

September 8, 2014

Annual Conference-Spring 2015

Carmel Valley Is The Spot!



We're excited to announce that next year's Annual Conference will be in beautiful Carmel Valley. We'll escape to the peace and tranquility of the newly renovated Quail Lodge & Golf Club, located on the sunny side of the Monterey Bay Peninsula in beautiful Carmel. The hotel is nestled on 850 acres of lush fairways, oak-studded meadows and sparkling lakes and is surrounded by the rolling hills of Carmel Valley. And oh, yes-it is a pet friendly environment!

Conference dates are April 23 through April 25, 2015. Our Conference Committee is working diligently to bring you the best program yet! More information will be available in December. So, mark your calendars and "Save The Date"!

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October Regional Meetings

"Wilshire Grand High-Rise Development in Los Angeles"



Martin Hudson, Ph.D., P.E., G.E.

The Wilshire Grand Development in downtown Los Angeles will include, at 1,100 feet tall, the tallest building on the west coast, and the basement excavation is 100 feet deep. This deep basement is the first to be constructed in close proximity to the Los Angeles Metro tunnel. Dr. Martin Hudson will describe the various geotechnical, seismic, and environmental challenges encountered in the project.

There will be two dinner meetings, Santa Ana on October 7 (info here: <http://calgeo.org/events/event-details.php?id=pqGg>) and Sacramento on October 9 (info here: <http://calgeo.org/events/event-details.php?id=pqGh>). Our website contains the registration documents and the ability to prepay online. We also have a special student rate. If you reserve a spot, you may also pay at the door the night of the event.

Registration deadline is **October 1**, with no exceptions.

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Outstanding Project Awards

2013 Large Category Winner Diaz-Yourman & Associates Tom Bradley International Terminal at Los Angeles International Airport

Diaz-Yourman & Associates provided geotechnical engineering services during design and construction of the new \$1 Billion Tom Bradley International Terminal (TBIT) at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The TBIT is part of the \$ 5 billion LAX modernization program. The TBIT facility encompasses over 500,000 square feet of building space and 20 acres of pavement to able to support Airbus A-380 aircraft weighing over 1,000,000 pounds. The project was constructed in record time while not interfering with aircraft or passengers at one of the world's busiest and most congested airports.

Read the full article [here](#).



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Napa Rocked By Earthquake

6.0 Magnitude

A magnitude 6.0 earthquake struck northern California approximately 4 miles northwest of American Canyon near Napa, California. The earthquake occurred at a depth of approximately 7 miles below the ground surface near the West Napa Fault and the Carneros-Franklin Faults. Several faults are located within this region; however, of



these faults, only the West Napa Fault is known to displace Holocene-age sediment. The region where the earthquake occurred is bordered by two major active fault systems; the Hayward-Rodgers Creek Fault system to the west and the Concord-Green Valley Fault system to the east. Since the initial shock on August 24, 2014 at approximately 3:20 a.m., more than 80 aftershocks have occurred. Over 100 people sought medical care due to injuries, and

33 buildings within the city of Napa were red-tagged, i.e. designated as unfit to enter. Sixty broken water mains and 20 natural gas outages were also reported following the earthquake.

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Member News

EagleLIFT Opens New Office

Here we *GROW* Again...

and a local Operations Crew; ready to serve you!

After 15 successful years in Southern and Northern California, EagleLIFT has opened a new office in Hayward, CA to accommodate our growth.

Our new office is located at: 28424 Century St., Hayward, CA.

EagleLIFT North is staffed with a Regional Manager, 4 representatives and a local Operations Crew; ready to serve you!



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Member Benefits Just Got Better!

If you haven't signed up yet for Business AdvantEdge you're missing out on a great member benefit. To learn more about these programs and to sign up for CalGeo member benefits, please visit the [CalGeo MarketPlace](#). Note: On your first visit to the MarketPlace, please register as a "New Member" to set up your user name and password.



Here are your summer 2014 special promotions: Office Depot-new enrollees receive an additional 10% off the first minimum order of \$100.00. Save 5%-85% on hundreds of items, 60% off print/copy, plus pick 10 for 15% off. Staples-12% base discount, 40-70% off top 300 items, free shipping! Office Max-Save up to 90% off everyday low prices with FREE, next day delivery.

For a Quick Overview and expedited enrollment, [please visit Program Enrollment](#).

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Job Board

Visit our [website](#) for the latest information on current positions available throughout the industry, including:

- ◆ Geotechnical Engineer with Mid Pacific Engineering
- ◆ Staff Engineer/Geologist with LGC Geotechnical, Inc.
- ◆ Senior Staff Engineer/Project Geotechnical Engineer with LGC Geotechnical, Inc.
- ◆ Assistant Project Manager with Farrell Design Build
- ◆ Field Engineer/Geologist with Taber Consultants

If you're LOOKING for help throughout the year, we also have a number of resumes on our website at <http://www.calgeo.org/job-board/current-resumes.php>.

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42 Organizations Now Endorse Recommended Practices for Design Professionals Engaged as Experts in the Resolution of Construction Industry Disputes

Call your local forestry or fire district to learn if there are any current campfire restrictions. commended Practices for Design Professionals Engaged as Experts in the Resolution of Construction Industry Disputes, an annotated list of 13 “shoulds and should-nots” originally developed by the Interprofessional Council on Environmental Design (ICED).

ASFE/The Geoprofessional Business Association (GBA) recognized the need for the document and spearheaded its development through ICED, an “umbrella organization” also including, among others, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), and The American Institute of Architects (AIA), all of which are endorsers. GBA accepted responsibility for the document’s publication and management, as well as gathering additional endorsers. The 37 additional endorsers comprise a “who’s-who” of construction-industry organizations.

According to GBA President Steven D. Thorne, P.E., D.GE (Terracon), *Recommended Practices for Design Professionals Engaged as Experts in the Resolution of Construction Industry Disputes* is believed to have received more construction-industry-organization endorsements than any similar document or position statement ever developed. Created in 1988, “*Recommended Practices...*” has been used extensively – and very successfully – in legal proceedings, especially in matters involving the standard of care. According to GBA Executive Vice President John P. Bachner, “To find a design professional negligent, a trier of fact – a judge or a jury – has to believe that the design professional failed to uphold the standard of care. But first the trier of fact has to decide what the standard of care actually was at the time of the incident in question. As it so happens, the standard of care is a moving target. It’s what’s commonly done by peer professionals operating in a given area at a given time. Practices evolve, however. What is common today may have been unheard of just five years ago.”

Bachner explained that courts almost always require an expert witness to explain the standard of care in terms the trier of fact – usually a jury – can readily understand. He went on to say, “All too often, however, experts testify about the standard of care based on what they would have done or what a book says to do, and either or both of these measures may be seriously out of sync with reality. Forty-two prestigious organizations concur unanimously that experts need to conduct research to know what the standard of care was at the time it allegedly was violated. Experts who are cross-examined need to be able to explain how they reached their opinion about the standard of care.”

Some of the other issues addressed in the document include conflicts of interest, expert qualifications, research methods and integrity, illustrative devices, and confidentiality.

Because the document has been used extensively to impeach the testimony of “hired-gun experts,” GBA advises that leaders of “every engineering, environmental, and architectural firm in the nation should be familiar with ‘*Recommended Practices*.’ Their lawyers and insurance agents need to be aware of it, too.”

Recommended Practices for Design Professionals Engaged as Experts in the Resolution of Construction Industry Disputes is available at GBA’s website (www.asfe.org) or by contacting GBA staff at info@asfe.org or 301/565-2733.

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