

SEI/ASCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TALL BUILDINGS  
2002 Structures Congress, Denver, Colorado  
Annual Meeting, Saturday, April 6, 6:30 pm  
City Center Marriott Hotel

1. Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m.

2. Introduction of members and visitors.

The following people were in attendance: Ahsan Kareem, Ali Memori, Chris Letchford, Roy Denoon, Daryl Boggs, Robert McNamara, Jack Cermak, Ahmed Abdulrazak, B. Bienkiewicz, Morteza Torkamane, Leighton Cochran, Elizabeth English, and Neil Wexler.

3. Approval of Minutes from meeting during 2001 Structures Congress in Washington, DC.

The minutes were approved with amendments made to persons in attendance and under item 6: "...Package 7 of Kowloon Station..."

4. Discussion of Tall Buildings role in 2002 Structures Congress.

Tall buildings dominated with numerous sessions including, "Ask the Experts... Perception of Motion Criteria for Tall Building Subjected to Wind: A Panel Discussion", "Monitoring the Dynamic Response of Tall Buildings Using GPS", "Advanced in the Analysis of Tall Buildings", etc.

5. Report to ASCE.

Ahsan Kareem sent an email to ASCE explaining that the Tall Buildings Committee should have been contacted regarding post 9/11 activities and the resulting committee formation. He was concerned that Tall Buildings wasn't even informed.

6. Proposed Sessions for 2003 Structures Congress in Seattle, WA.

Ahsan Kareem: "Robustness and Redundancy in Tall Building Design." SOM had a paper on this topic in Philadelphia. Bob McNamara feels we should wait until the smoke clears from WTC collapse. He also feels that we don't need to advocate robustness and redundancy. Ahmed Abdulrazak noted that stability issues are not adequately addressed in guidelines and codes, especially where core columns and link beams are concerned. Finally, Roy Denoon stated that the resulting debate in the meeting demonstrated the need for such a session at the 2003 Structures Congress.

## 7. Tall Buildings in Wake of 9/11.

Ahsan Kareem suggested a session on this topic. What is the future of tall buildings? A session could be used for discussion and to raise awareness. It could also help the public to see that we should not be afraid of tall buildings and clear up various misconceptions. We should try to coordinate with the FEMA group so that we don't go in a different direction than their report. The ultimate goal would be to reassure the public that high rises are safe and that WTC was a freak accident.

Ahmed Abdulrazak stated that tall buildings are more robust than smaller buildings.

What can be done to retrofit and enhance robustness and redundancy of existing structures in the wake of 9/11?

Bob McNamara said that the FEMA report is downplaying the temperature effects including intensity and duration. The report addresses connections and increasing the capacity of connections has been suggested. We need to avoid making recommendations.

Ottawa is having a specialty conference and V. Kodor may want us to organize a session there.

It was suggested that the title for the proposed session for 2003 Structures Congress in Seattle be called, "Robustness and Redundancy in Tall Buildings versus Improved Systems, Overall."

Ahsan Kareem: "Monitoring Full-Scale Response of Tall Buildings."  
Ahmed suggested trying to get owners to instrument new buildings as has been done in Korea, but Ahsan argued that not all building owners are as responsive.

## 8. Proposed Sessions for 2004 Structures Congress in Nashville, TN.

"Health Monitoring of Full-Scale Buildings." We should promote monitoring on our important structures in the United States. We should encourage instrumentation in the design stage. The session could increase visibility and get owners on board. These practices are prevalent in Japan, Hong Kong, Korea, Australia, etc.

"The Dichotomy of Wind and Earthquake Design." Proposed previously, can we make it happen now?

"Analysis, Design, and Construction of Tall Buildings." Has been a popular subject at previous conferences, stimulates interest. Limit number of presenters to 2 or 3 maximum from those doing tall buildings right now.

"Ask the Experts..." Follow up session to 2002 Structures Congress panel discussion concerning motion perception in tall buildings due to wind. Perhaps expand to include damping and other issues.

Jack Cermak proposed a possible session on mega-frame systems and linked building complexes.

9. Any issues concerning Tall Buildings in other committee meetings?

Wind Effects – damping systems, perception issues

Aero Effects – icing on buildings can be a problem

Aesthetics – International Perspectives on Wind Engineering. No plans in Nashville for tall buildings.

10. ICWE June 2-5, 2003 in Lubbock, Texas. Call for abstracts this summer. Deadline is end of the year.

11. Next Tall Buildings Committee meeting in Seattle during Structures Congress and Exposition. Meet on Saturday during last time slot (~5:30p.m.)

12. Meeting adjourned.