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Nepal National Building Code Update

Taylor Dayton

Kevin Gibelyou

Eric Holmstead

Introduction

- **Gorkha Earthquake, April 2015**
  - Killed nearly 9,000 and injured nearly 22,000 people in Nepal
  - Damaged and destroyed 20,000 buildings
  - $10 Billion in damage (50% of Nepal's GDP)
- **Problems**
  - Nepal National Building Code was written in 1994 and has not been updated.
  - Building code not effectively enforced
  - Majority of buildings are owner-built

Design, Analysis & Results

- Include minimum and maximum boundaries for equations.
- **Change the recurrence interval of the design earthquake from 475 years to 2500 years**
- Include a seismic hazard map from the Nepali Department of Mines of Geology
- **Update and clarify the formulas and methods used in the Seismic Coefficient Method and the Modal Response Spectrum Method**
- Explain the purposes of the building code in the preface.
- Introduce the need for continuous development and improvement.
- Include mandate for regular code updates
- Avoid ambiguity and eliminate syntax/grammar errors
- **References to Indian Standard Code and other international codes need to include section titles**
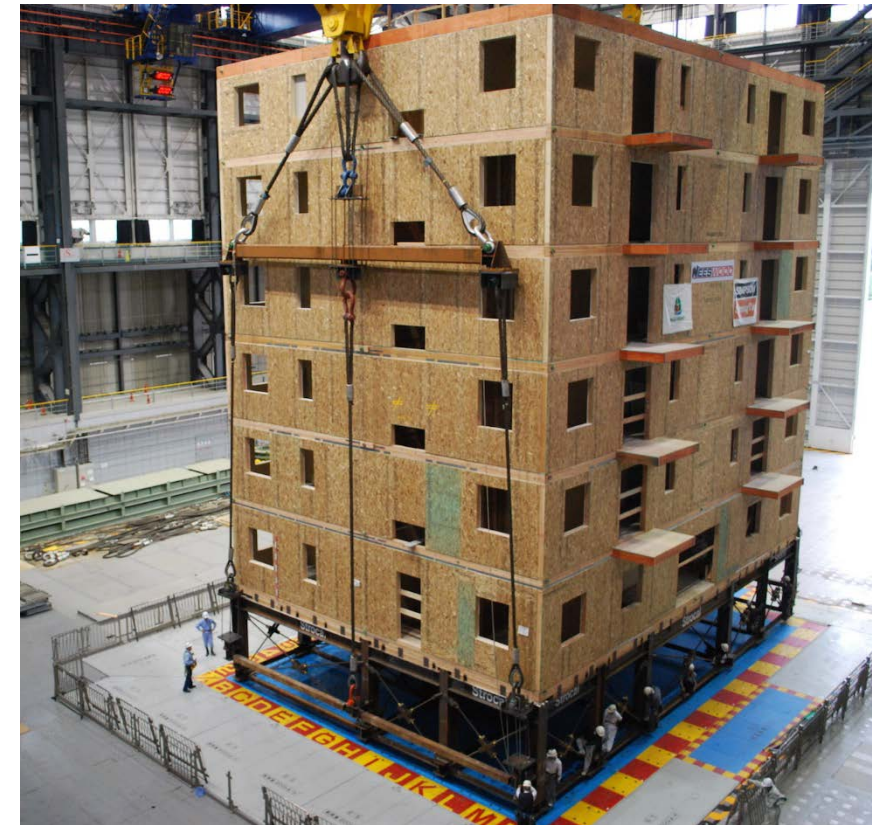
Conclusions & Recommendations

- **Nepali engineers qualified in seismic design should review code recommendations for implementation**

- Train building officials for proper code enforcement

- Increase the awareness about the necessity of earthquake safe construction