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Monthly Seminar

SEISMIC RISK MANAGEMENT OF NON STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS – AN OVERVIEW OF CSA S832-14

Date: December 4, 2014
Venue: Room C300, UBC Robson Square, 800 Robson Street, Vancouver
Time: Refreshments 6:00pm, Presentation 6:30pm
Presenter: Prof. Ghyslaine McClure; Eng., Ph.D. & Chair of CSA S832 Technical Committee
Cost: Free for SEABC Members and \$75 for non-members
Registration is required: www.seabc.ca/BuildingComponents

Current structural design codes have stringent earthquake-resistant design requirements aimed at protecting life safety in the event of strong “design level” earthquakes. The structural frameworks of post-1990 buildings are deemed to be well protected. Although seismic design requirements for operational and functional components (OFCs) of buildings have been appearing in our National Building Code for several decades, experience indicates they have not been strictly enforced in practice until recent years, even in buildings with post-critical occupancy. Recent strong earthquakes have confirmed that seismic deficiencies in these components have costly consequences, in terms of direct and indirect financial losses, serious injuries, and loss of life.

CSA S832, the national standard on this topic introduced in 2006 (first Guideline in 2001), has been significantly revised this year’s 2014 edition. It provides a simple methodology to assess the seismic risk of OFCs in buildings - existing and new.

Prof. McClure’s presentation will highlight the need for seismic protection of OFCs. She will present an overview of the latest 2014 standard and display results of its application to Montreal public facilities. The talk will also clarify and discuss:

- The scope of CSA S832-14 beyond NBCC 4.1.8.18
- Why engineers should look into CSA S832 and not just depend on NBCC 4.1.8.18
- Future role of the CSA S832 standard

If you are referencing the CSA S832 in your designs ... then you are urged to attend this December 4th evening seminar.

Professor Ghyslaine McClure; Eng., Ph.D

Ghyslaine McClure is Professor at McGill University in the Department of Civil Engineering and Applied Mechanics and the Associate Provost (Budget and Resources). She is an alumna from Polytechnique Montreal (B.Eng. 1980 and Ph.D. 1989) and MIT (S.M. 1984). Prior to joining McGill in 1991, she practiced transmission line structure and mechanical engineering for 5 years. Her expertise is in the field of computational mechanics and structural dynamics.

Since 1999, Prof. McClure has been particularly interested in the post-earthquake functionality of buildings. She has collaborated with the Centre of Civil Safety at the City of Montreal, the former Montreal Health Agency, several hospitals and the Quebec Ministry of Education on the assessment of public buildings. She is Chair of the CSA-S832-14 technical committee on Seismic Risk Reduction of Operational and Functional Component in buildings.

