



COMMITTEE ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE (CCI)

In response to recent disasters, both natural and man-made, that have impacted our nation's critical infrastructure, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has dedicated resources to preparedness, response, recovery, and future critical infrastructure resilience needs and has appointed a board level **Committee on Critical Infrastructure (CCI)**. Established in January, 2005, **CCI** provides vision and guidance on activities related to homeland security and multihazard protection of critical infrastructure, including planning, design, preparedness, procurement, construction, operation and maintenance, and event response, mitigation, and recovery.

In addition to ensuring that the Society maintains its leadership role in these key national issues, **CCI** helps build coalitions to undertake critical infrastructure activities and assists in ensuring that the Society has the necessary resources for critical infrastructure initiatives.

CCI accomplishments include –

DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Facilitated ASCE participation in and expansion of The Infrastructure Security Partnership's (TISP) Regional Disaster Resilience Committee and Action Plan Guide implementation.
- Created the Infrastructure Champions (IC) program to raise awareness and promote public health, safety, and welfare as well as provide leadership opportunities and training tools to ASCE Section and Branch members, at the grassroots level. Infrastructure Champions provide coordination between ASCE Regions and ASCE National to identify local and regional issues, trends, best practices, and innovative solutions.
- Held the 1st Annual Infrastructure Champions Orientation Workshop in June 2007 at ASCE Headquarters in Reston, VA. The workshop formally launched the IC program with participants assisting in defining the IC vision, mission, and goals.

ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY

- Developed working definitions related to critical infrastructure, safety, sensible security and disaster resilience that have been adopted by the ASCE Board of Direction as ASCE Policy Statement 518 – Unified Definitions for Critical Infrastructure and Sensible Security.
- Developed a dedicated Critical Infrastructure section of the ASCE website (<http://ciasce.asce.org>) with regularly updated content and a calendar of related events.
- Launched a monthly electronic news bulletin, The CRIB Sheet (<http://ciasce.asce.org/MonthlyBulletin.html>), covering timely developments in critical infrastructure. By linking to articles across the broad spectrum of critical infrastructure sectors, CCI provides a convenient, informative “snapshot” of critical infrastructure issues for ASCE members on an ongoing basis.
- Established a Critical Infrastructure Blog, www.uscriticalinfrastructure.blogspot.com/, a weblog dedicated to U.S. critical infrastructure issues.

ADVOCATING LIFELONG LEARNING

- Conducted workshops on Disaster Response and Recovery in Los Angeles, CA (October 2005) and New York, NY (December 2005) designed to identify ASCE members and volunteers interested in critical infrastructure planning and response activities and introduce them to important national initiatives and available resources.
- Conducted disaster management workshops on “Engineers Responding to Local Disasters: Disaster Assessment Training” and “2005 Hurricanes: Infrastructure Response & Recovery” in conjunction with ASCE’s 2006 Zonal Leadership Conferences (ZLC). Presented in conjunction with the American Red Cross, several of the workshops focused on training engineers and related professionals on Red Cross disaster assessment procedures and functions, designed to provide decision-making information for disaster relief operations of all sizes.
- Sponsored a workshop on Condition Assessment of Critical Infrastructure, in conjunction with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), in July 2006 in Washington, DC. Aimed at owners, operators, and regulators of critical infrastructure, the workshop focused on developing critical infrastructure resilience under multi-hazard conditions by considering the relationship between vulnerabilities driven by aging/maintenance deficiencies and by natural and man-made events.
- Served on the core planning team for the forum on “**Rebuilding of the New Orleans Region: Infrastructure Systems and Technology Innovation,**” sponsored by Georgia Tech and ASCE, held in September 2006 in New Orleans, LA.
- Sponsored a workshop entitled “Prepare, Respond, Recover: Engineer’s Involvement with Local Disasters,” in conjunction with the 2006 ASCE Annual Conference, to provide an overview of federal disaster response programs, local resources, and key considerations during recovery and mitigation operations, including case studies incorporating past disaster events and hazard scenarios.
- Sponsored training workshops on ATC-20 Post-Disaster Safety Evaluations in Long Beach, CA (May 2007) and in Reston, VA (June 2007). The workshops focused on Applied Technology Council (ATC) procedures to evaluate the safety of buildings and other infrastructures after earthquakes, winds, floods, and fires. The procedures and guidelines are written specifically for volunteers required to make on-the-spot evaluations and decisions regarding the continued entry, use, operation, and occupancy of damaged buildings and other facilities.
- Evaluated current civil engineering curricula and recommended appropriate changes to better prepare future civil engineers to address critical infrastructure resiliency.

PROMOTING THE PROFESSION

- Created the ASCE Disaster Assistance Volunteer Directory (DAVD) in June 2006 in response to ASCE members’ desires to lend support to disaster response and recovery efforts. The directory contains data on qualified ASCE members to assist in the event of natural and man-made disasters requiring engineers for planning, damage assessment, and rebuilding efforts. The directory is available upon request to qualified parties including local, state, and federal agencies as well as private consulting firms seeking professional engineering expertise.
- Appointed a Disaster Response & Recovery Advisory Council to evaluate the need for an organized certification and credentialing program for engineers and related professionals involved with various aspects of disaster management.
- Developed a strategy to address liability and legal issues regarding disaster response and recovery issues, including support of the national Good Samaritan legislation recently introduced in the 110th Congress.