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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# RASTRA BUILDING WITHSTANDS EARTHQUAKE TESTING


THE TEST STRUCTURE IS BEING BUILT

BEIJING, CHINA – January 15, 2004- An intensive test program has been conducted by the China Academy of Building Research in Beijing, Peoples Republic of China.

RASTRA was tested under dynamic loads to qualify for use in multi-story buildings in tremor areas. To conduct the tests a structure was constructed using standard RASTRA materials in accordance to standard installation procedures.


AFTER THE TEST

The full-size three-story model measuring 28'-6" (8.68m) high with a footprint of 27' x 16' (8mx5m) was erected in the test lab of the Institute. Tests were conducted with hundreds of probes connected to three computer systems, each measuring a wide range of data. The building's floorplates, including rooftop, were loaded with a total weight of 281,600 lbs (128 tons) to simulate the weight and inertia of a six-story building with a live load. Tests were conducted to simulate the equivalent of a Level 8 earthquake, with no measurable or visual damage. In fact, the test has been continued far beyond this strength.

Test results confirmed that RASTRA can be used safely to construct six-story buildings capable of withstanding earthquakes of a magnitude 8+. The design of the concrete grid structure developed and improved over 30 years by RASTRA, once more proved its strength. The program was overseen by the staff of RASTRA's Casia office.

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