

Project Brief

Huntley-Radisson Hotel Shear Wall Seismic Retrofit



Santa Monica, CA, USA
June 2000



The exterior walls of this eighteen-story luxury hotel required strengthening to prevent further earthquake damage. Considerable damage was sustained during the Northridge earthquake. Cracking in the columns (window piers) between windows had typical seismic shear cracking. Traditional methods of reinforcing would have required the addition of 8 to 12 inches of steel and spray-applied concrete (shotcrete) to the exterior walls. This would have added several thousands of tons of additional load to the structure. In addition, the noise and mess associated with this method would have required the closure of the hotel for a minimum of 9 months.

Using Fyfe Co. LLC's Tyfo® Composite Systems, Fibrwrap Construction strengthened the building. The material has a low profile, the typical thickness for this project was 0.10 inches. Surface preparation was performed with dustless hand tools to meet the stringent air quality regulations of the The Southern California Air Quality Management District. All of the work was completed with little noise (the City of Santa Monica measured our noise at less than 60db), which allowed the hotel to remain fully operational during the retrofit. Following the structural application, the Tyfo® Composite material was finished to match the existing facade of the building.

In this instance, using the Tyfo® Composite System provided the owner with a cost savings of nearly half of what a traditional repair would have cost. In addition, there was no costly loss of revenue do to an extended shut down.

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