



**SidePlate Systems**, a subsidiary of MiTek, a Berkshire Hathaway company, joins with the rest of the structural engineering community – and the world – in expressing our deeply-felt empathy for the Japanese people as they recover from their historic 9.0 earthquake and the resulting tsunami. We watch with great sadness the ongoing devastating effects of this tragedy as well as recent others including New Zealand, Chile and Haiti, and the impact it has on all of us.

All of us in the structural engineering profession realize that each significant earthquake brings a new learning curve. That is one of the ways that we continue to learn and advance with the end goal being the protection of life and property.

For over 16 years, we at SidePlate Systems have focused our energies on making buildings safer by developing and testing multi-hazard steel frame connection technologies and thereby continue to develop the most versatile, best performing structural steel systems through:

- Our nationally recognized state-of-the-art expertise in high-fidelity physics-based (HFPB) dynamic nonlinear FEM analysis of connection systems subjected to severe earthquake, terrorist bomb blast, and progressive collapse load conditions - all corroborated through physical testing of said conditions by UCSD, Lehigh, GSA & DoD,
- Our skills and successful early use of proven **Performance Based Design** methodologies to ensure safe and reliable inelastic performance of steel frame buildings,
- Our effective partnering with premier structural engineering firms throughout the country as a valuable extension of their Design Teams,
- Our 'hands-on' practical experience gained with leading steel frame fabricators and erectors across the country.

By using a performance-based design approach that takes advantage of reliable, high performing technologies, buildings can be designed to economically protect the occupants and assets from a multitude of hazards specific to the local environment. We at SidePlate Systems affirm that **Multi-Hazard Preparedness** is an imperative in today's uncertain world.

To achieve your design goals, we invite you to explore with us the benefits of using Performance Based Design on your next project by contacting us at 1-800-475-2077.