

CTBUH Update – September 2006

Dear Colleagues:

It has been a busy month for press and publications. The five year anniversary of 9-11 was recognized around the world with renewed interest from the public in tall building safety, and a particular interest in how these attacks have changed the design process around the world. The Council, like many organizations, issued a press release describing the current methods and challenges used in the design of tall buildings, and some of the issues that the industry is facing. Members can see our press release on our web site at www.ctbuh.org

In its earlier years the Council published extensive case studies in the form of the CTBUH Monographs. There is a strong need for engineers and architects to publish how they are dealing with safety issues post 9/11. The Council is committed to disseminating knowledge on tall building design, particularly on safety and security issues and we are looking at how to do this most effectively.

This month the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), issued a draft version of an excellent document entitled "Best Practices for Reducing the Potential for Progressive Collapse in Buildings". Our Progressive Collapse - Working Group co-chair, Dr Robert Smilowitz was a co-author. Links to the document are given below.

The summer issue of the Council's journal, **CTBUH Review**, was published on line and I would encourage all of you to visit the website and check it out. Hard copies are only distributed to our Patron members.

When you visit our web site you should note that there is a major web site refurbishment that is well under way. We hope to have a new site up and running in the next 2~4 months, which is in line with the schedule in the 5-year plan.

The world wide construction boom was very much in evidence in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Kuwait, when I visited this month, to assess support for a possible World Congress in Dubai in 2008. We are currently evaluating finances and waiting for bids from Hotels and Conference Centers. Any member wishing to be involved in the organization of this event should contact Geri Kery or myself.

The press also appear to be very aware of our October conference, "Thinking Outside The Box – Tapered, Tilted, Twisted Towers". There is much interest in how to create these improbable skyscrapers in a way that is safe, efficient and effective. We have a great speaker line up that will deal with these issues and many more, and we expect a turn-out of well over 400 people. We have only 5 weeks to go until October 25th, so register today. To continue with the box analogy, I will leave you with the saying, "Be there or be Square !"

Sincerely,

David Scott
Chairman, CTBUH
Principal, Arup
dscott@ctbuh.org

*** * * CTBUH NEWS * * ***

October 25-26, Conference Update – "Thinking Outside the Box – Tapered, Tilted, Twisted Towers". We currently expect between 400 and 500 at the Chicago Conference and have a great mix of Developers, Architects, Engineers, Specialist and Academics who are interested in the networking and learning opportunities that this conference will provide. To make reservations book on-line at our website <http://www.ctbuh.org> or through our Operations Manager, Geri Kery at gkery@ctbuh.org

CTBUH Awards Dinner (October 26). Seating is limited, so please be sure to make your reservation today to guarantee a seat at this very special event honoring Dr. Ken Yeang and Mr. Srinivasa “Hal” Iyengar. The dinner will also briefly honor our new Fellows of the Council who were elected earlier this year: Henry J. Cowan, Charles DeBenedittis, Gilberto do Valle and A. Eugene Kohn.

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CTBUH Review – Summer Issue. It has taken some time, but the Summer issue of the Council’s journal, *CTBUH Review*, is now available on the Council’s website. The summer issue includes papers on “The International Commerce Centre, Hong Kong: a Developer’s Perspective”, “Wind Engineering of the Burj Dubai Tower” and “High-Rise Buildings with Twisted Facades”; and a firm profile on long-time CTBUH member Skidmore Owings & Merrill.

The Council would like to thank Zak Kostura, David Brown and other members of the Arup staff for the many long hours they gave to recreating the template for the journal.

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2006 Top Building Projects. We are still looking for input for the Council’s list of Top Ten Tallest Building Projects Completed in 2006. To view the list that has been compiled visit the Council’s website at <http://www.ctbuh.org>.

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Progressive Collapse – Working Group Update. Robert Smilowitz, our co-chair reports: The culmination of a four year effort, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), issued a draft version of the Best Practices for Reducing the Potential for Progressive Collapse in Buildings report. This document was co-authored by Bruce R. Ellingwood of Georgia Institute of Technology, Robert Smilowitz of Weidlinger Associates, Donald O. Dusenberry of Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Dat Duthinh and H.S. Lew of Building and Fire Research Laboratory NIST and Nicholas J. Carino a Consultant. The document provides an overview to the issues related to progressive collapse, ranging from an acceptable risk approach to the implementation of protective measures. The Council’s working group will develop from the work in this papers and will particularly look at design methods for iconic towers.
<http://bfrl.nist.gov/861/861pubs/collapse/BestPracticesDraftAug2006.pdf>

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New Members. The Council welcomes Dubai Waterfront as an Organizational Member at the Donor level. A project of Nakheel, Dubai Waterfront is an 81 million metre-squared mixed-use landmark development which will serve as the gateway to the Arabian Canal, located on the last remaining coastal waterfront in the Emirate. Dubai Waterfront will feature more than 100 different waterfront developments and over 150 masterplanned communities and investment opportunities <http://www.dubaiwaterfront.ae>.

At the Participant level, the Council welcomes:

NORR Architects & Engineers is a full-service architecture, engineering and interior design firm that represents truly integrated solutions for a wide range of Commercial and Institutional clients, with offices in Canada and the Middle East <http://www.norrlimited.com>.

John Portman & Associates is an internationally recognized architectural and engineering firm with a team of more than 40 professionals and offices in Atlanta, Georgia and Shanghai, China with more than 50 years of expertise in designing hotels, universities, offices, trade marts, and mixed-use urban complexes all around the world <http://www.portmanusa.com>.

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Meet the New CTBUH Country Representatives. To continue introducing you to some of the Council’s new country leaders:

Malaysia – **Faridah Shafii** is Manager of Research & Development in the Construction Technology & Management Centre at the Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Johor <http://www.utm.my> and Coordinator of the Task Group on Tall Buildings for the International Council on Research and Innovation (CIBTG50)

with responsibilities of stimulating research and facilitating international cooperation for future development of tall buildings. Email: faridahshafii@yahoo.co.uk.

Russia – **Tom McCool** is Manager of Europe for Turner International, Moscow <http://www.turnerconstruction.com> and is considered a leader in development of construction management theory and application. Email: tmccool@tcco.com.

United Kingdom – **Alistair Collins** is Chief Executive Officer of Davis Langdon & Seah International, London <http://www.davislangdon.com>. Mr. Collins also sits on the European and International Boards of DLSI, with a particular remit for development of business growth strategies and initiatives, and chairs the British Council for Offices Tall Buildings Working Party and is a member of the Teaching & Research Group of the Council on Tall Buildings and the Urban Habitat.. Email: alastair.collins@davislangdon.com.

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Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair Holder Named. Lehigh University has announced Professor Dan M. Frangopol as holder of the Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Frangopol received his doctorate in applied sciences from the University of Liège, Belgium. He comes to Lehigh from the University of Colorado, Boulder, where he has taught since 1983. His research interests include system reliability and optimization; bridge engineering and management; civil infrastructure systems; and life-cycle engineering. Frangopol has written and edited many books and refereed articles and has presented more than 300 papers at conferences worldwide. He is the founding president of the *International Association for Bridge Maintenance and Safety*, and founding editor of *Structure and Infrastructure Engineering*. Frangopol has served as a visiting professor at universities throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.

Dr. Lynn Beedle organized the establishment of the Fazlur Rahman Khan Chair at Lehigh University following the untimely death of Dr. Khan, raising the funds to assure its continuity. He would certainly be pleased to see that the Chair has now been filled and once again we would like to thank those individuals and firm who very generously provided the support to see his dream come to fruition.

Dedication of the Fazlur R. Khan Master's Studio. The dedication of the Fazlur R. Khan Master's Studio, located at 3410 S. State Street, Institute of Technology will be held on September 27. A reception at Crown Hall's center core will feature a display of Fazlur Khan's work designed by Skidmore Owings & Merrill and IIT's College of Architecture. Dr. Alan Davenport, professor emeritus at the University of Western Ontario and founder of the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory, will present a lecture on "Reflections on the Work of Fazlur Khan" followed by a panel discussion including Yasmin Khan Byron, Mahjoub Elnimeiri, Michael Hogan and John Zils.

All members of CTBUH are invited. For additional information please contact Jane Ellis ellis@iit.edu or Mahjoub Elnimeiri elnimeiri@iit.edu.

*** * * PLAN TO ATTEND * * ***

- October 3, 2006. SEA0I Dinner Meeting at the 410 Club, Wrigley Building, 410 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago. Guest speaker Lindsay Anderson of Lindsay Anderson Consulting will report on the results of the analysis done on the March 2002 John Hancock Center Scaffold Tragedy. Open to the public, reservations required. Cost: SEA0I Members \$45, non-members \$55. For reservations contact Donna Childs, at 312-649-4600 ext. 200, by September 29th.

- October 15-22, 2006. 2006 AIA Northwest & Pacific Region Conference and AIA Committee on Design Fall Conference on "Pacific Crossings", Hong Kong and Shanghai. <http://www.aiahk.org>

- October 19, 2006. International Congress on "Fire Safety in Tall Buildings" presented by GIDAI Fire Safety Research & Technology, University of Cantabria, Santander, Spain. <http://grupos.unican.es/GIDAI>

- **October 25-26, 2006. CTBUH conference on "Thinking Outside the Box – Tapered, Twisted, Tilted Towers", Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois. <http://www.ctbuh.org>**

- October 26, 2006. Fifth Annual CTBUH Awards Dinner, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, Illinois.

- November 8-9, 2006. International Conference on Construct in Steel – the Next 50 Years, organized by the Southern African Institute of Steel Construction, Johannesburg, South Africa.
<http://www.saisc.co.za>

*CTBUH, S. R. Crown Hall, Illinois Institute of Technology, 3360 S. State Street, Chicago, IL 60616
phone: 312-909-0253 fax: 610-419-0014 email: info@ctbuh.org web: www.ctbuh.org*