



Northeastern University

College of Engineering

CEE 7400: Graduate Seminar Series
Department Civil and Environmental Engineering

The February 10, 2010 Maule Earthquake in Chile: Damage Reconnaissance and Implications on Seismic Design

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Thursday, October 21, 2010
3:00-4:00 PM*
105 Shillman Hall



Abstract

The 10 February 2010, Maule earthquake in Chile was a magnitude 8.8 earthquake that resulted in very few casualties in engineered buildings, but provided possibly the richest data set in history for seismic response of structures. This presentation will include discussion of the seismicity of Chile compared to the seismicity of the west coast of the U.S., as well as an in-depth assessment of the damage due to the earthquake. Chilean design practices will be discussed and related to U.S. practice.

Ramon Gilsanz, P.E., S.E., is a founding Partner in the firm Gilsanz Murray Steficek, LLP, in New York. He has worked on a wide range of projects, including residential towers, hospitals, office buildings, industrial facilities, and specialty projects such as art installations. He has been involved in renovating buildings, theaters and museums that have been deemed historical landmarks. Mr. Gilsanz is currently the president of the Applied Technology Council (ATC), and serves as Chairman of the code committee of the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC). He is a past president of the Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAoNY), and has served on numerous committees for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), National Council of Structural Engineers Associations (NCSEA), American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), and the New York City Department of Buildings. Mr. Gilsanz participated in the national ASCE-FEMA building performance assessment team investigating the World Trade Center attack and was the chapter leader for the WTC7 analysis and the selection of steel remnants from WTC1 and WTC2 for analysis. Due to these efforts, GMS was awarded a contract with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to provide a Report on the Federal Building and Fire Safety Investigation of the World Trade Center Disaster. In addition to his professional affiliations, Ramon was also on the board of trustees for the United Nations International School (UNIS) and has participated for over 11 years in the New York City CANstruction competition, a charity event to fight hunger.

** 30 minutes reception to follow*