Workshop on Seismic Provisions for Steel Bridges

As part of the Highway Project, MCEER conducted the Workshop on Seismic Provisions for Steel Bridges, held July 25-26, 2000 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The objective of the workshop was to review and gather expert opinion on a set of new seismic provisions for steel bridges developed in a format compatible for possible inclusion into the AASHTO bridge load and resistance factor design (LRFD) specifications. Discussions focused on superstructures, load path, bearings and other general issues; steel substructure issues; innovative approaches; and R-factors.

Workshop participants consisted of representatives from academia, consulting, state DOT, FHWA, and industry, with experience in seismic design and steel bridges. The event began with overview presentations by John Kulicki, on other existing seismic specifications for steel bridges (including ATC-32), Ron Mayes, on general proposed seismic provisions being developed by the 12-49 team, and Michel Bruneau, on proposed steel specifications. This was followed by four moderated discussion sessions during which specific issues relevant to the seismic design of steel bridges were discussed. Invited speakers presented an overview of key issues at the beginning of each session. Speakers included J. Kulicki, A. Itani, M. Bruneau and C.M. Uang.

The workshop was held in support of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Project 12-49, “Comprehensive Specification for the Seismic Design of Bridges” and was sponsored by the FHWA. Summary information can be found on our web site at http://mceer.buffalo.edu/research/HighwayPrj/default.asp.