

Emergency Preparedness Training – Region 9

1. Region	9
2. Project Contact	
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3. Project Category	Region Operations
4. Project Description	Safety Assessment Program (SAP) Evaluator Training held in Fresno on 10/24/15.
5. The Process (What you did, When and How)	California’s Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (CAL-OES) has a well-established program of training volunteers and State government employees who are either civil engineers, structural engineers, architects or building officials/specific inspectors to do rapid assessments of structures and infrastructure after a disaster (earthquakes primarily, but can be wind, flood, explosions, etc.). ASCE is one of five organizations (AIA, SEAOC, ACIA and CALBO) that maintain databases of trained and certified SAP Evaluators and SAP Coordinators who would be called out in the event of a disaster. A very successful training session was conducted in Fresno on 10/24/15 at CSU-Fresno from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.
6. Those in Charge (Committee, Task Committee, Etc.)	As the ASCE Disaster Preparedness committee chair, I was in charge of coordinating and promoting the training session and reporting trainee information to CAL OES.
7. Time Frame (When Started, When Completed)	Coordination to set up the event, get a classroom at CSU-Fresno and request an SAP Trainer to conduct the training began in early September.
8. Success Factors (The Parts that Worked Really Well)	28 people were trained, which is a fairly large class. Much of the success was due to the training being FREE to participants (history has shown that charging a substantial fee results in small classes). Popcorn, soft drinks/water and snacks were provided to promote a learning atmosphere. The trainer came from Bakersfield and did a good job, charging only \$300 for travel and time. Name placards were provided so students could be addressed by their name... these placards also being used in photos taken of each individual so that OES can produce Disaster Service Worker identification cards subsequent to the training.

9. Setback Factors (The Parts that did Not Work Well)	The room was a bit crowded... a larger room may be better suited.
10. Creativity (This is something off the wall that we did)	Nothing drastic... I did demonstrate a 'popper' or two that I threatened to use if I saw anybody nodding off (just keeping learning fun!).
11. Administration (What was most Important)	Promote the event and personally invite people if possible.
12. Follow-Up (What was most important?)	Put pictures and a 'blurb' of the training in a newsletter so that more ASCE members will be interested in signing up for the next training session.
13. Recommendations (What you should ALWAYS do with this project?)	Try to keep the student cost FREE or very inexpensive (maybe \$10 if lunch is provided). Snacks and drinks are a good idea on only cost ~\$1 per person if bought at a 'dollar store'. Also, the training session itself must be lively, perhaps adding some humor... this way students are engaged and learning.
14. Cautions (What you should NEVER do with this project?)	Charge too much for volunteers already taking a Saturday to get trained so they can volunteer in the future.
15. The Outcome	28 students completed the training. Only two weren't PEs yet, but they will get their identification cards once they become PEs.
16. Ongoing Activity (Would you do it again?)	Yes... probably once or twice each year in Fresno.
17. Speaker Contact information (person from your Region who would be willing to speak about the Best Practice)	
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18. Additional Comments	This Best Practice includes photos on the following pages.





