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## SEI Membership Application

We're pleased to offer a **FREE copy of SEI/ASCE 7-05, *Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures*** for anyone who signs up for SEI-only membership for 2006. This is a \$120 value which you will receive FREE if you are not already an SEI or ASCE member.

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SEI Meets the Needs of Individual Structural Engineers by Providing:

- The highest standard in technical information and publications,
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To take advantage of this generous offer, and to receive your FREE publication, please contact Mary Ellen Saville in the SEI office ([mesaville@asce.org](mailto:mesaville@asce.org)) and an application form will be provided. The 2006 membership year is from Jan. through Dec. ■

## New Release – November, 2005

*Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures – ASCE/SEI 7-05* Stock #40809

Order your copy online at [www.pubs.asce.org](http://www.pubs.asce.org) or call toll-free at 1-800-548-2723

The ASCE Standard 7-05, *Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures*, provides requirements for general structural design and includes means for determining dead, live, soil, flood, wind, snow, rain, atmospheric ice, and earthquake loads, and their combinations that are suitable for inclusion in building codes and other documents. This is a revision of ASCE/SEI 7-02.

Also included is Supplement No.1, which is a detailed commentary containing explanatory and supplementary information to assist users of this Standard. Structural engineers, architects, and those engaged in preparing and administering local building codes will find the structural load requirements essential to their practice. ■



*Happy Holidays*

*From SEI*

## ASCE Testifies at House Science Committee Hearing on NIST WTC Report

Jim Harris, PhD., P.E., M.ASCE, and member of the SEI Board of Governors, testified the last week of October before the House Science Committee regarding a new National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) report on the World Trade Center collapse.

Dr. Harris stated ASCE and SEI's support for a thorough review and deliberation of all NIST recommendations and urged that the consensus process for developing codes and standards be allowed to work without unreasonable pressure. In his testimony, Dr. Harris noted that, "We (ASCE) believe that the consensus process, which is already underway at ASCE/SEI (Structural Engineering Institute) for some of the concerns NIST has raised, is essential so that all aspects of an issue can be considered. All of the issues deserve further consideration in

that community." A draft version of the report was released in June 2005. The final report is available on NIST's website at <http://wtc.nist.gov>.

In addition to Harris, William Jeffrey, PhD., Director of NIST, testified before the committee, pledging to work with code and standards organizations to see that the recommendations of the NIST report find their way into state and local building codes as soon as possible.

Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) noted that this was the third hearing by his committee on the WTC collapse and likely not the last. He stated that he would continue his push to make sure that lessons learned from this tragedy are not forgotten, and that the information gathered finds its way into building codes across the nation as appropriate. ■

## SEI Announces New Committees

### Sustainability Committee

*Dirk Kestner, Chair*

The recently formed SEI Sustainability Committee is currently accepting applications for new committee members. We are seeking enthusiastic applicants who wish to enhance the structural engineer's contribution to sustainable design. Initially, we plan to produce a sustainability guideline for structural engineers and other building professionals. This document will describe how structural systems and materials affect the environment, how structural systems can be designed

to reduce environmental impact, and how the LEED® Green Building Rating System addresses structural systems. Online applications are available at <http://www.seinstitute.org/committees/tadjoin.cfm>. Applicants without previous committee experience are welcome. Please outline in the application your experience in sustainability and how you hope to contribute to the committee, contact: [DKestner@sgh.com](mailto:DKestner@sgh.com)

### Sub-committee on Designing for Wind-Induced Motion in Tall Buildings



*Roy Denoon, Chair*

More and more tall buildings are being designed with supplementary damping systems to mitigate motions that may cause discomfort to the occupants. The performance targets for these dampers are, however, questionable. Most are designed to allow buildings to comply with existing guidelines for occupant comfort. These existing guidelines have been used, fairly successfully, for many years but are based on only very limited science. In recent years, there have been a number of landmark field and laboratory experiments that have added a great deal to our knowledge of occupant tolerance of wind-induced motion. The findings of these experiments and alternative international practices have still not been well disseminated to the design profession as a whole. To

address this, the ASCE SEI Tall Buildings and Wind Effects committees have instigated a combined effort to produce a monograph covering the international state-of-the-art in the field. The sub-committee responsible for this is chaired by Dr. Roy Denoon of CPP Wind Engineering and Air Quality Consultants with co-chair Prof. Ted Stathopoulos, Concordia University, and secretary Dr. Tracy Kijewski-Correa, Notre Dame University. An initial call for committee members has been very well received from the academic and consulting communities. If you feel you can contribute, particularly with any field experiences of wind-induced motion, please contact Denoon by email, [rdenoon@cppwind.com](mailto:rdenoon@cppwind.com)

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