

Announcement

Upcoming COSMOS 2006 Technical Session, Co-Sponsored by PEER, Focuses on Evaluating Various Methods for the Selection and Modification of Ground Motions

The Consortium of Organization for Strong Motion Observation Systems (COSMOS) will be holding its Annual Meeting and Technical Session at the Doubletree Hotel in Berkeley, California, on Friday, November 17th. The day-long technical session, which begins at 10 a.m., will focus on “An Evaluation of Methods for the Selection and Modification of Ground Motions Time Histories for Code and PBEE Applications.” The Technical Session is being co-sponsored by the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER).

The session program builds upon last year’s program which discussed current procedures found in building codes and seismic guidelines. This year’s technical session will focus on objectively evaluating various building code procedures and the most current Performance-Based Earthquake Engineer procedures considering the performance they are trying to achieve. The goal of the session is to identify the subjective issues that may be present in current procedures and to provide suggestions for improving the procedures so that they are more objective and, hopefully, result in less variation between ground motion providers. The technical session will include presentations by Norm Abrahamson, Charles Kircher, Andrew Whittaker, and Jack Baker, and members of PEER Working Group. The PEER Working Group on Ground Motion Selection and Modification is evaluating various procedures for nonlinear response of building models. The Working Group presentations will be made by Yousef Bozorgnia, Nicolas Luco, Curt Haselton and Jennie Watson-Lamprey. Procedures found in current building codes and those being developed for the ATC-58 and ATC-63 projects will be discussed and objectively evaluated. The presenters will also serve on a panel that will discuss (along with session participants) concerns and issues with the current procedures, and suggestions for their improvements in future codes and guidelines.

Early registration fees before Oct. 15th are \$80 for COMOS and PEER members and \$120 for nonmembers, including lunch and refreshments. After Oct 15th, fees are \$100 for COSMOS members and \$140 for nonmembers. There is also a special reduced student rate. For complete program and registration details for the COSMOS Annual Meeting and Technical Session, visit the COSMOS website at www.cosmos-eq.org.