

Caltrans' District 4 Headquarters, Oakland, California – In-place Seismic Upgrade with Taylor Dampers



Photo Courtesy : Bruce and Sharol McQuarrie – McQuarrie Associates, San Francisco

This 1991-build, 15-story office tower houses the California Department of Transportation's San Francisco Bay Area's transportation operations, including its emergency response team.

Originally designed to the 1988 building codes, Caltrans elected to upgrade the building to the so-called post-1994 Northridge earthquake standards, thus requiring seismic retrofit.

To make the retrofit cost-effective, Caltrans required that the building remain operational while the retrofit was taking place.

This type of requirement is ideal for Taylor Seismic Dampers. A total of 230 dampers, each rated at up to 335 tons of force, were selected by the structural engineers, Degenkolb Engineers of San Francisco and the Crosby Group of Redwood City, California.

Currently, this retrofit is in process with very little disruption of Caltrans' vital services to the State of California.

Total value of the Taylor Devices' Dampers used in this project is \$2.7 million.

