



Earthquake Engineering Research Institute Northern California Chapter



EERI-NC invites you to our November Chapter Meeting that will feature
the 2008 EERI Distinguished Lecture:

Earthquakes, Hurricanes and other Disasters: A View from Space

Ronald T. Eguchi

President and CEO of ImageCat, Inc.

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

5:30 – 8:00 pm

In many instances, disasters act as catalysts in the adoption of new and emerging technologies. Spawned by the need to rapidly collect vital information for disaster management, technology innovations have often helped emergency responders to assess the impact of large disasters more efficiently and rapidly, and to track and monitor progress in critical response and recovery operations. One technology which has had an enormous impact on disaster management has been remote sensing. In the past decade, this technology has been used extensively to explain the extent of impacts caused by earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, wildfires and terrorist attacks. Through high-resolution optical imagery and active sensors (e.g., synthetic aperture radar, or more commonly known as SAR, and light detection and ranging or LIDAR), remote sensing technologies have demonstrated significant efficacies in quantifying post-disaster damage, monitoring recovery and reconstruction progress after significant disasters, and more recently, in developing information on our urban infrastructure. This presentation will focus on the integration of remote sensing technologies in all aspects of disaster management, i.e., disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery. In order to demonstrate their efficacy in these four areas, cases histories and examples from recent disasters, including the Bam, Iran earthquake, the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma (all occurring in 2005), and the World Trade Center attacks, will be presented. Finally, the presentation will end with a view towards the future. What new developments can be expected in technology development and implementation, what future challenges must be overcome to realize broader application of these technologies in future disasters, and what role will our younger researchers play in institutionalizing these technologies as essential tools in disaster management.

The meeting will be held at the offices of URS Corporation located at 1333 Broadway, 8th Floor, Oakland (above the City Center/12th Street BART station).

5:30 pm	Doors open for munchies and chatting
6:00 pm	Announcements
6:15 pm	Presentation
8:00 pm	Meeting adjourns