PREFACE

The California Strong Motion Instrumentation Program (CSMIP) in the California Geological Survey of the California Department of Conservation established a Data Interpretation Project in 1989. Each year CSMIP Program funds several data interpretation contracts for the analysis and utilization of strong-motion data. The primary objectives of the Data Interpretation Project are to further the understanding of strong ground shaking and the response of structures, and to increase the utilization of strong-motion data in improving post-earthquake response, seismic code provisions and design practices.

As part of the Data Interpretation Project, CSMIP holds annual seminars to transfer recent research findings on strong-motion data to practicing seismic design professionals, earth scientists and post-earthquake response personnel. The purpose of the annual seminar is to provide information that will be useful immediately in seismic design practice and post-earthquake response, and in the longer term, useful in the improvement of seismic design codes and practices. Proceedings and individual papers for each of the previous annual seminars are available in PDF format at http://www.consrv.ca.gov/CGS/smip/proceedings.htm The SMIP08 Seminar is the nineteenth in this series of annual seminars.

The SMIP08 Seminar is divided into two sessions in the morning and two sessions in the afternoon. The sessions in the morning include an invited presentation on the new California earthquake rupture forecast model, a presentation on near-fault instrumentation projects and accuracy of relative displacements, and three presentations on CSMIP-funded projects. These include the Turkey Flat ground motion prediction project and two presentations on foundation modeling techniques in building response analysis. The afternoon sessions include the 2008 Joyner Lecture by Chris Poland, on transparent seismic mitigation for community resilience, presentations by two investigators of CSMIP-funded projects on the Carquinez suspension bridge and ground motion tasks in the Tall Building Initiatives, and reports by two speakers on the strong-motion records and the field investigation of the M8.0 Wenchuan, Sichuan earthquake of May 12, 2008. Prof. Bill Iwan of Caltech will present a luncheon address on some milestones in strong motion monitoring.

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