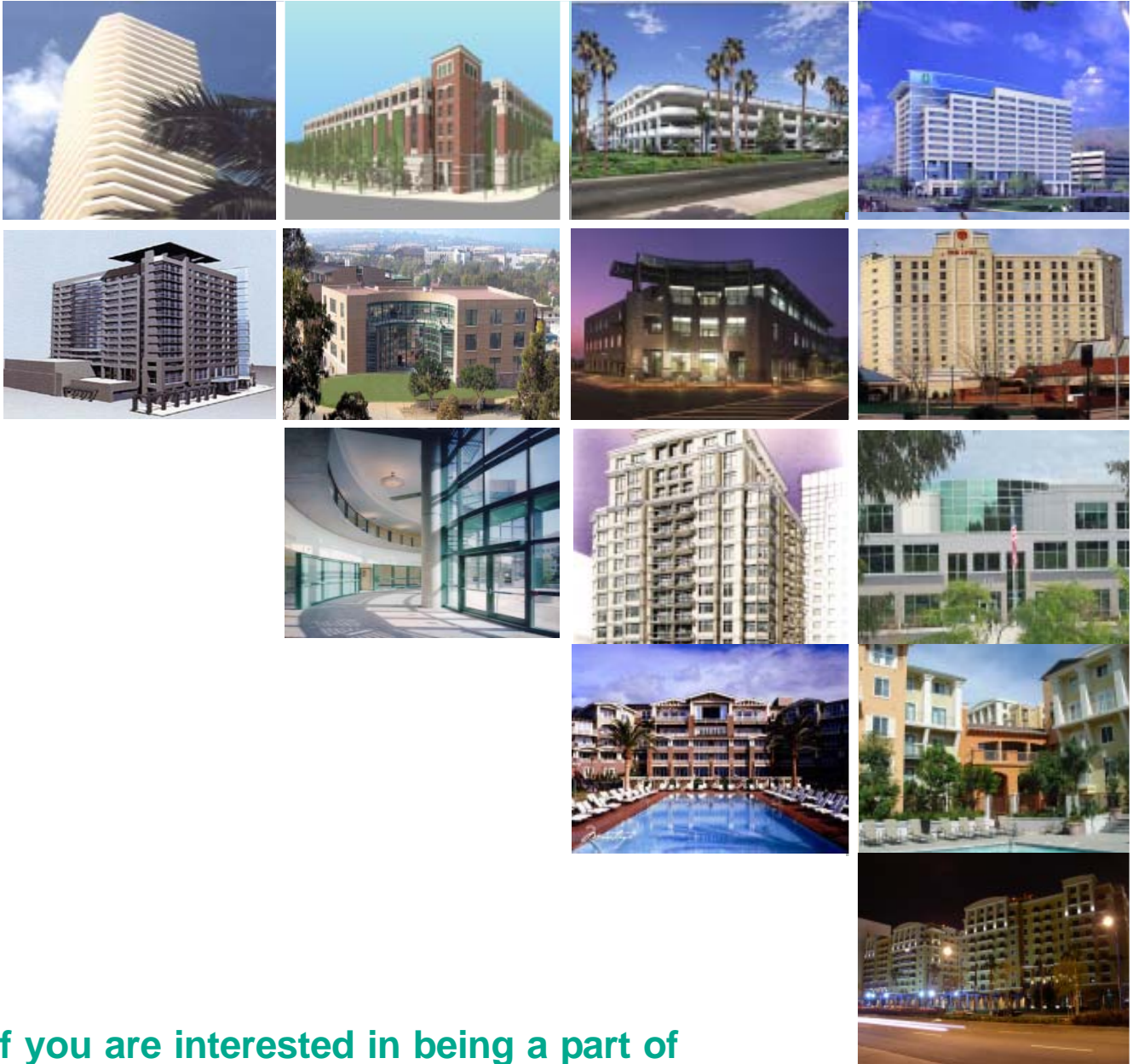
Geoffrey Hichborn, Platinum
Nasser Motavvef, Bronze

Refer to www.seaint.org

Do you have callers and clients in need of structural engineer referrals?

Members, please use SEAOSC's website as shown above to channel referral inquiries. All SEAOSC referrals are made via this website. The Referral tab is in the upper left corner of the webpage.

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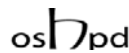
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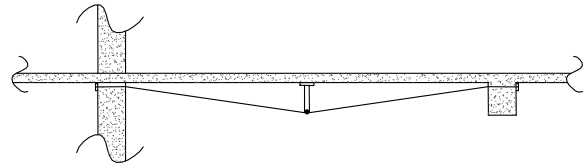
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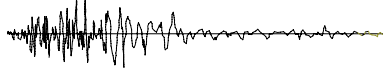
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Get involved! Members and interested parties are invited to join a SEAOSC committee. Contact the chairperson for information on current projects and meeting times, dates and locations.

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& Board Members

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