

## **Buildings: Design for Dampers**

The end of the Cold War in 1990 heralded a restructuring period for the American military and defense industry. One of the outcomes of this new era was that political and economic change allowed previously restricted technologies to become available to the general public. This conversion of defense technology is typified by highly advanced products and services that suddenly appeared in the marketplace, seemingly out of nowhere. Perhaps the best known of these is the now ubiquitous Internet, which in reality came from 1970's defense technology.

In the civil engineering field, high capacity fluid dampers have transitioned from defense related structures to commercial applications on building and bridges subjected to seismic and/or wind storm inputs. Because fluid damping technology was proven thoroughly reliable and robust through decades of Cold War usage, implementation on commercial structures has taken place very quickly.

This presentation provides a brief overview of fluid damping technology with specific case studies being provided from four of more than sixty major buildings and bridges recently equipped with fluid dampers.