Woodframe Project Solicits Your Comments for Planning and Publication

The CUREe/Caltech Woodframe Project seeks to collect a wide variety of comments dealing with important aspects of earthquakes and wood buildings. Individuals, companies, and organizations can use this opportunity to express their viewpoints. Of particular interest are experiences and opinions about deficiencies in the status quo. The CUREe-Caltech Woodframe Project Committee will utilize the information in its planning process and will publish a compilation of the comments during 1999.

Contributions that promote particular proprietary products or services will be circulated for review among the Project Committee but will not be published. Detailed descriptions of earthquake damage of actual buildings should not be submitted at this time, because these will be the subject of a future solicitation (RFP).

Potential topics include but are not limited to:

**Testing and Analysis**
- Testing protocols and methods (standardization, appropriate loading protocols for different purposes, test set-ups, instrumentation)
- Types of tests needed (by component or type of data)
- What current analytical methods are best and what is needed?
- Other ongoing research programs (facilities, goals, accomplishments)

**Field Investigations**
- Conversion of observed damage into loss measures (repair cost, casualties, disruption) or performance levels (distinction between safety and other goals)
- Construction quality and its importance relative to adequacy of design and code provisions
- Sources of statistical information or ways to obtain it
- Differences among small residential (houses, duplexes), large residential (apartments, condominiums), and other woodframe construction (schools or commercial)

**DON’T MISS YOUR OPPORTUNITY...**

Please send your contribution by May 3, 1999 to the Project Manager of the CUREe-Caltech Woodframe Project:

Prof. John F. Hall  
Mail Code 104-44  
Caltech  
Pasadena CA 91125

For correspondence and submission by e-mail, use johnhall@its.caltech.edu.

Diskette, e-mail or paper submittals are acceptable. Contributions exceeding 8 pages should receive prior consent. Illustrations and photographs may also be included.

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Comments Solicited, continued

Building Codes and Standards
• Needed code changes
• Role of inspection
• Appropriateness of conventional vs. engineered construction
• The needs of California vs. other states
• Design philosophy underlying codes: Can a rational basis be developed for wood in terms of an intended sequence of damage/inelasticity with consideration of dynamic properties?
• Practical issues in improving and adopting codes
• Integrating materials standards and building code engineering provisions

Economic Aspects
• Insurance needs: pre-earthquake ratings, post-earthquake repair

Housing Impacts
• Real estate issues (e.g. disclosure)
• Cost implications of exceeding minimum code requirements in order to enhance earthquake performance
• Loss of housing units after earthquakes

Education and Outreach
• Needs of specific audiences (engineers, architects, building officials, builders, general public)
• Methods and media which are most effective
• Topics that should be covered (new design vs. retrofit vs. post-earthquake repair; conventional vs. engineered; residential vs. non-residential)

The CUREe/Caltech Woodframe Project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency through the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services to develop reliable and economical ways to improve the earthquake performance of woodframe construction. Issue #1 of this Woodframe Project Newsletter contained an overall description of the project. (See page 4 to request a copy).
Calendar of Related Upcoming Events


BOCA/ICBO/SBCCI Codes Forum Conference (the first ever joint meeting of all three major building code organizations), September 12-17, 1999, St. Louis, MO. See http://www.icbo.org/


Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC) SEAOC Annual Convention, September 30–October 3, 1999, Santa Barbara, CA. See http://www.seaint.org/

Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) October 14, 1999 – 10 Years After Loma Prieta. See http://abag.ca.gov/

Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) 1999 IBHS Sixth Annual Congress on Natural Hazard Loss Reduction, Fall 1999 - Location T.B.A. See http://www.ibhs.org/
CUREe-Caltech Woodframe Project Mailing List

If you would like to be added to the CUREe-Caltech mailing list to receive future copies of this Newsletter and notification of Requests for Proposals or other announcements as they become available, please mail or fax us the form below. CUREe members are already included on that distribution list and do not need to send in this form.

name: ____________________________________________________________
address: __________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
fax: ______________________________________________________________
e-mail: __________________________________________________________

Please send me a copy of Issue #1 of the Woodframe Project Newsletter

Fax or mail to: California Universities for Research in Earthquake Engineering (CUREe)
               fax: 510-231-5664;
               mail: 1301 S. 46th Street, Richmond, CA 94804-4698