

SEI/ASCE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON TALL BUILDINGS

2003 Structures Congress, Seattle, WA
Annual Meeting, Saturday, May 31, 2003, 7:00 pm
The Westin, Seattle

Attendees: Jon Galworthy, Brian Breukelman, Trevor Haskett, Chris Letchford, Bob McNamara, William McLaurine, Yukio Tamura, James Cohen, Jack Cermak, Finley Charney, Tracy Kijewski-Correa, Ahsan Kareem, Elizabeth English, Peter Irwin, Ali Memari, Ed Alsamsam, Joe Burns.

1. Meeting called to order 7:08 pm
2. Introduction of members and visitors.
3. Approval of minutes from meeting during 2002 Structures Congress in Denver, CO
4. Structures Congress 2004, Nashville: Abstract was submitted for panel discussion "Redundancy and Robustness in the Design of Structural Systems: A Panel Discussion" at Structures Congress 2004 at Nashville. Panel would consist of designers from leading firms. Session has tentatively been added to program. Participants may include SOM, Arup HK, LERA, TT, CBM and possibly a Japanese firm to be identified by Y. Tamura. Facilitators A. Kareem and R. McNamara.

OTHER RELATED SESSIONS IN NASHVILLE: There will be a session in Nashville on international perspectives on wind codes and standards.

5. Perception Expert Panel website announced housing the minutes of Denver Congress. Link provided at: www.nd.edu/~nathaz
6. Jim Rossburg, director SEI has made recommendation that this committee serve as a liaison to Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat. Committee head is ex-officio member of CTBUH.
7. Oct. 1, 2003 is deadline for session requests for NY Structures Congress 2005. Should propose sessions for submission at that congress:
 - "Dichotomy of Wind and Earthquake Engineering Design" Charney and McNamara to organize.
 - "Analysis, Design and Construction of Tall Buildings" (e.g. Taipei 101, Shanghai World Financial and other domestic projects.) Suggested paper on evolution of design comparing Empire Design to modern day analysis and design techniques. Irwin and McNamara to organize.

- Session (to be named at a later date) co-sponsored by aesthetics and this committee on the proposed WTC rebuilding project. To be coordinated by Elizabeth English.

All organizers should have session proposal (1 pg min) and participants list with 1 pg abstracts for each paper by Oct. 1, 2003. ASCE/SEI will be contacted by Kareem to confirm the deadlines.

Suggested co-sponsored future session between this committee and Wind Effects committee.

8. Damping report has been submitted to Nick Jones, head of Dynamic Effects Committee
9. Public interest in what is being done and what is the status of tall buildings in the wake 9/11 and what is changing from the perspectives of design in future projects. Ed Alsamsam of PCI was contacted by *Specifying Engineer* seeking input for an article to discuss what is being done. 15-20 questions were recapped with committee. Individual responses "off the record" were provided, but no official statement by the committee was given.
10. Wind Effects committee is organizing a task force to produce a small booklet on Wind Engineering to educate professionals outside the field (ref: Task Committee on Wind Engineering Booklet, Cochran)
11. Comments by James Cohen: reflections based on search and rescue experiences on 9/11: advocate design of tall buildings with view on post-disaster rescue and reconnaissance, e.g. issues of design archiving and availability of information that would assist in such efforts. Suggests a session or working paper on this topic. Suggested also a session regarding the interaction between litigators and tall building designers. Interested in creating panel to discussing the contractual and project management issues in the design of tall buildings. McNamara sees CTBUH Conference as appropriate venue for these multi-disciplinary issues.
12. Requested summary of actions by related committees:
 - a. Aerodynamics Committee: Major topic of discussion was wind effects in urban areas with sessions proposed on these topics. Task committee on urban aerodynamics was initiated. Report being completed on pedestrian effects by task committee formed by Aerodynamics Committee.
 - b. Wind Effects Committee: Code comparisons for tall buildings session being organized. Also interest in computational wind

engineering. Tentative session on icing on buildings and communications towers.

- c. Aesthetics Committee: Joint session proposed on Ground Zero rebuilding efforts. Committee is seeking to broaden its focus beyond those related to wind effects and tall buildings.
- d. ASCE 7 Standards Committee: Building standard language on robustness issues are being broadened as well as connection details.
- e. Load Combinations Committee: Discussed inclusion of load combinations due to accidental loading, including blast and impact
- f. Standards Committee on Blast Resistant Design and Construction: To develop document or standard on blast resistant design of buildings.

13. Prof. Tamura (Tokyo) summarized the changes in Japanese practices post-9/11. Much discussion on blast-resistant design but probability of terrorism occurrence is low. Fire protection design and evacuation design have been primary issues. Threat of terrorist attacks has not impacted design of tall buildings there.

14. Discussion of establishing “pet projects” of this committee, besides coordinating sessions.

- Propose looking into design aids of use for engineers, e.g. aerodynamic loads database. McNamara made case for utility of this tool in his practice. Kareem added that other designers and wind tunnel testing laboratories both in the US and abroad have also utilized database as preliminary design tool. Aim of expanding databases should be considered for isolated shapes as a preliminary design tools. Also establishing extension using JAVA interface to actually calculate online the EWSL and accelerations.
- English proposed code comparisons are another area of interest to designers.
- T. Kijewski-Correa proposed and will manage centralized website for the committee to house resources for tall buildings designers, including Wind Engineering Handbook, Guidelines on damping based on existing databases, links to aeroloads databases, etc. Will house papers to be collected and other resources and tools.

15. May 22-26, 2004 Nashville Structures Congress. Next committee meeting tentatively schedule next meeting for Sunday, May 23, 2004 at 6 pm.

16. Minutes shall reflect that Ali Memari's email should be corrected on the committee mailing list to amm7@psu.edu