Chapter 11: Buildings

Presenter:

Robert Pekelnicky, PE, SE
Degenkolb Engineers
Safety vs. Resiliency

Safe ≠ Usable
Building Performance Levels

A – Safe & Operational

B – Safe & Usable During Repair

C – Safe & Not Usable

D – Unsafe

Photos courtesy of Degenkolb Engineers

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New Buildings

- Current standards do not explicitly deal with function protection for every hazard
- Code architectural, structural, mechanical requirements are sometimes not in alignment
- New building standards are easier to change than existing building requirements

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Existing Buildings

- Codes, standards, and building practice constantly evolving
- Structural Standards are typically not retroactive
- Existing evaluation tools very judgment based
- Retrofit often costly and disruptive