NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 1, 2001

THIRD NATIONAL SEISMIC CONFERENCE SEEKS ABSTRACTS ON BRIDGE AND HIGHWAY ADVANCEMENTS AND TECHNOLOGIES

Conference is slated for April 28 - May 1, 2002 in Portland, Oregon
Abstract deadline is July 15, 2001

BUFFALO, NY … The Third National Seismic Conference and Workshop on Bridges and Highways is requesting abstracts for presentations at next year’s conference. Organizers will accept 50 to 60 papers for formal presentations. Another 25 papers will be selected for poster sessions. Deadline for submission of abstracts is July 15, 2001.

The conference theme is “Advances in Engineering and Technology for the Seismic Safety of Bridges in the New Millennium.” Presentations will focus on the latest advancements in earthquake design and retrofit, and on new and innovative technologies — including the latest research and developments in earthquake engineering for bridges, highway systems, and components. The program is scheduled for April 28 through May 1, 2002, in Portland, Oregon.

The conference will provide a forum for information on current practices and research for seismic-resistant design and retrofit of bridges and highway systems in all seismic zones. Abstracts are sought on the following topics:

- Effects of near-field earthquakes on bridges
- Displacement based design
- Lessons learned from recent earthquakes (since 1998)
- Design of major long span bridges in high or moderate seismicity areas
- Design strategies for bridges subject to large ground motions
- Seismic practices east of the Rockies
- Emerging seismic design and retrofit technologies for bridges, tunnels, and other structures
- Seismic response modification devices

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One-page typewritten abstracts should be submitted by July 15, 2001 to: Third National Seismic Conference and Workshop on Bridges and Highways, c/o MCEER, University at Buffalo, Red Jacket Quadrangle, Buffalo, NY 14261-0052; Tel: 716/645-3391; Fax: 716/645-3399; Email: mceer@acsu.buffalo.edu. Faxed and email submissions are welcome.

Authors should clearly indicate the topic under which their abstract is submitted. They will be notified of acceptance in September 2001.

The Third National Seismic Conference and Workshop on Bridges and Highways is expected to attract worldwide participation from bridge and highway engineers, design consultants, researchers, and federal, state and local transportation agency owners.

It will also include an International Forum comprising invited speakers from countries that have implemented advanced earthquake design and mitigation technologies and techniques. A Technology Showcase involving as many as 40 exhibitors of contemporary products and services for seismic design and retrofit, is also being organized.

The program is sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration, Oregon Department of Transportation, and the Washington State Department of Transportation. It is organized by the Federal Highway Administration's Western Resource Center, and the Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER) headquartered at the University at Buffalo. Conference cosponsors include: the California Department of Transportation, Mid-America Earthquake Center, MCEER, Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center, and the Transportation Research Board.

Technical questions should be submitted to: Tom Post, Caltrans, Tel: 916/227-8728, Fax: 916/227-8898, Email: tom_post@dot.ca.gov; or Roland Nimis, FHWA, Western Resource Center, Tel: 415/744-2653, Fax: 415/744-2620, Email: roland.nimis@fhwa.dot.gov.

For all other inquiries contact: Michael S. Higgins, P.E., Regional Manager, Eastern Region, Pure Technologies US Inc., 10015 Old Columbia Road, Suite B-215, Columbia, MD 21046; Tel: 410-309-7050; Fax: 410-309-7051; Email: mike.higgins@soundprint.com, or visit the conference web site via the MCEER home page at http://mceer.buffalo.edu.