## CTV Building Collapse Technical Investigation







for Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission



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### **Outline of Presentation**

- Our Task
- Building features
- Investigation approach
- How did the building collapse?
- Why did the building collapse?





#### Our Task

- Investigation for DBH was focussed on:
  - Reasons for collapse of CTV Building
  - Implications for standards and practices
- The scope of the investigation was limited to identifying technical reasons for the collapse.
- Roles:
  - Dr Clark Hyland
    - Joint Author
    - Expert Panel Member
  - Mr Ashley Smith
    - Joint Author
    - Coordination of Non-Linear Seismic Analysis





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#### BUI.MAD249.0504.5



#### **CTV Building in 2004 (viewed from southeast)**



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#### **Foundation** Plan





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#### Floor Plan Level 2 to Level 6



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Huland

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#### North Core Wall with Column attached







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# South Wall Elevation



#### BUI.MAD249.0504.10

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#### Beam and Floor Sections





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#### BUI.MAD249.0504.13

#### Beam-Column Joints Internal -Line 2



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and

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## **Beam-Column** Joints East Side – 2 Line F F F <u>\_\_\_</u>



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#### Precast Spandrels



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#### Investigation Approach

- Collapsed Condition
- Witness Interviews
- Site Examination
- Materials Testing
- Structural Analysis
- Compliance Checks
- Collapse Scenario Evaluation



- View from west
  - Fire just started near north end
  - Level 4 to 6 cladding pushed north
    - Little debris otherwise on this side
  - Diagonal cracking to masonry infill
  - No liquefaction

North Core Level 4, 5 and 6 Cladding level 2

masonry with diagonal cracking No liquefaction



View from Les Mills from west Immediately after the collapse



- View from South
  - Prior to fire starting
  - Level 5 slab hanging from North Core
  - Level 6 slab supported by drag bars
  - No debris south of the building
    - Cars parked in front of South Wall undamaged

Cars undamaged on South face



View from Cashel Street from south Immediately after the collapse



- View from southeast
  - Smoke from fire in background
  - No liquefaction
  - Slight eastward throw
    - Cars in Madras Street crushed by edges beams and Spandrel panels
  - Columns fractured



View from southeast Immediately after the collapse



- View from East Lines 2 to 4
  - Smoke from fire in background
  - No liquefaction
  - Cars in Madras street crushed
  - Columns fractured



View from Blackwells from east Line 2 to 4 shortly after the collapse at 1:21  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{pm}}$ 



View from east at Line 4 North Core Immediately after the collapse at 1:00 pm



#### Witness Interviews

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- 18 Eye-witnesses Interviewed
  - 6 were in the building during the collapse
    - Levels 1, 4 and 6
  - Views of the collapse from East, South and West
    - 3D perspectives

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Fly-through video





#### Witness Observations

- Witness 14: Gutteridge
  - Twisting, bursting, columns breaking
- Witness 8 and 15: Hawker and Spencer
  - Upper portion came down as a unit
- Witness 6: May
  - Top leaned to east then collapsed straight down
- Witness at Level 4 Lifts: Godkin and Horsley
  - Floor started collapsing and undulating near South Wall before sharp west-east lurch









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#### Site Examination

- Salvaged Structural components
- North Core examination
- Levels Survey
- Foundations excavation and examination
- Column extraction and testing at Burwood



### Salvaged Structural Components

- South Wall Level 5 to 6
  - Soft concrete at door head
    - Non-compliant
  - Smooth construction joints
    - Non-compliant





## Salvaged Structural Components

- Column Hinging
  - Base
  - Mid-height
    - Vertical reinforcing steel termination zone
    - Spandrel Panel contact?
  - Head







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### Salvaged Structural Components



Possible East and North face column damage sequence



## South Wall Condition

- South Wall
  - Heavy compression spalling at east end
  - Fan like flexural cracking
    - Cantilever behaviour
    - Masonry infill of door





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#### North Core Condition



- Hairline cracking to North Core
- Fire effects on inner faces





- Drag Bars at Levels 4 to 6
- Slab broken away at end of saddle bars
  - 1200 mm south of beam
- No or little slab reinforcing connection to some walls





• Drag Bars connection to some walls



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- Slabs leaning against North Core
- Indicates loss of support along Line 3 prior to breaking off North Core





- Drag Bars slab anchors at Levels 4, 5 and 6 upright behind wall tips
  - Slab appeared to have rotated off after collapse further south in building
- Some Drag Bars had been cut off during recovery operations



Level 4 Drag Bars



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- Beam bottom bars not cast into North Core L3 to L6
  - Non-compliant


## Levels Survey

- No sign of settlement of the ground floor
- North Core had a northwards displacement
  - More at the eastern end





### **Foundations Examination**

- No liquefaction was found adjacent to the foundations.
- No signs of uplift
- No signs of damage to the foundation beams





# Materials Testing

- Concrete cores from walls, slabs and columns
- Reinforcing steel and decking

   Compliant
- Drag Bar threaded anchors
  - Compliant
  - Results used to assess
     Drag Bar capacity





# **Concrete Quality**

- Wall Concrete
  - Satisfactory
  - Localised door head issue
- Slab Concrete
  - Satisfactory
- Beam Concrete

   Satisfactory
- Column Concrete
  - Non-compliances





## **Column Extraction at Burwood**

The CTV Building debris field at the Burwood Eco Landfill from which columns were extracted



**CTV Building columns extracted for examination and testing** 





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# Column Concrete

- Cores extracted and tested
  - NZS3112:1986
- Rebound Hammer testing
  - Calibrated to core tests ASTM C805
- Comparison to concrete production statistical limits
  - NZS 3104:1983
- Comparison to 25 % aged
  - Concrete is known to increase in strength with time
- Density
  - Low in some cases



### Column Concrete



• This indicates that the concrete in a significant proportion of the columns may have had strengths less than the minimum specified



### **Reinforcing Steel**



- South Wall
  - Compliant
  - Some yielding at base only





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# **Structural Analysis**

- ERSA
  - Elastic Response Spectrum Analysis
- NTHA (StructureSmith)
  - Nonlinear Time History Analysis
- NPA (StructureSmith)
  - Nonlinear Push-over Analysis
- Column drift capacity
  - CUMBIA / MATLAB
- Drift Compatibility
  - ERSA drifts compared to CUMBIA and NPA drift capacities
  - Could the columns cope with the drifts of the South Wall and North Core?



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### **Non-Linear**



#### Recorded Peak Ground Accelerations – 4 September 2010



(Source: EQC-GNS Geonet)





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#### Effects of 4 September 2010

- Estimated floor movements approx. 50% of 22 February
- Limited structural damage reported
- No evidence to indicate significant effects on earthquake performance



Column cracking Level 6



Spalling plaster at masonry wall



#### BUI.MAD249.0504.49 **Recorded Peak Ground Accelerations – 22 February 2011**



(Source: EQC-GNS Geonet)





#### **Acceleration response spectra**







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#### 3-D Animation: 22 February 2011

Ground shakes, causing building to move

### Notice:

- Lateral (sideways) movement of floors
- Twisting of floors
- Strain on columns



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### **Columns under strain**

Lateral movement of floors causes columns to distort Distortion causes bending and shear in columns









#### Column F2 Level 3 – 22 Feb 2011 – CBGS Record



Comparison of drift demand and capacity





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#### Drift demand vs. capacity for column at grid D2

Level	Axial Load	Drift Capacity			E/W Drift Demand	Ratio
	(kN)	(% of storey height)			22 Feb CHHC (%)	<u>Demand</u> Capacity (Ecu=0.004)
		First Yield	Nominal Strength	Ecu=0.004		
5	324	0.71	0.85	1.31	1.65	1.26
4	681	0.85	0.90	1.20	1.85	1.54
3	1038	no yield	0.89	1.10	1.86	max. 1.69
2	1328	no yield	0.95	1.08	1.76	1.63
1	1682	no yield	0.90	0.96	1.46	1.52



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#### Column Actions Grid D2 Level 1 - 22 Feb 2011





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#### **Floor Connection to North Core**





STRUCTURE SMI

### **Comments on NTHA**

- Inelastic behaviour using earthquake records
- Earthquake records used without scaling
- Calibration to observed damage debatable
- Appears to over predict damage
  - Drag Bar failure predicted in September Earthquake
  - Drag Bar failure predicted very early in February Aftershock
    - Site evidence and L4 witness testimony indicates Drag Bars did not fail before collapse started elsewhere



### ERSA

- 3D elastic structural behaviour
  - Standard design spectra for compliance checks
    - Effect of masonry infill contact considered
  - CBD earthquake records spectra
    - September Earthquake response 2.0 x December Aftershock
    - February Aftershock 2.2 x September Earthquake
       Tables 15 to 17



### **ERSA Earthquake Records**



• GNS recording stations used



### **ERSA Earthquake Records**



 Development of Response Spectra for comparative ERSA



### Earthquake Records vs Design Spectra



- Earthquake Loadings Standard (NZS 4203:1984)
  - Ductile response
- Design spectra vs Earthquake spectra
  - Calibration issues



# **Compliance Checks to Standards**

- Compliance checks to Standards using ERSA
  - Walls "complied" with inter-storey drift limits
    - Column C/1 K/SM=2.75 drift 0.80% at Level 5 < 0.83% (Table 13)
      - Design practitioners would likely have used more conservative development of "dependable capacity" as measure of elastic limit.
    - Should have been adequate to protect columns
      - Implied safe ultimate ULS drift performance of Standard at S=5 loads
        - » 0.83% x 5/2.75 = 1.51%
    - However lack of symmetry means check would under predict drifts
  - Columns non-compliant for seismic spiral reinforcing limits
    - Elastic deformation limits less than K/SM=2.75 drifts (Table 13 and 14)
  - Columns non-compliant for spiral reinforcing for shear under imposed drifts
    - Application of the drifts causes high shears in columns heads
    - Minimum shear requirements not satisfied to NZS 3101:1982 (p.110)



# **Column Drift Limits**



- At K/SM = 2.75 loads (2.75 x S=1 loads Fig 162)
  - Elastic behaviour required if no additional seismic reinforcing provided
    - 55% ULS drifts
    - Note NZS 3101:1982 Appendix B and ACI 318-71
    - Working Stress vs Strength Design
  - Additional seismic reinforcing required if elastic behaviour exceeded at or less than that demand
    - Stiff columns would require more reinforcing than more flexible columns to give safe performance
- 1.51% safe drift performance appeared to be expected by the Standards
  - Drift performance of 1.51% at S=5 loads
  - Principle of equivalent ductile displacement is basis of NZ seismic deign standards



### **Column Drift Capacity**



- At average tested concrete strength of 27.5 MPa (Fig 159)
  - Cracking at 0.10 to 0.35% drifts
- Level 2 to 4 columns North and East faces 1.15 to 1.45% drift capacity (Table 13 and 14)
  - Less than 1.51% safe drift performance expected by Standard



### **Column Drift Capacity**



- At average tested concrete strength of 27.5 MPa
- Drift capacity reduces with increased axial load from vertical acceleration
  - Table13 for C/1 and Table 14 for F/2 axial loads and drift limits



### **Column Drift Capacity**



- At lower 5% ile tested concrete strength of 14.2 MPa
- Drift capacity reduces with reduced concrete strength



## NTHA Drag Bar Failure Estimates

Column F2 Level 3 Drifts - CBGS, 22 February Lyttelton Aftershock, no masonry

Column F2 Level 3 Drifts - CBGS, 4 September Darfield Earthquake, no masonry



Drag Bar failure estimated to occur when 1% drift along Line F



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### **Compliance Checks and Collapse Drift**

- Compliance Checks with Standards
  - Design As-drawn :
    - Non-compliant column spiral reinforcing
    - Non-compliant slab diaphragm connections to North Core prior to remedial work
    - Non-compliant lack of seismic separation of Spandrel Panels from columns
  - As-built fitness for purpose check with defects:
    - Non-compliances as above
    - Non-compliant Level 3 to 6 beam connections to North Core
    - Non-compliant separation of masonry infill from Line A west face
    - Non-compliant masonry infill at Level 1 South Wall exit
    - Drag Bars unable to sustain ULS structural response
- Assessment of Inter-storey Drift on CTV Building at Collapse
  - Used tested properties and strengths
  - Estimated less than 1.0% drift along East face at collapse
    - Based on Drag Bar failure estimated at 1.0% prior to Drag Bar failure
    - Initiating at Level 3, 4 or 5 columns
    - Design standard expected 1.51% safe drift performance



### **Concrete Columns**





- Same reinforcing in all main building columns
- Light spiral binding R6
   @ 250 centres
  - Non-compliant
- Rectangular columns on Line A only

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### **Spandrel Panels**



Non-compliant : no seismic gaps specified between columns and Spandrel Panels



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# Spandrel Panels and Columns

North Core on

north face

Line F columns on east face

Column C18



Concrete edge beams

#### Pre-cast concrete Spandrel panels between columns on edge beams

#### CTV Building in May and October 1987 during construction (viewed from northeast)



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## Masonry Infill Wall on West Face



- Drawings showed
  - Grouted top row of masonry at each floor
  - 25 mm gaps on sides at columns
- Workers outside just before collapse found
  - Top rows partially grout filled
  - No gaps on sides at columns on outer face
  - No obvious damage from September eq.
- Staff inside found
  - Sealant and gaps on sides at columns



Workers preparing wall for cladding just prior to Eq (CTV News)

Section through wall from Drawings



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## **Adjacent Building**



#### CTV Building in January 1987 during construction (viewed from southeast)



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#### Effect of Masonry Infill on West Wall

- Increased torsional eccentricity
- Drifts on East face similar to drifts on South face
- May have reduced demand on South Wall





# **Drag Bars Added after Completion**



Drag Bars Level 4, 5 and 6

- Construction of building 1986-1987
- Design defect found in 1990
  - Building could separate from North Core in an Eq.
- Remedial work using Drag Bars designed in 1991
  - Steel angles epoxy bolted into walls and underside of slabs
  - No Drag Bars designed or installed at Level 2 or 3
  - Unable to sustain full design response of the structure
- No Building Consent application on Council files





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# Summary of Vulnerabilities





### **Collapse Scenarios**





# **Collapse Initiation Scenarios**

- Collapse Initiation Scenarios Examined
  - 1. East or South face column Failure on (Line F or 1)
  - 2. Internal column failure on Line 2 or 3
  - 3. Internal column failure following floor slab diaphragm disconnection at North Core
    - No Drag Bars at these levels
  - 4. Column failure following floor slab disconnection at North Core at Levels 4, 5 or 6
- Scenario 1 preferred
  - (Refer p.103 to107)



#### Likely Collapse Sequence



East face column failure initiation

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## Likely Collapse Sequence





• Line 2 (east to west) column failure development



## Likely Collapse Sequence



• Line C to D (south to north) column failure development



L2 Floors pull away from South Wall and Line 1 frame

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Line D Collapse Sequence

## Why Did the CTV Building Collapse?

- Specific factors that contributed (or may have contributed) to the collapse include:
  - Severe earthquake aftershock
  - Column drift capacity substandard
  - Seismic gaps between columns and Spandrel Panels substandard
  - Some column concrete test strengths substandard
  - Unsymmetrical layout and large strength differential between South Wall and North Core
  - Seismic separation of masonry infill on west wall compromised
  - Substandard construction joints in South Wall



# Likely or Possible Contributors to the Collapse of the CTV Building

(From p.31 of the report)

- The stronger than design-level ground shaking.
- The low displacement-drift capacity of the columns due to:
  - The low amounts of spiral reinforcing in the columns which resulted in sudden failure once concrete strain limits were reached.
  - The large proportion of cover concrete, which would have substantially reduced the capacity of columns after crushing and spalling.
  - Significantly lower than expected concrete strength in some of the critical columns.
  - The effects of vertical earthquake accelerations, probably increasing the axial load demand on the columns and reducing their capacity to sustain drift.
- The lack of sufficient separation between the perimeter columns and the Spandrel Panels which may have reduced the capacity of the columns to sustain the lateral building displacements.
- The plan irregularity of the earthquake-resisting elements which further increased the inter-storey drifts on the east and south faces.
- Increased displacement demands due to diaphragm (slab) separation from the North Core.
- The plan and vertical irregularity produced by the influence of the masonry walls on the west face up to Level 4 which further amplified the torsional response and displacement demand.
- The limited robustness (tying together of the building) and redundancy (alternative load path) which meant that the collapse was rapid and extensive.





#### Summary of Findings

- The earthquake aftershock was severe but the building appears to have collapsed at inter-storey drifts less than those expected by the Standards
- A number of collapse scenarios were considered. Collapse most likely initiated in substandard concrete columns along the east face of the building at Levels 3, 4 or 5.
- Columns designed in accordance with the standards would have been expected to be safe at drifts of 1.51%.
- The columns along the North and East faces of the CTV Building at Levels 2 to 4 were estimated to have drift capacities between 1.15 and 1.45%
- It appears that these East face columns may have failed at drifts of less than 1.0% prior to Drag Bar failure at the North Core



#### Summary of Findings

- Specific factors that contributed (or may have contributed) to the columns failures include:
  - Columns did not have the amount of spiral confining and shear reinforcing steel required by the design standard.
  - There was no specific seismic gaps between the Spandrel Panels and the Columns
  - The South Wall may have begun to yield and lose stiffness at drifts as low as of 0.40% due to structural asymmetry
  - Vertical accelerations may have reduced column drift capacity
  - Substandard construction joints in the South Wall may have slipped and increased inter-storey drifts..
  - The concrete in some of the columns had test strengths less than the minimum strength specified.
  - Seismic separation gaps between the Infill masonry on the west face and the structure appear to have been compromised and may have changed the response of the structure.



#### Summary of Findings

- Critical connections of the floors to some of the North Core walls were omitted in the original design and were only identified during a pre-purchase structural review 3 years after construction.
  - The Council did not have any record of the remedial works that were subsequently undertaken.
  - The Drag Bars installed could not sustain the ultimate design response of the structure.
- Most of the substandard design could be identified by a normal peer review
- Most of the substandard construction could be identified by normal inspection procedures.
- The building did not appear to have suffered significant structural damage in the 4 September 2011 Earthquake or 26 December 2010 Aftershock.
- The presentation is based on the findings of the CTV Building Collapse Investigation Report by Hyland Fatigue + Earthquake Engineering and StructureSmith Ltd and the Site Examination and Materials Testing Report by Hyland for the Department of Building and Housing
- The scope of the investigation was limited to identifying technical reasons for the collapse.

