



# BASE ISOLATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF BUILDINGS FROM EARTHQUAKE

WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO  
PREFABRICATED AND TALL BUILDINGS

Agostino Marioni – New Delhi – 21 February 2017

# How to protect a structure from the earthquake?

There are 2 systems

1. First system is to design the structure strong enough to resist the earthquake (Inca wall strategy)

- In case of earthquake structural damages are admitted but not the collapse of the structure



# How to protect a structure from the earthquake?

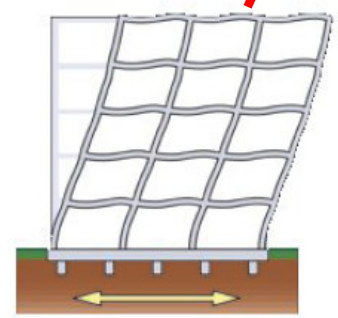
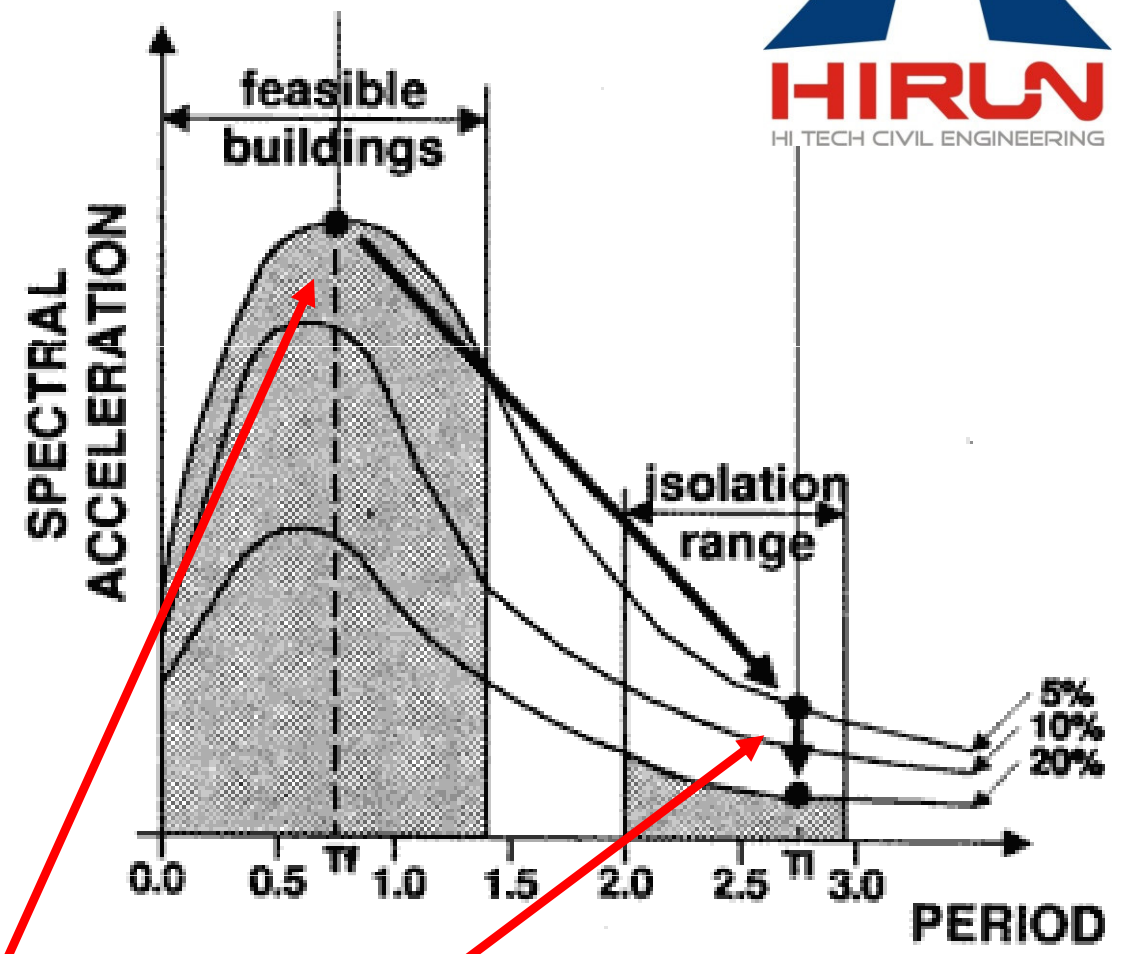
2. Second system (PALM TREE STRATEGY) is to reduce the seismic action making the structure flexible.

- The seismic action in the structure is reduced
- Damages, if any, are concentrated in the devices
- The structure and its content are protected from damages

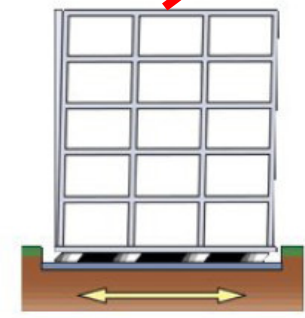


# HOW TO REDUCE THE SEISMIC ACTION?

- Shifting the natural period
- Increasing the energy dissipation



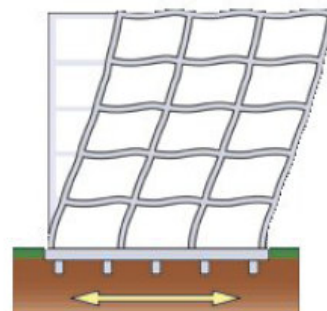
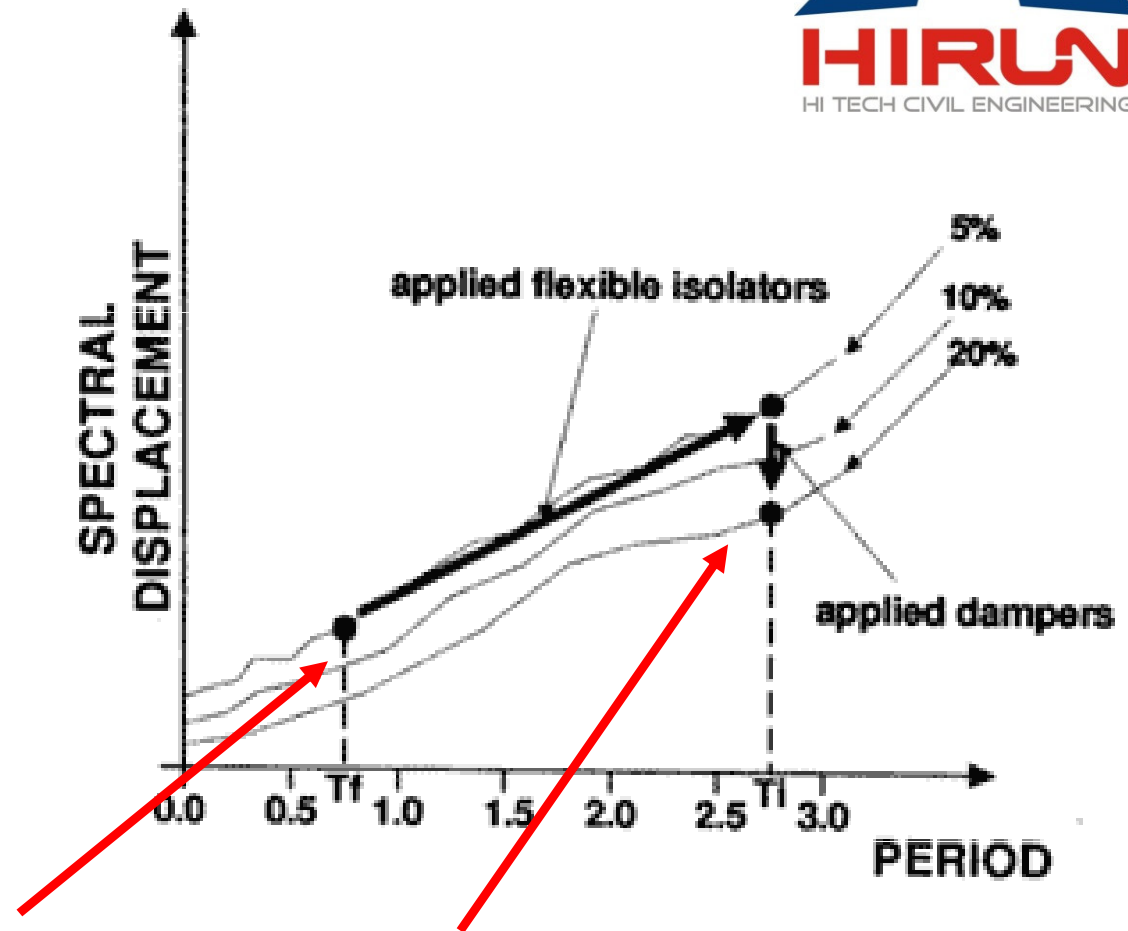
*Struttura non isolata*



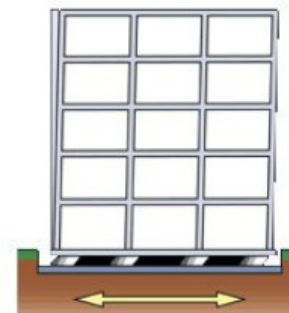
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## CONSEQUENCES OF THE BASE ISOLATION

- Significant increase of the displacement
- Energy dissipation will reduce the displacement

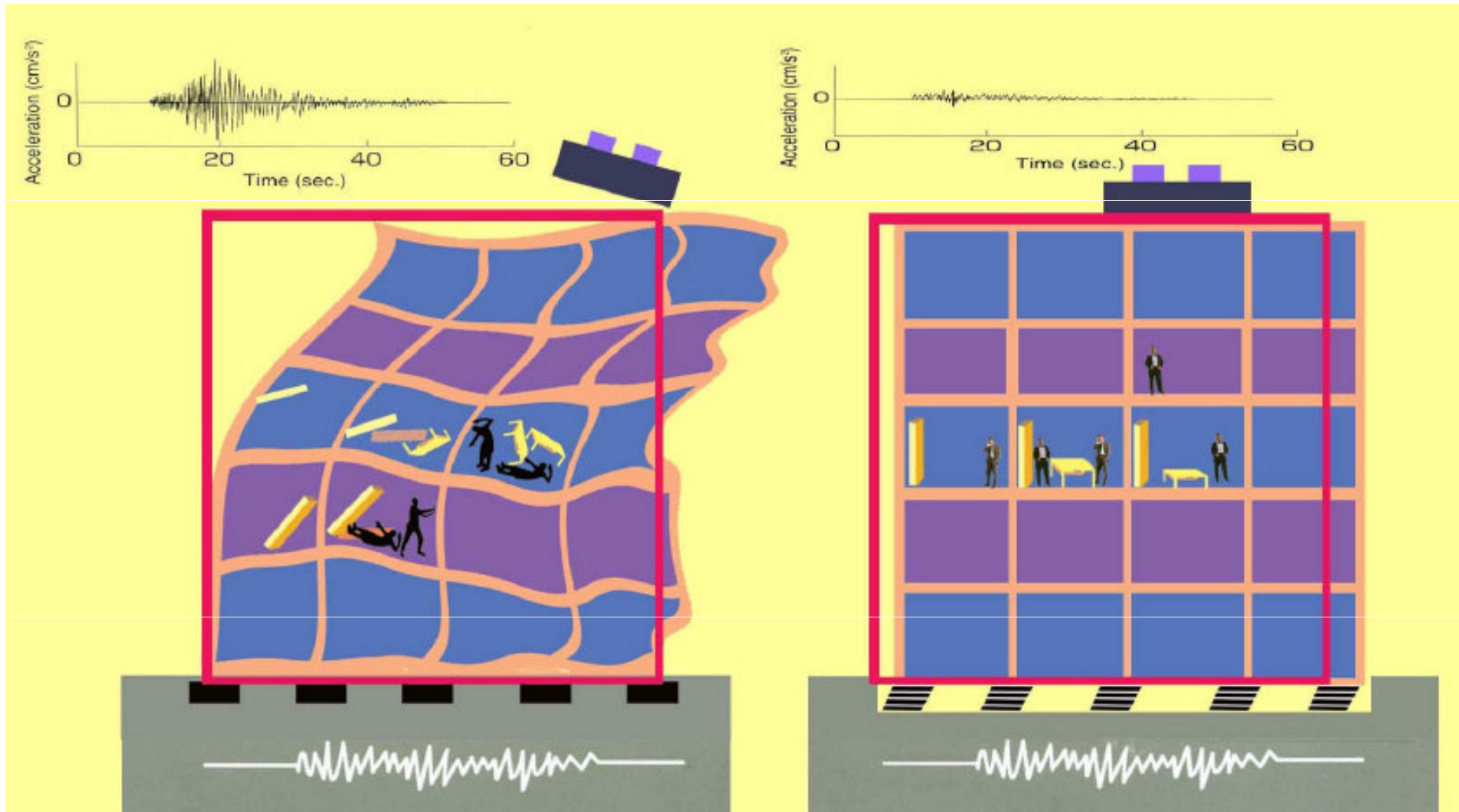


*Struttura non isolata*



*Struttura isolata*

# THE ADVANTAGES OF THE BASE ISOLATION



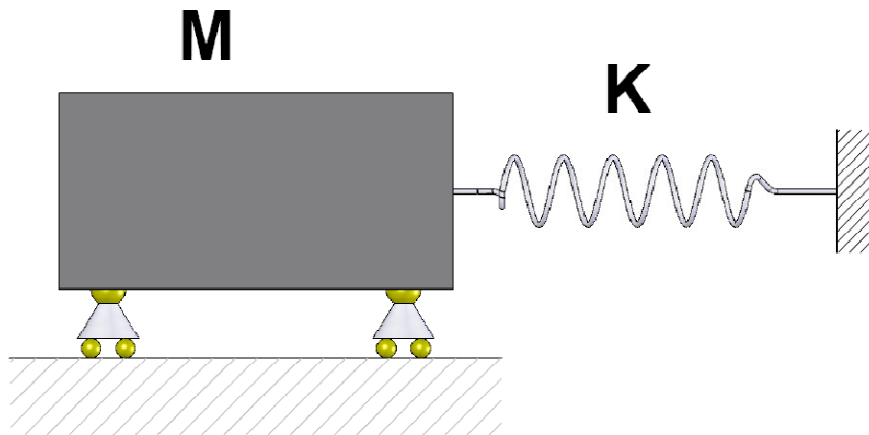
- FIXED BASE
- Damages to structure and content
- BASE ISOLATED
- No damages

# How to increase the natural period of a structure?

- Placing between the structure and the foundations a harmonic oscillator forcing the structure to swing according to the period of the oscillator

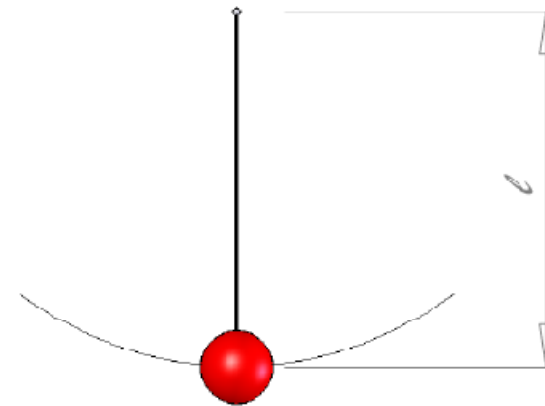
# Harmonic oscillators

- Spring with stiffness  $K$



$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{M}{K}}$$

- Pendulum with length  $L$



$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\frac{l}{g}}$$



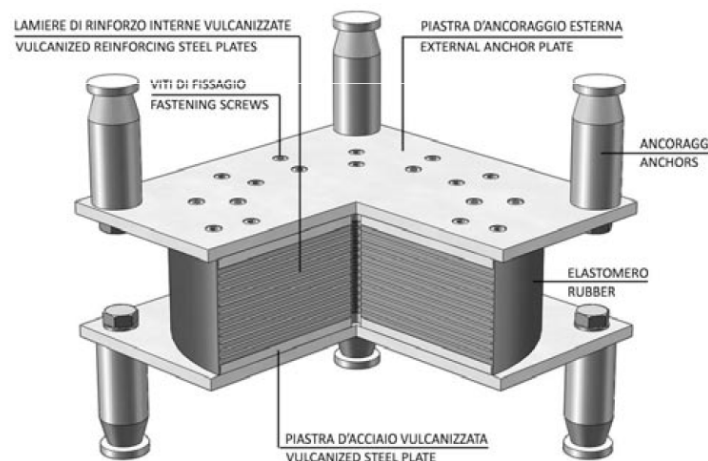
# How to dissipate energy?

- Friction
- Yield of metals
- Viscosity of fluids or rubbers

In any case an amount of heat equivalent to the dissipated energy is generated

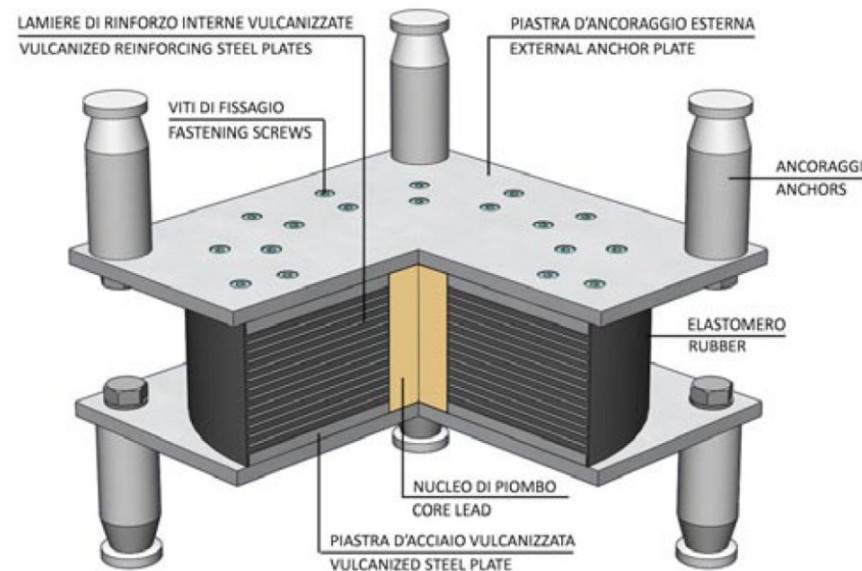
# Main types of Isolators

- High Damping Rubber Bearing
  - The spring effect is given by the rubber elasticity (elastic energy storage)
  - The energy dissipation is given by the rubber viscosity



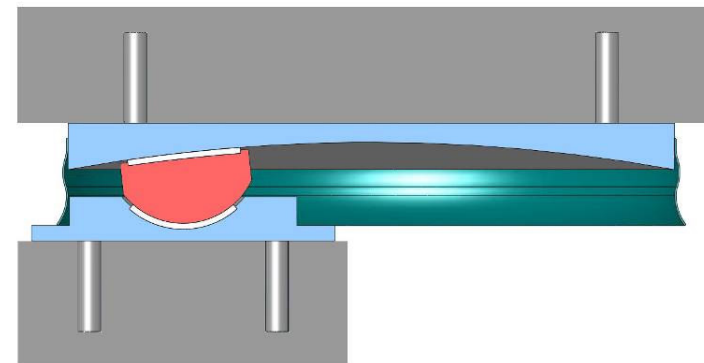
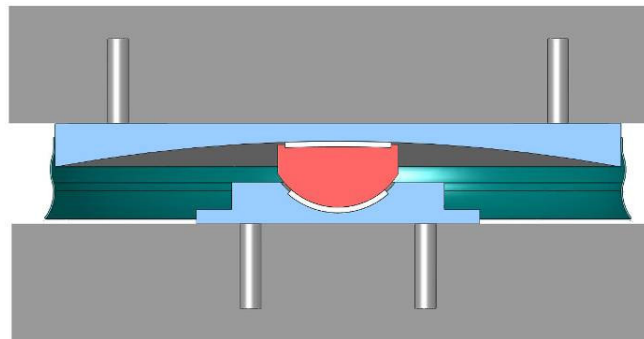
# Main types of Isolators

- Lead Rubber Bearing
  - The spring effect is given by the rubber elasticity (elastic energy storage)
  - The energy dissipation is given by the yield of the lead core



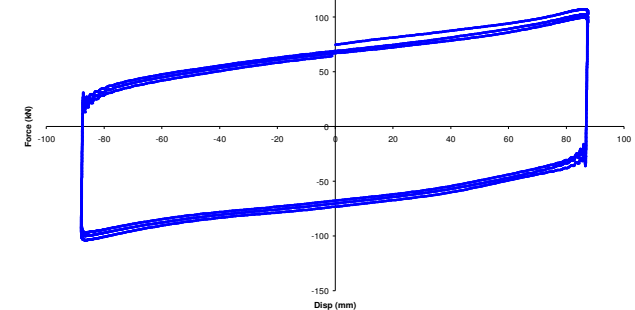
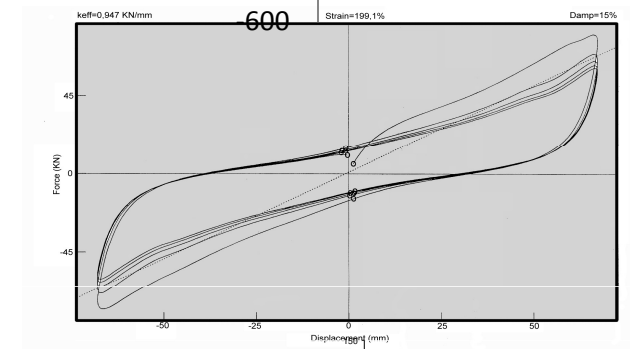
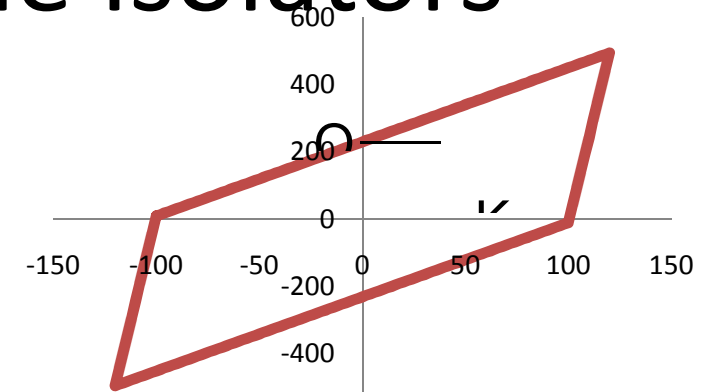
# Main types of Isolators

- Sliding Pendulum
  - The spring effect is provided by the potential energy storage
  - The energy dissipation is provided by the friction of the sliding material



# Hysteresis Cicles of the Isolators

- LRB
- HDRB
- Sliding Pendulum



# Functions of a base isolation system

- Support the vertical load
- Provide lateral flexibility
- Provide a restoring force
- Damp the energy

**Isolators are devices providing the four functions**

# The Standards for the Antiseismic Devices

In Europe:

- EN 1998 (Eurocode 8)
- EN 15129 European Standard for Antiseismic Devices

In USA:

- AASHTO Guide Specification for Seismic Isolation Design
- ASCE/SEI 7 Minimum Design Loads

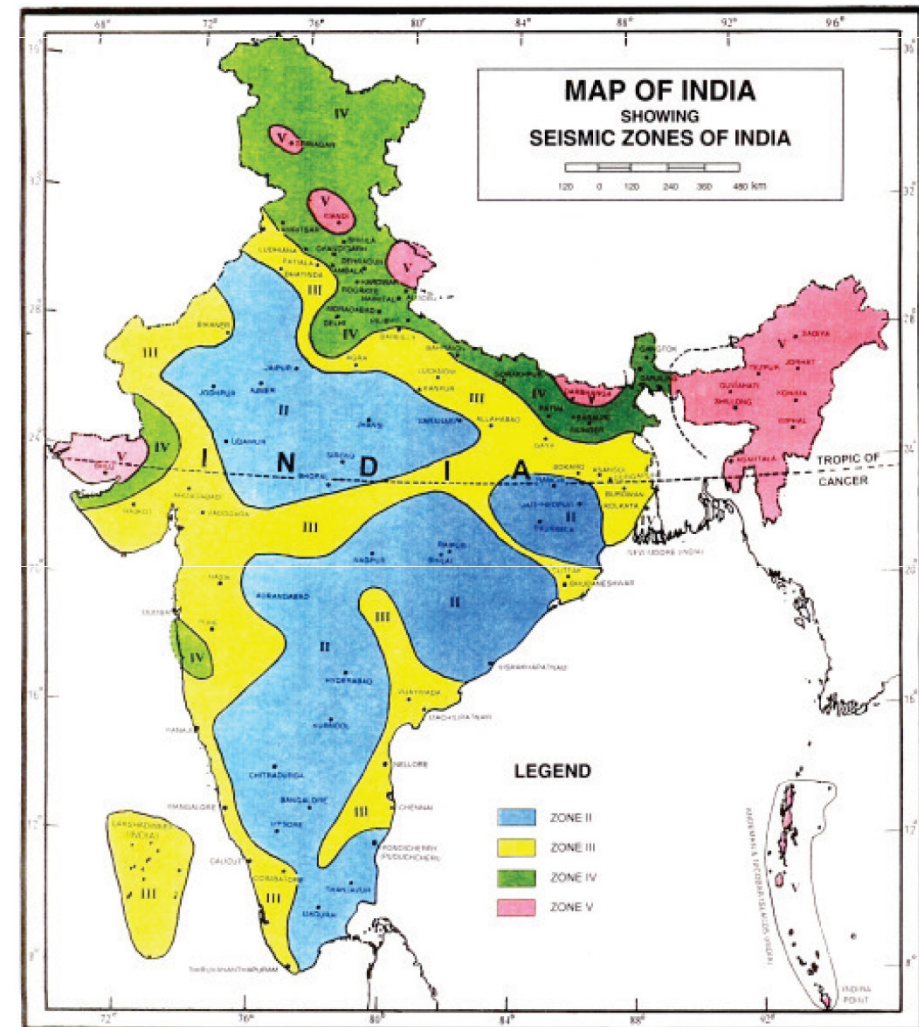
# The Standards for the Antiseismic Devices

In India:

- IS 1893 Criteria for earthquake resistant design of structures

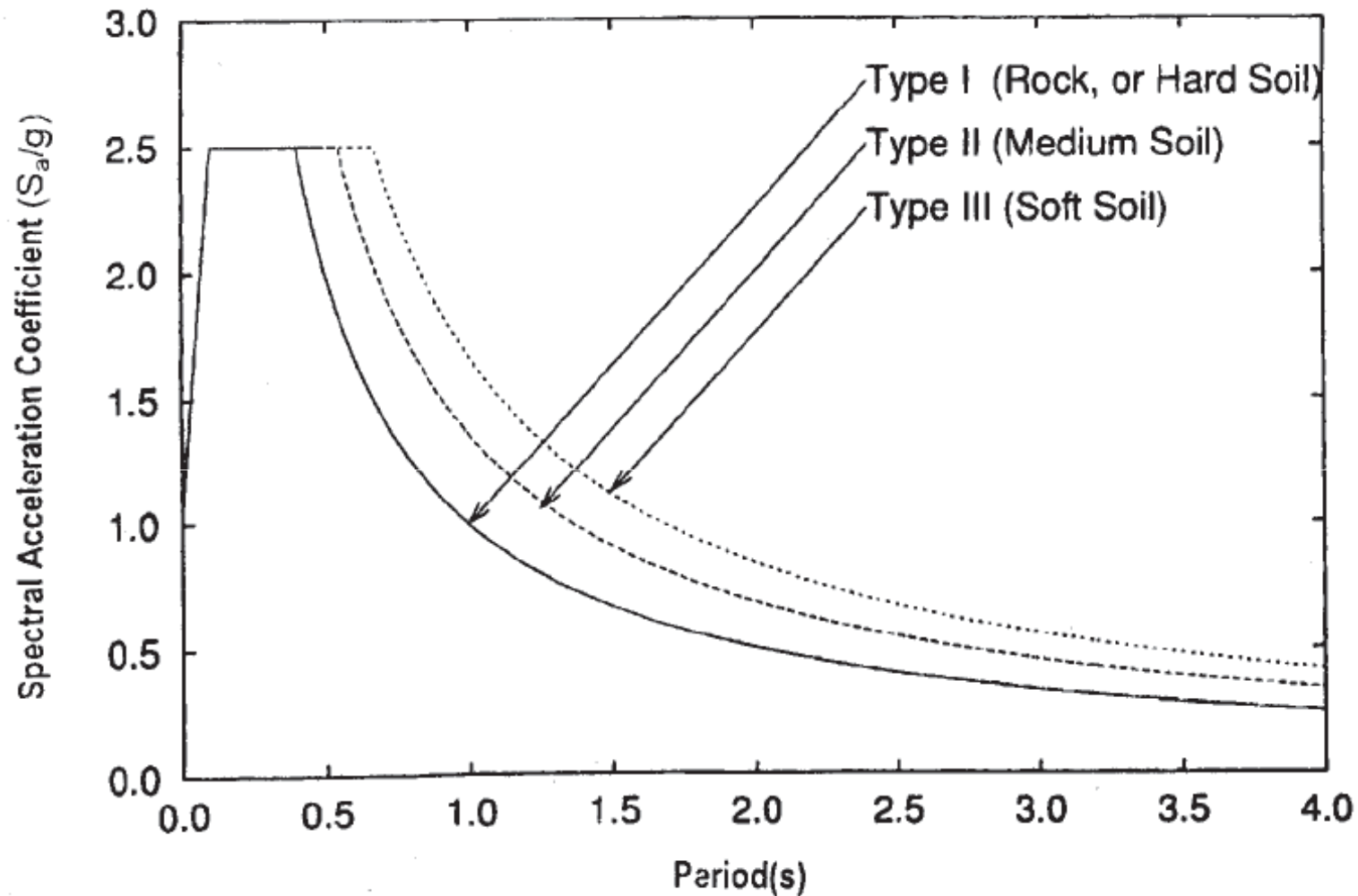
**Table 2 Zone Factor, Z**  
( Clause 6.4.2 )

Seismic Zone	II	III	IV	V
Seismic Intensity	Low	Moderate	Severe	Very Severe
Z	0.10	0.16	0.24	0.36

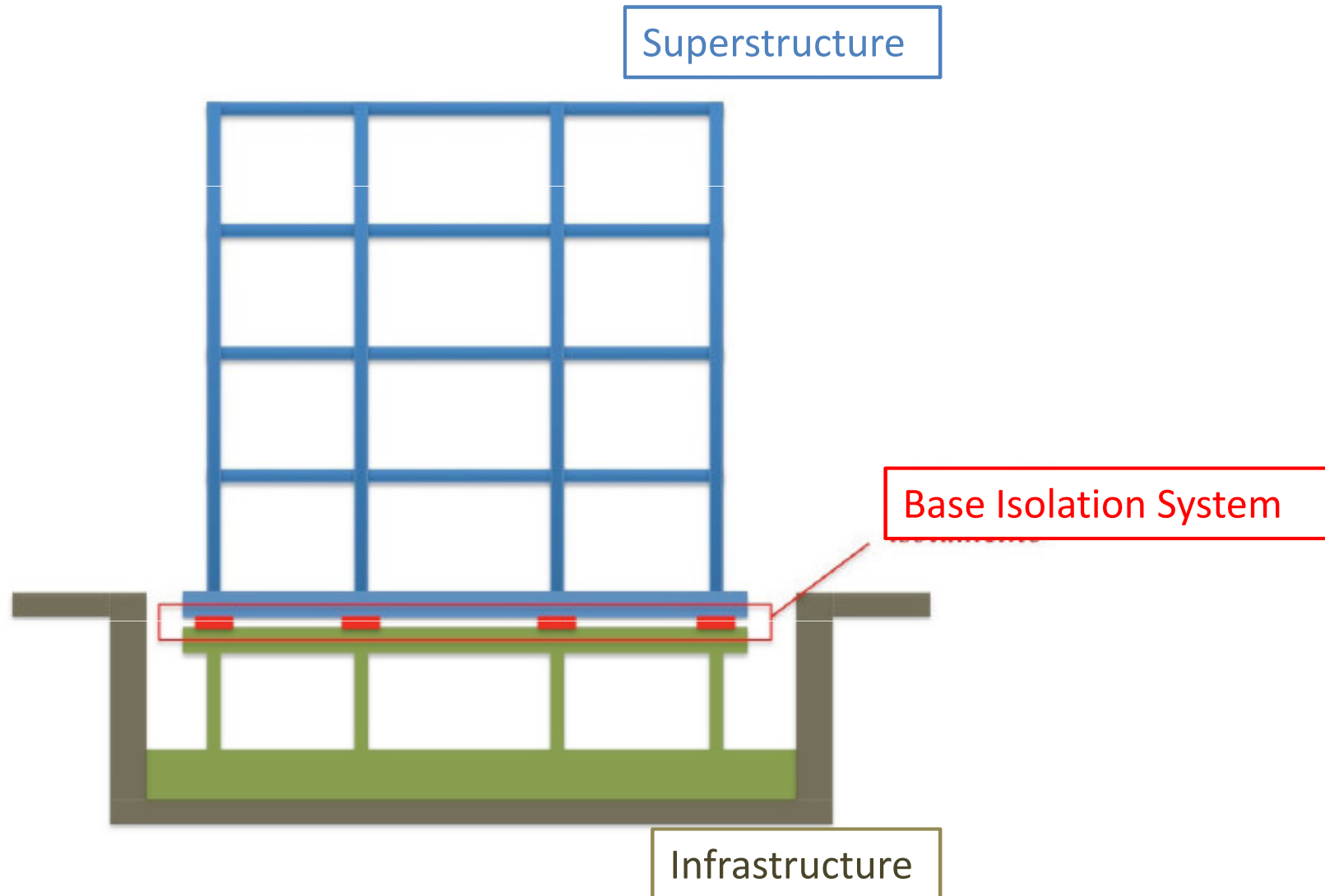




# ACCELERATION SPECTRA ACCORDING TO THE INDIAN CODE



# General rules for a base isolated building





**RUBBER ISOLATORS OR  
PENDULUM?**

# ABOUT THE PERIOD T

For the HDRB the period is a function of:

- $M$  = mass
- $K$  = stiffness
- $M$  may vary (LL may change)
- $K$  can vary in function of Temperature and aging

**IN CONCLUSION WITH HDRB THE PERIOD T CAN VARY**

For the Pendulum the period is a function of:

- $g$  = gravity constant: cannot vary
- $R$  = radius: cannot vary

**WITH THE PENDULUM THE PERIOD CANNOT VARY**

# ABOUT THE STIFFNESS K

- For the HDRB the stiffness is an intrinsic property.

- The centre of stiffness may not be coincident with the centre of mass

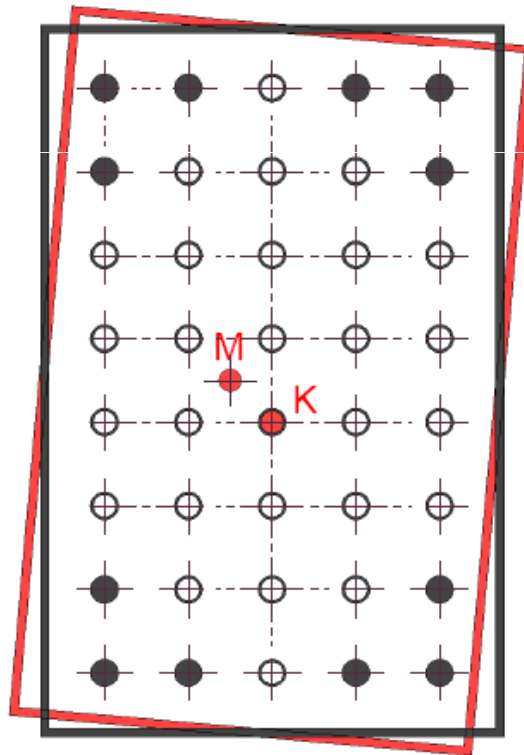
- For the Pendulum the stiffness is proportional to the mass

$$K = Mg \left( \frac{1}{R} + \frac{\mu}{D} \right)$$

- The centre of stiffness is always coincident with the centre of mass

What happens if the mass center is not coincident with the stiffness center

The structure may rotate around the vertical axis, amplifying the displacement at the corners



SEISMIC ACTION

● - HDRB

⊕ - APPOGGI SCORREVOLI

# RUBBER ISOLATORS OR PENDULUM?

## PENDULUM

- Service life  $\geq 100$  years
- Behaviour independent from aging and environmental conditions

## RUBBER

- Service life  $\leq 60$  years
- Behaviour dependent from aging and environmental conditions

# RUBBER ISOLATORS OR PENDULUM?

## PENDULUM

- Fire resistant
- Very high performances in terms of:
  - Period shift
  - Energy dissipation

## RUBBER

- May be damaged from fire
- Limited performances in terms of period shift



# RUBBER ISOLATORS OR PENDULUM?

## PENDULUM

- No maintenance requirements after an earthquake
- Very good cost/efficiency ratio

## RUBBER

- Possible maintenance after an earthquake

# QUALITY CERTIFICATES



- Main quality certificates ISO 9001

# QUALITY CERTIFICATES



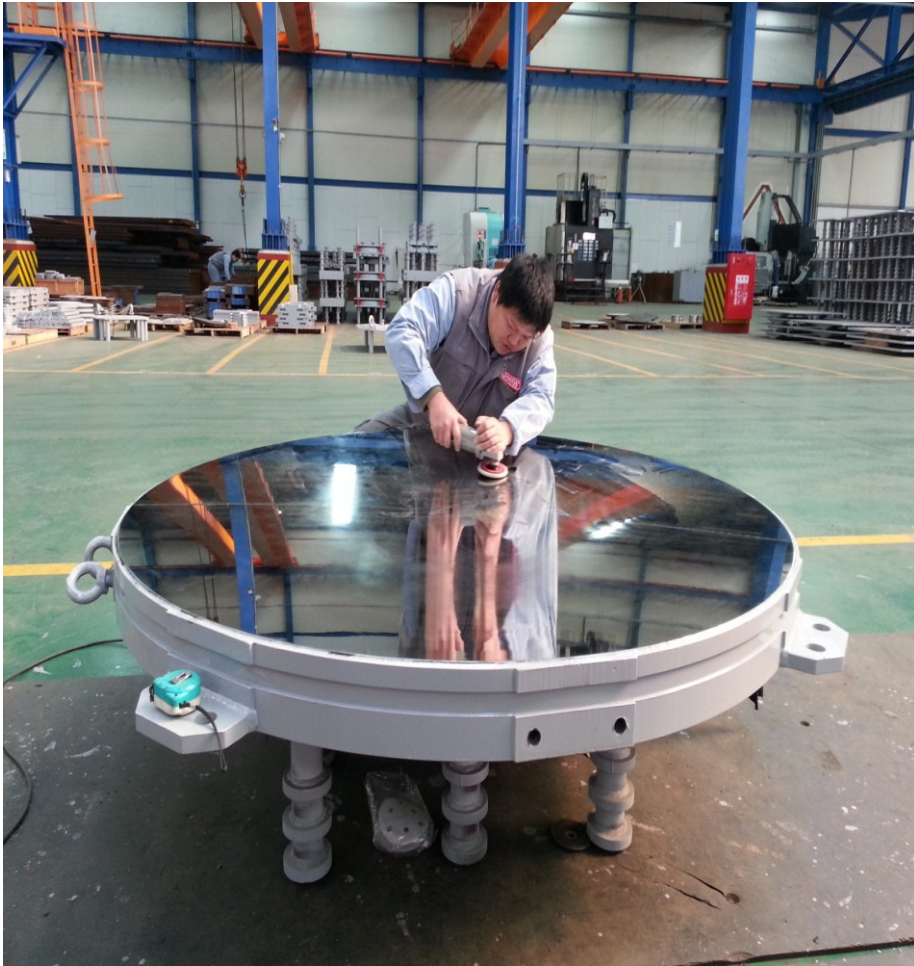
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<p>LGA TECHNOLOGICAL CENTER S.A. C.I.F.A.-63207492</p> <p><b>CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMANCE</b></p> <p>In compliance with Construction Products Regulation (CPR) and the performance requirements</p> <p>EXECUTION OF PART 1: REQUIREMENT METHOD 3A AND</p> <p>Produced by: <b>WUHAN HIRUN ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.</b> NO. 9 WUDONG STREET, QINGSHAN DISTRICT, WUHAN, HUBEI, P.R. CHINA</p> <p>And produced in: <b>WUHAN HIRUN ENGINEERING EQUIPMENT CO. LTD.</b> NO. 9 WUDONG STREET, QINGSHAN DISTRICT, WUHAN, HUBEI, P.R. 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					<p>1st stage 30th Oct. 2015</p> <p>2nd stage 30th April 2016</p> <p>3rd stage 30th Oct. 2016</p> <p>4th stage 30th April 2017</p> <p>5th stage 30th Oct. 2017</p>

- CE marking certificates

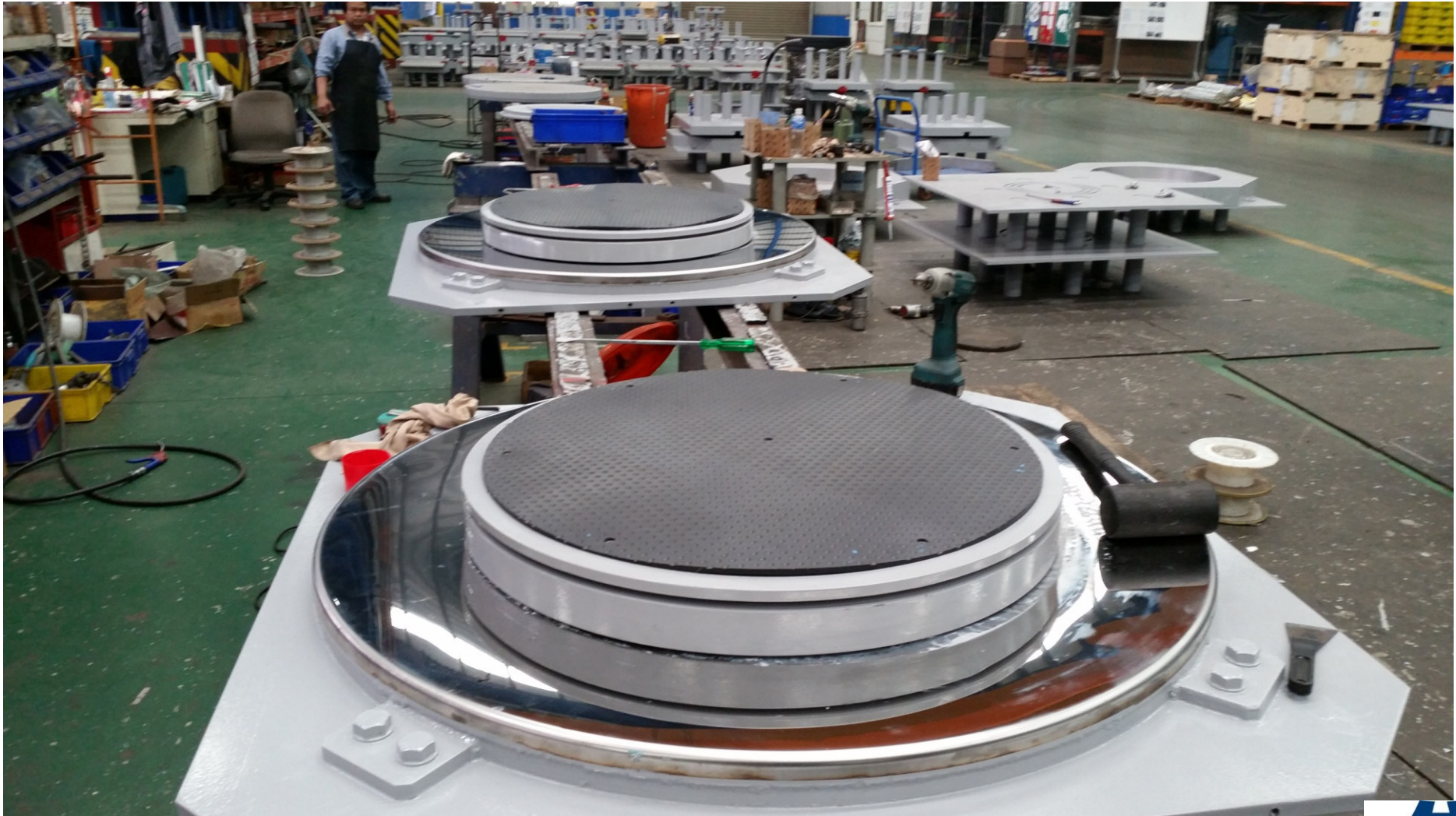
# HIRUN Production line



# HIRUN Production line



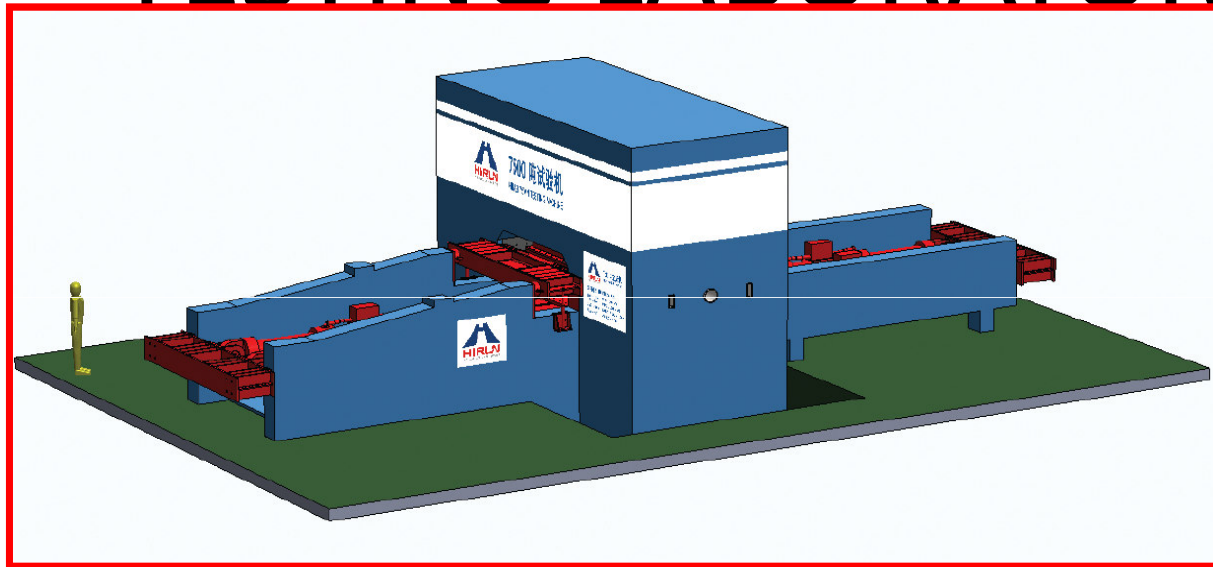
# HIRUN Production line



# HIRUN Production line



# TESTING LABORATORY



## HIRUN MAIN TESTING EQUIPMENT

- Vertical load, dynamic, 75 MN
- Vertical displacement 120 mm (dynamic)
- Horizontal load, dynamic, 6000 kN
- Horizontal displacement 1200 mm
- Horizontal peak velocity 1000 mm/sec

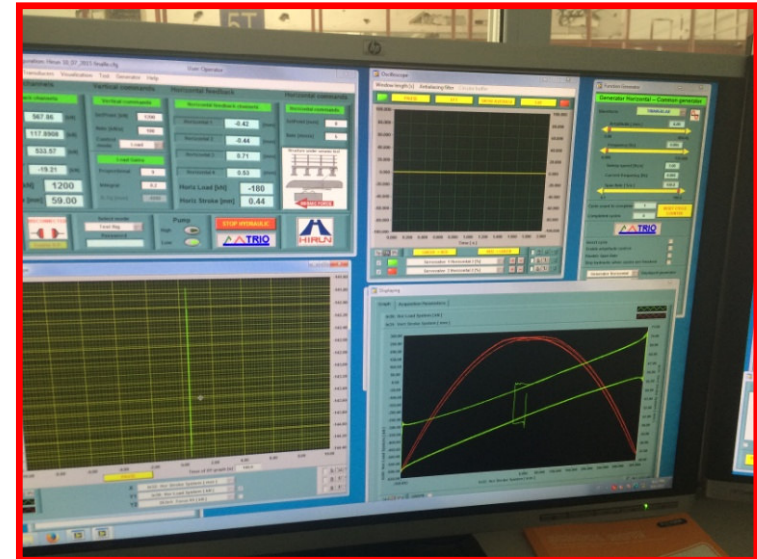


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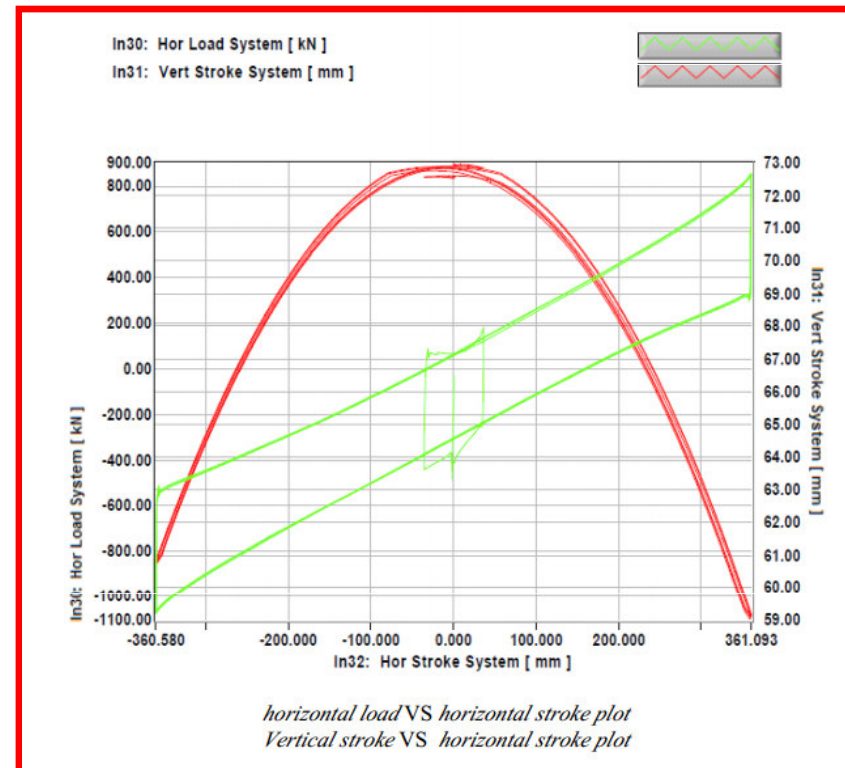
- HIRUN MAIN TESTING EQUIPMENT

# TESTING LABORATORY



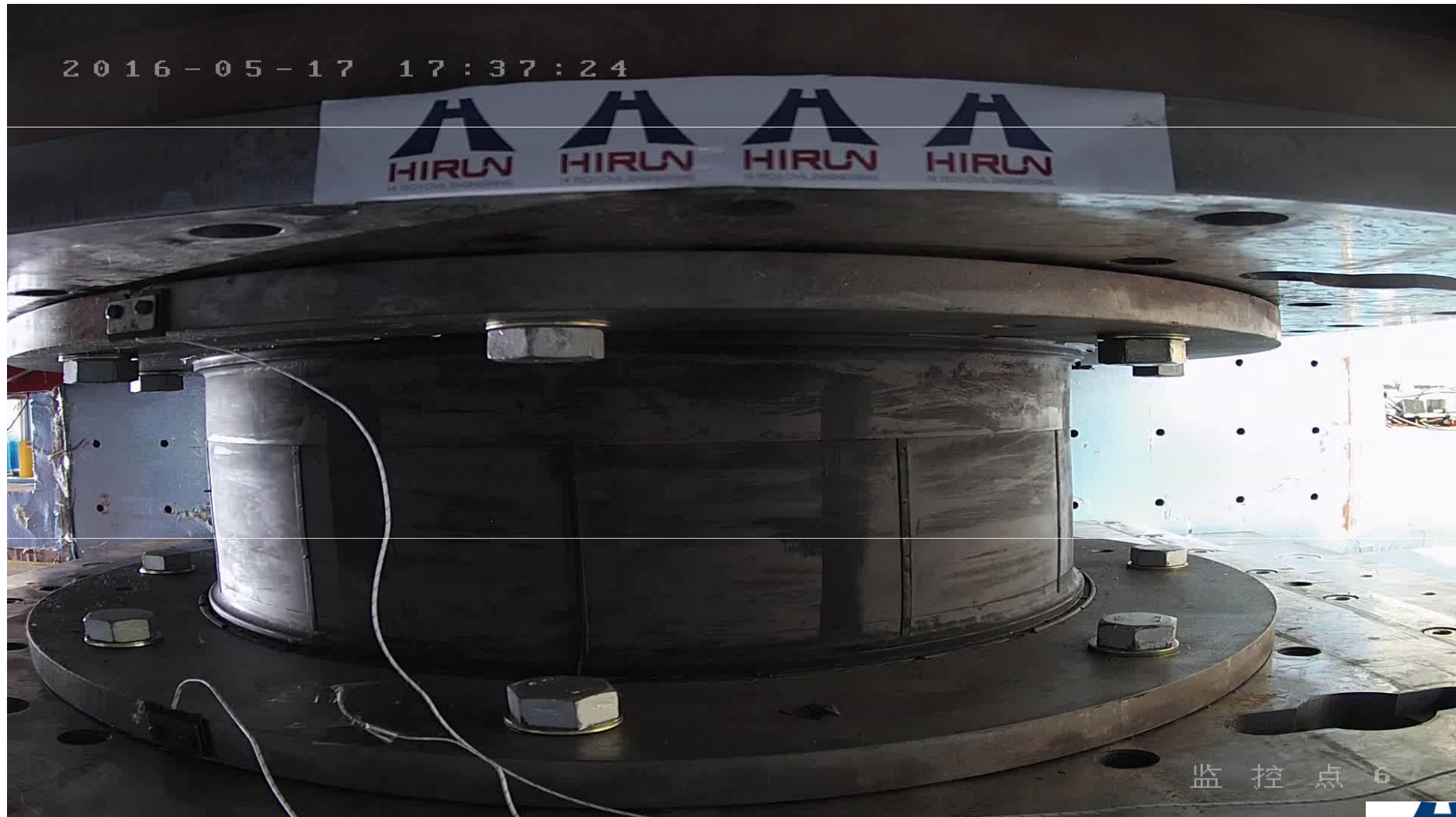
- HIRUN TESTING EQUIPMENT: control room

# TESTING LABORATORY



- Test execution and output

Dynamic test on LRB with:  
Vertical load 7540 kN; Stroke  $\pm 486$  mm; Velocity 1000 mm/s



Dynamic test on Sliding Pendulum with:  
Vertical load 8000 kN; Stroke  $\pm 360$  mm; Velocity 594 mm/s



# PREFABRICATED BUILDINGS

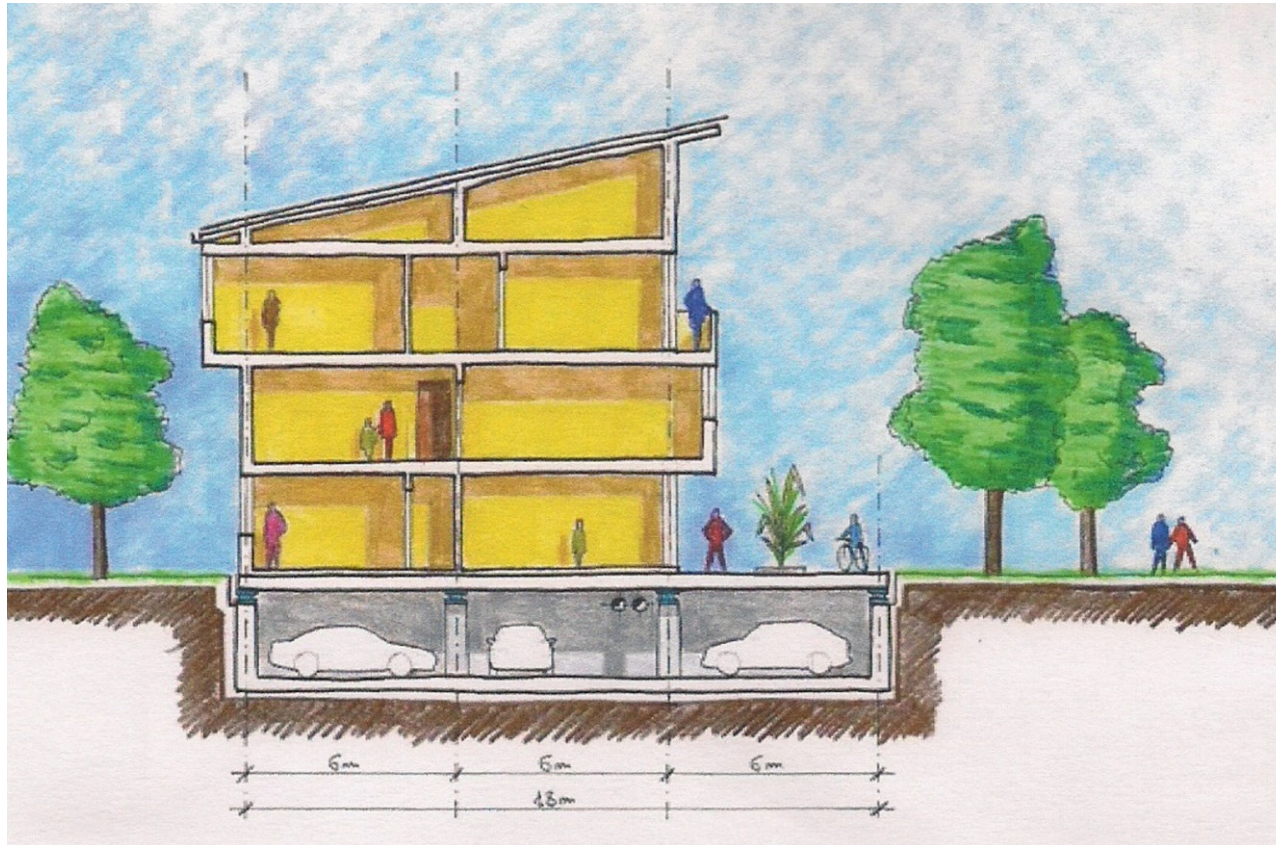
- They are very suitable to be base isolated with sliding pendulum for the following reasons
  1. They are very rigid and therefore can be easily modeled with the single degree of freedom scheme
  2. The pendulum provides an efficient base isolation independently from the type of structure and the mass distribution
- THIS TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN USED IN ITALY IN THE LARGEST BASE ISOLATION PROJECT EVER BUILT: THE C.A.S.E. PROJECT

# The C.A.S.E. Project in L'Aquila

39



185 apartment buildings on 7400 Sliding Pendulum Isolators:  
the largest base isolation project of the world, completely  
built in 6 months only

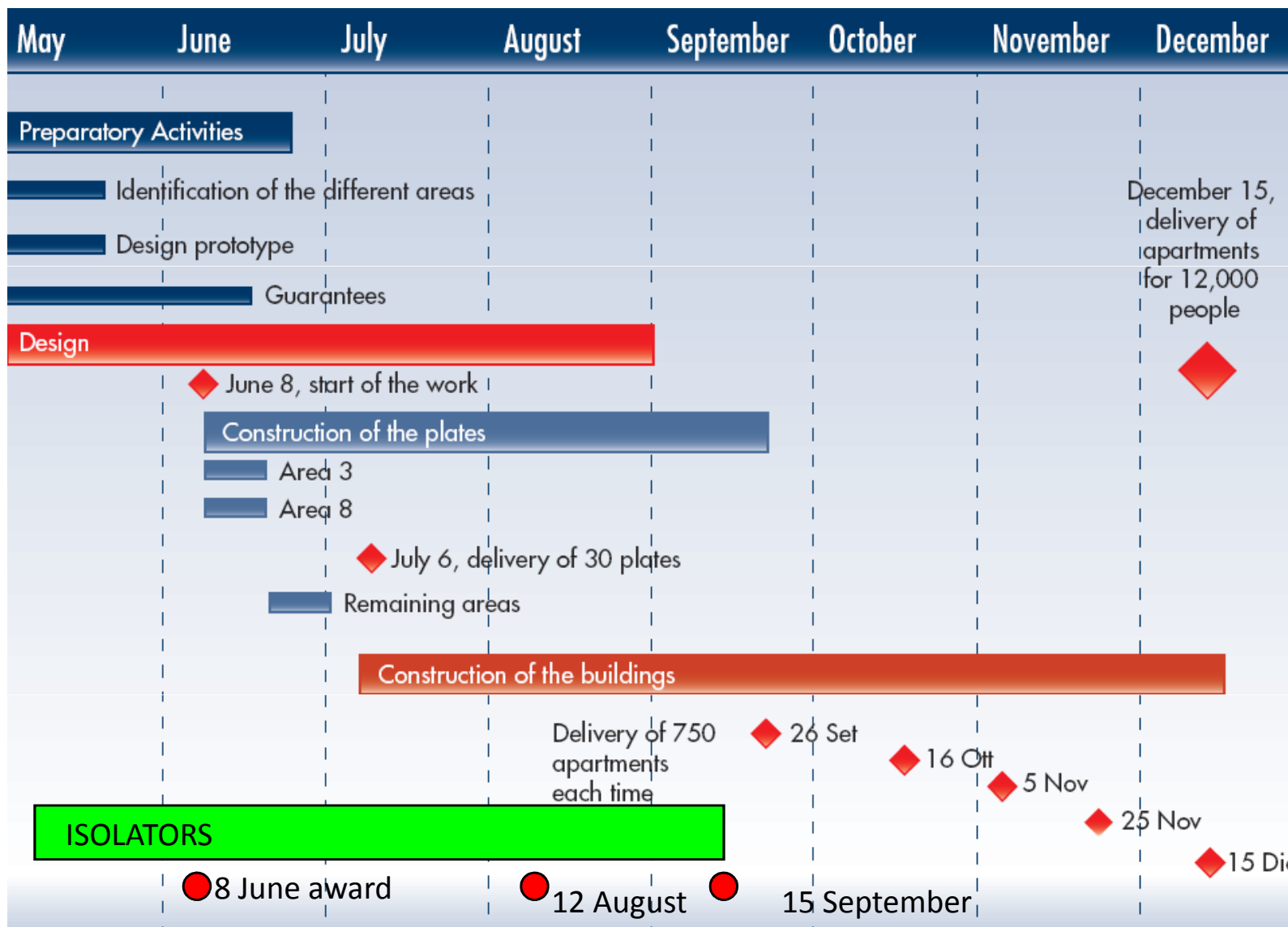


The conceptual design:

- A foundation slab in reinforced concrete of 18 x 54 x 0,5 m
- Supporting 40 columns in steel or reinforced concrete
- Supporting 40 isolators
- Supporting a concrete slab of 18 x 54 x 0,5 m
- Supporting an apartment building



# The C.A.S.E. project in l'Aquila – Time Table



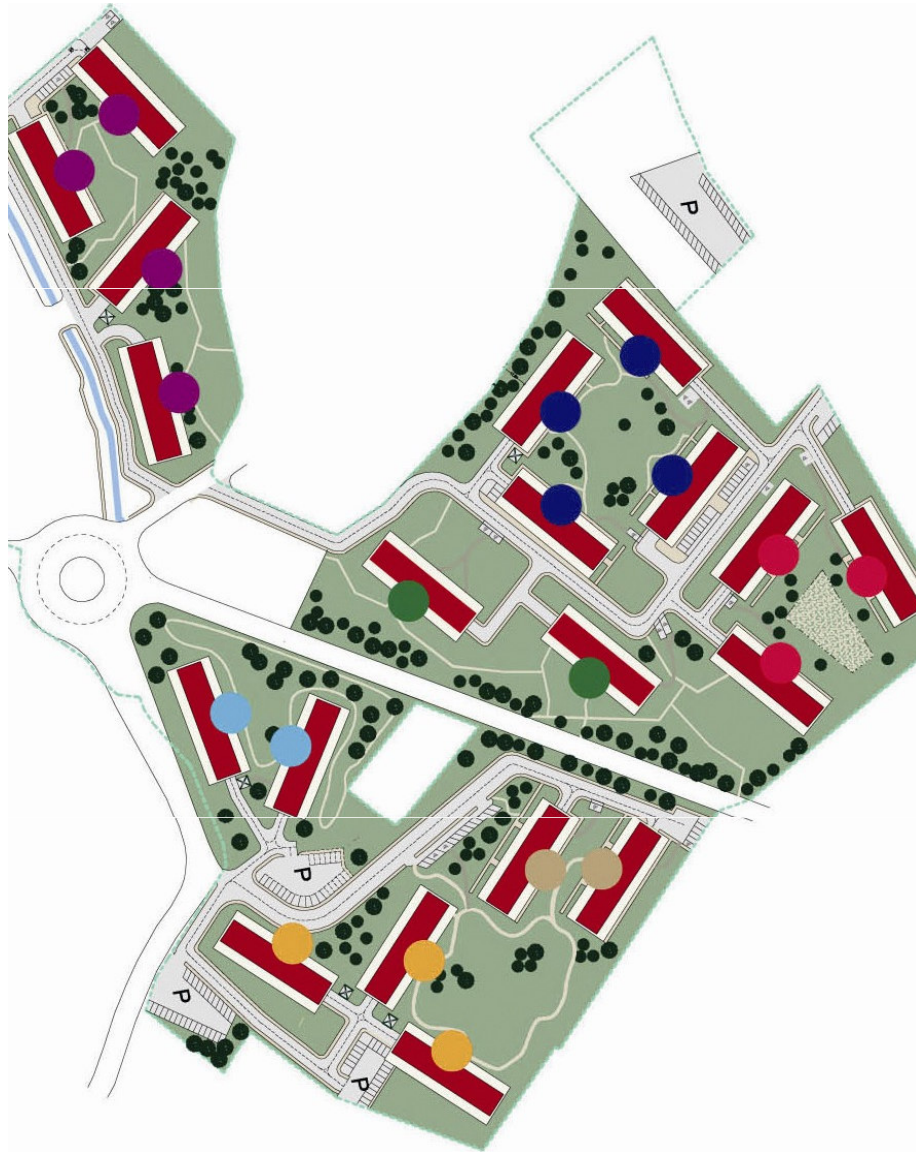
First 4000  
isolators  
delivered

3400 additional  
isolators  
delivered

# The C.A.S.E. project in l'Aquila

The location of the 19 sites where the 185 buildings have been erected



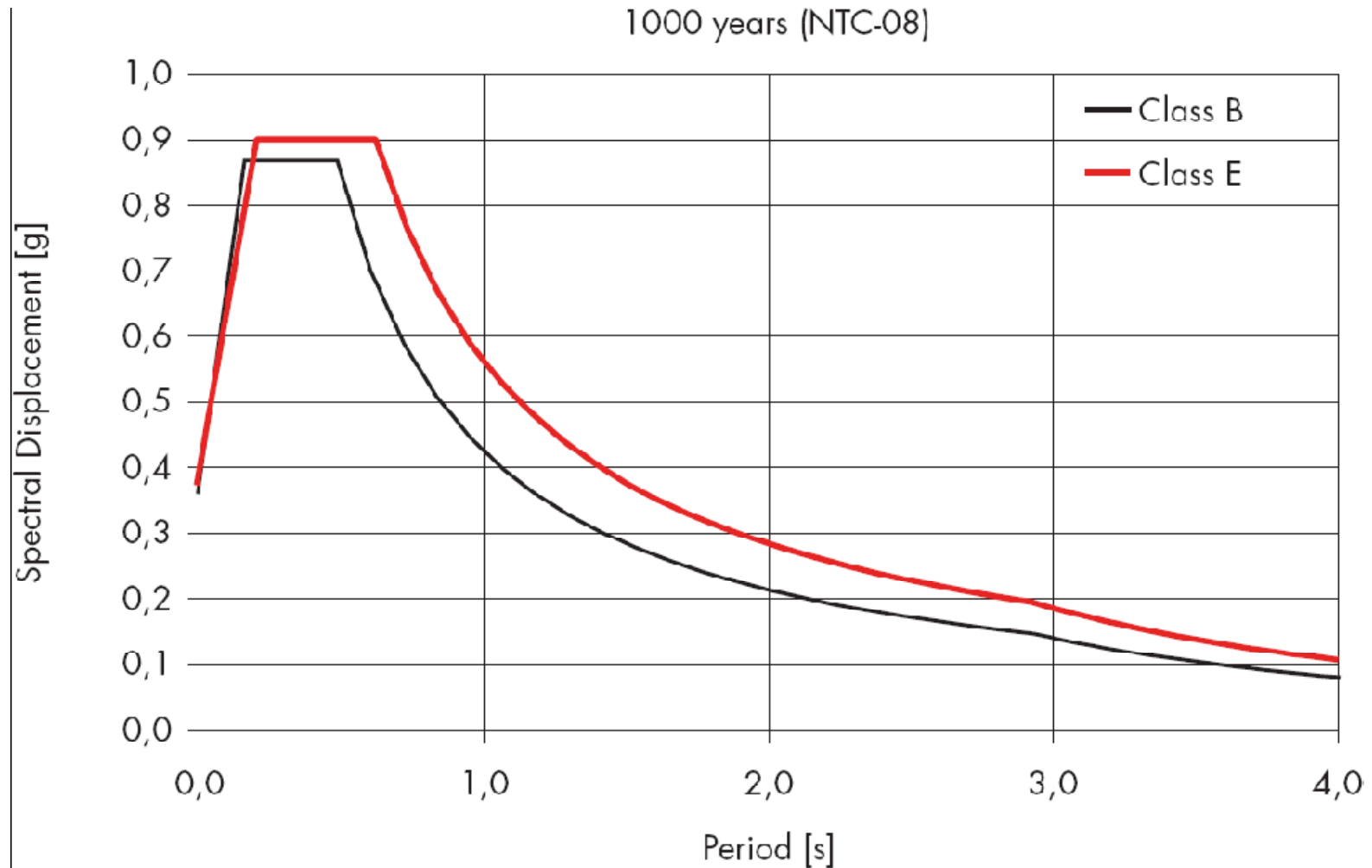


## The C.A.S.E. project in l'Aquila

One of the sites:  
Cese di Preturo with  
20 buildings

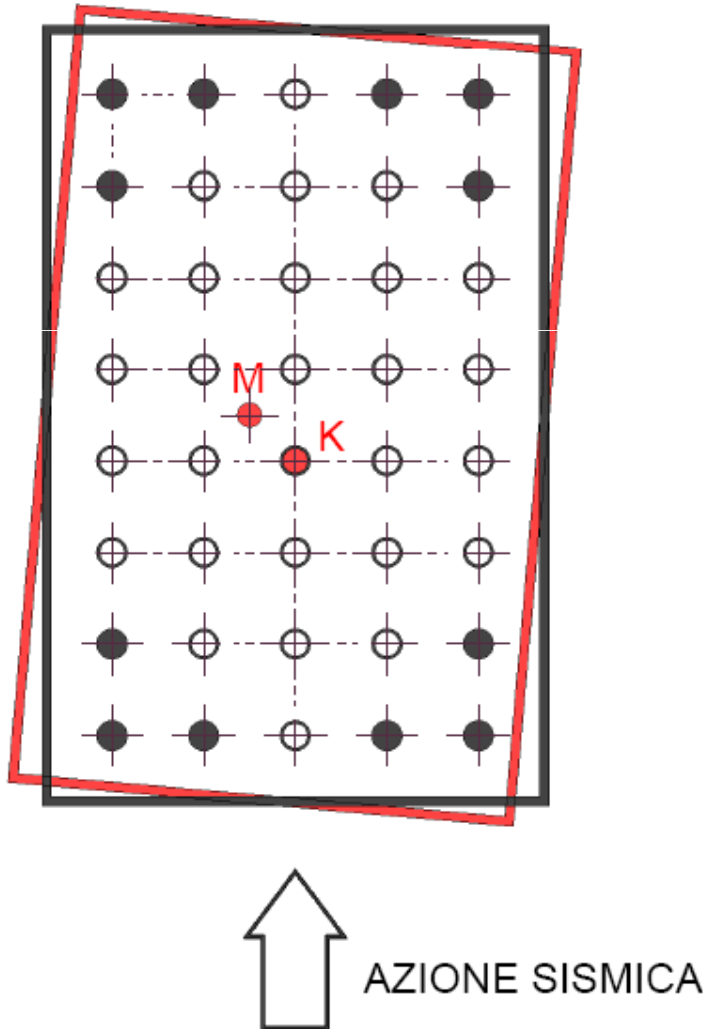
# The C.A.S.E. project in l'Aquila

## The design response spectrum



# DESIGN OF THE BASE ISOLATION SYSTEM

- Requirement given by the client
  - Natural period of the base isolated structure 3,2 s
  - Design displacement for HDRB  $\pm 360$  mm
  - Design displacement for Pendulum  $\pm 260$  mm
  - Vertical load at ULS 2820 kN



Why the sliding pendulum requires less displacement.

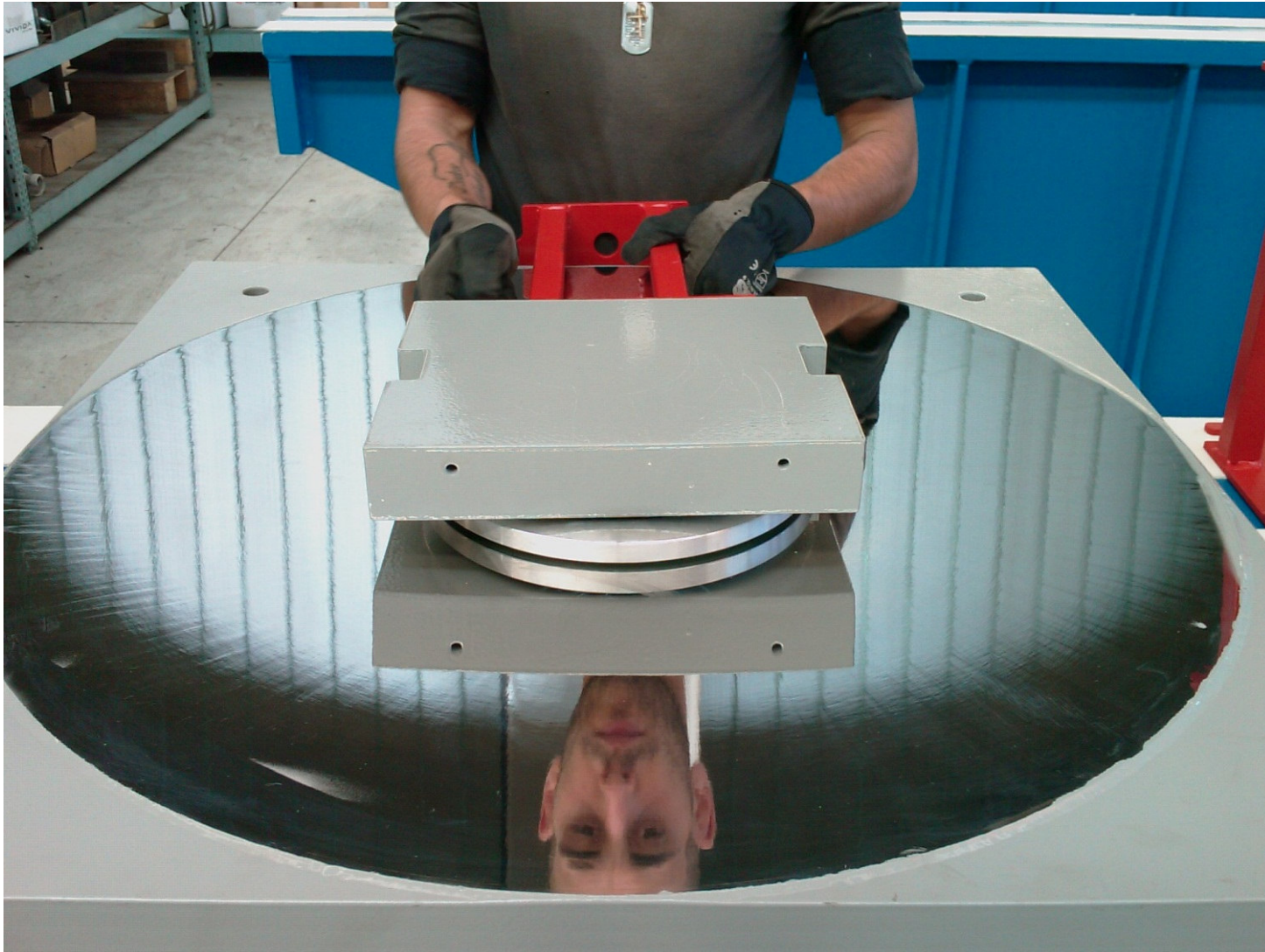
Rubber isolators require an additional displacement due to the unforeseen excentricity

Sliding pendulum isolators provided a uniform base isolation independently of the mass distribution.

This allowed to adopt multiple types of prefabricated buildings, involving more suppliers and allowing the reduction of the construction time

● HDRB

⊕ APPOGGI SCORREVOLI



Manufacturing of the sliding pendulum isolators



Assembling chain for the sliding pendulum.  
The production reached over 100 isolators per day





The sliding material HOTSLIDE



The sliding pendulum isolators on top of the 40 steel columns supporting the concrete slab



Detail of an isolator on top of one column. All fixing are mechanical in order to speed up the installation

## The CASE Project in L'Aquila

One of the 185 buildings completed.

- 50% of the buildings were in prefabricated wood
- 30% of the buildings were in prefabricated concrete
- 20% of the buildings were in steel



# Seismic and wind actions in a tall building

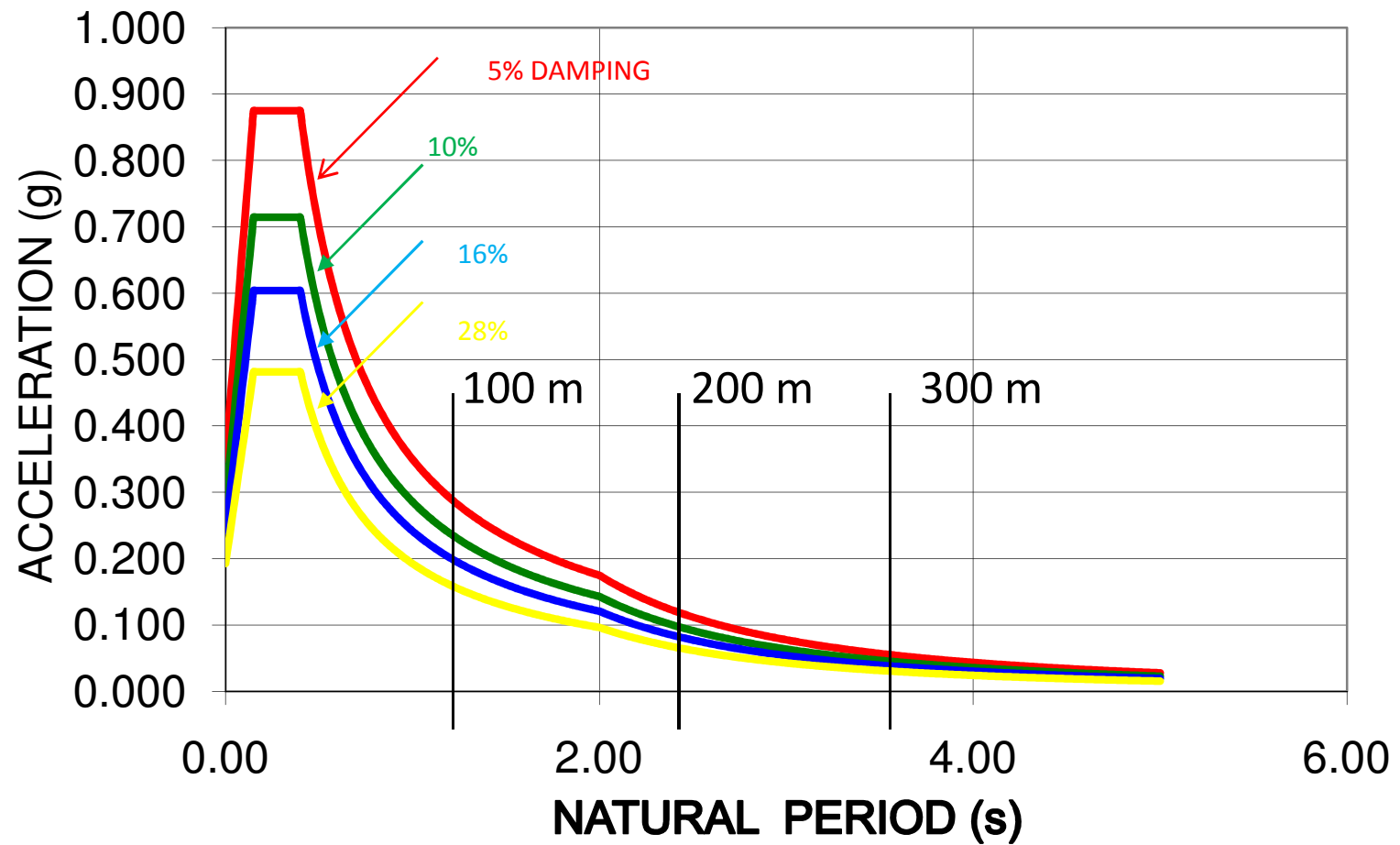
- In a building the seismic action decreases in direct proportion to the height
  - Seismic action may be reduced by increasing the period or the damping
- The wind action increases in direct proportion to the height
  - Wind action may be reduced utilizing suitable devices like TMD
- The displacement of the building may be reduced in both cases utilizing TMD

# ACCELERATION IN A STRUCTURE IN FUNCTION OF:

- NATURAL PERIOD
- DAMPING

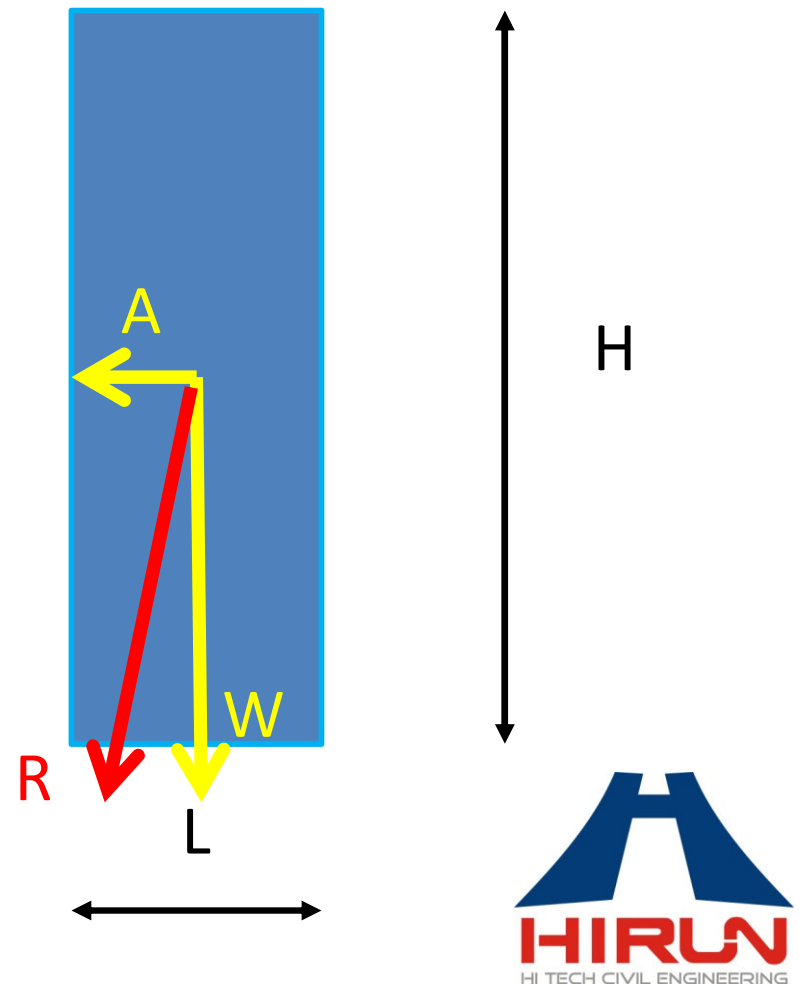
TYPICAL HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS ARE SHOWN

## TYPICAL ELASTIC RESPONSE SPECTRUM



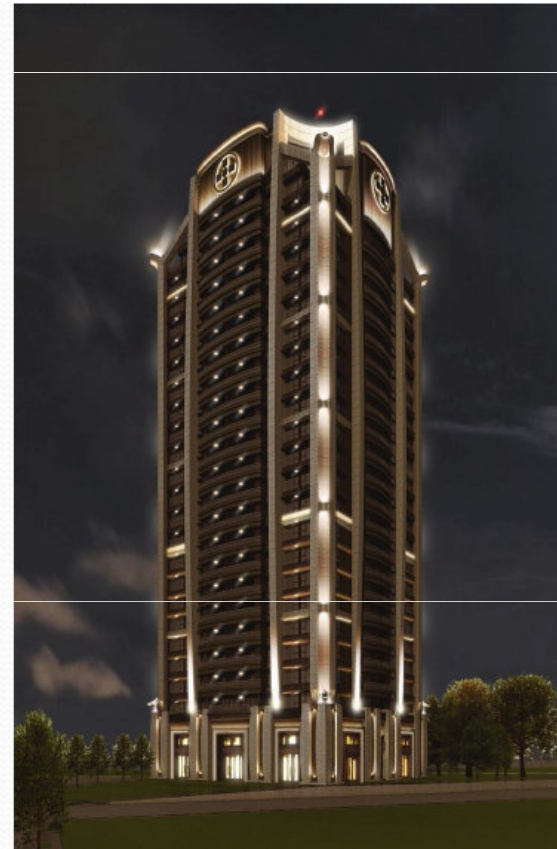
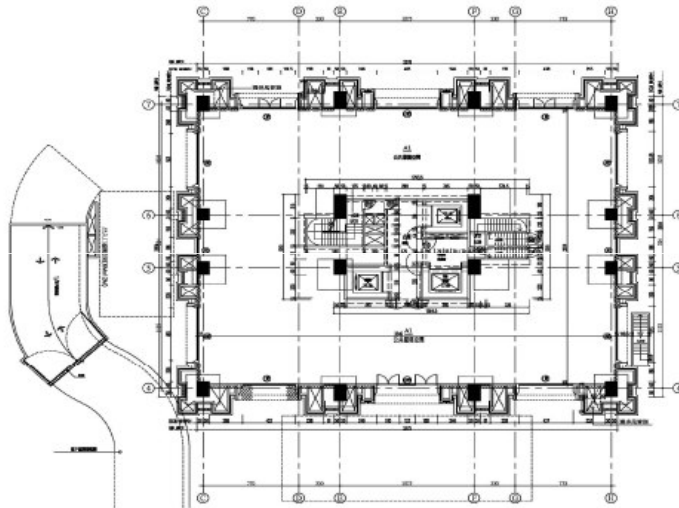
# IS BASE ISOLATION SUITABLE FOR TALL BUILDINGS?

- No problem if the ratio  $H/L$  is smaller or equal to 5 or 6 (the exact value depends on the seismicity grade of the area)



# Exemples of tall buildings base isolated

## DINTAI apartment building, 25 floors TAIWAN 2013





# Shang Guan Development Co., Ltd. - Changsha Street New Construction Project (15 Floors)

(Structure Examined by: Taipei  
Structure Engineering  
Association (TSEA) and the  
Professor of NCREE)

This construction uses Pendulum  
Isolation System.

Pendulum Bearings: 8 sets

High Damping Dampers: 4 sets

Structure System Characteristics:  
height to width ratio  $H/W \approx 10$

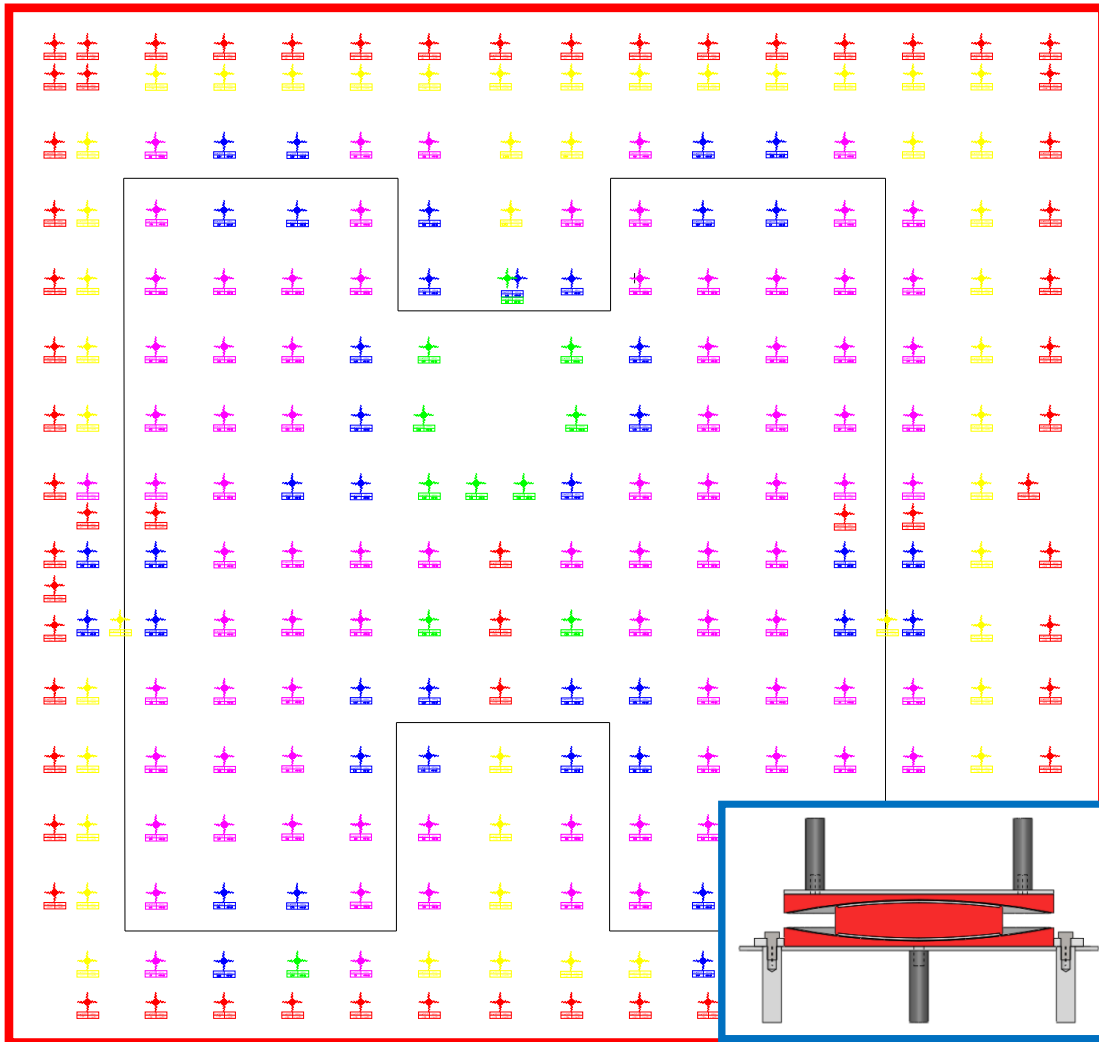


# Huang Long Development 15 F Installation 2015.1.27



# Examples of base isolated buildings in India

- SEZ - IT/ITES BUILDING GURGAON



*The design is based on:*

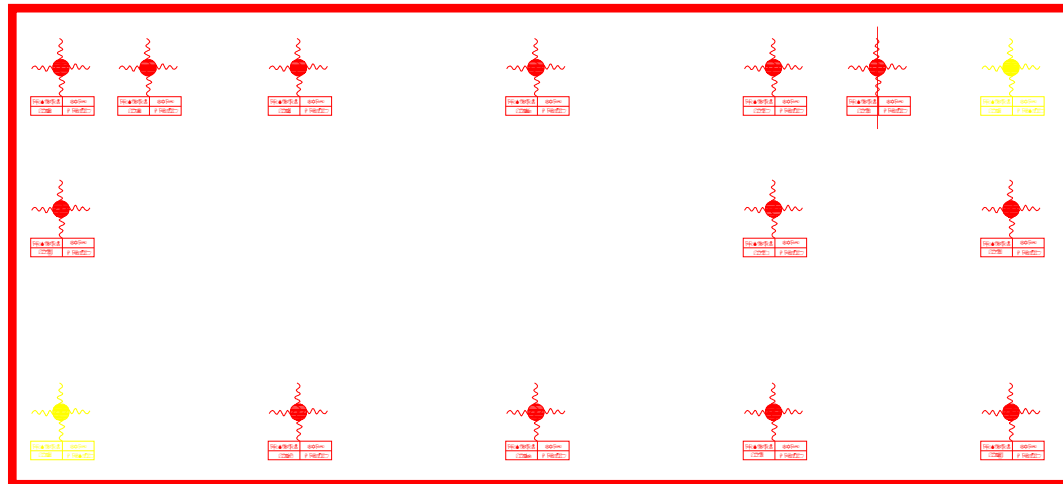
*HP2: friction pendulum with double sliding surface (5 types)*

HISLIDE-FRICITION PENDULUM						
Technical Characteristics						
Symbol	Abbreviation	Mark	Vertical Load[kN]	Displacement[mm]	Rotation [rad]	N°Pieces
			Seismic	Seismic		
	HP2-1	HP2 1500/424	1500	$i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}80 \sim i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}12$	0.01	67
	HP2-2	HP2 4000/424	4000	$i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}80 \sim i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}12$	0.01	51
	HP2-3	HP2 5500/424	5500	$i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}80 \sim i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}12$	0.01	90
	HP2-4	HP2 8500/424	8500	$i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}80 \sim i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}12$	0.01	42
	HP2-5	HP2 12000/424	12000	$i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}80 \sim i \text{ } \overset{\Delta}{\text{A}}12$	0.01	11

*Location MAP of sliders and isolators for the IREO SEZ - IT/ITES BUILDING 1*

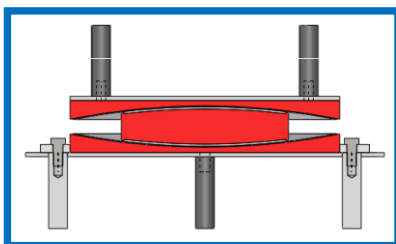
# Examples of base isolated buildings in India

- SHOW CASE BUILDING NEW DELHI



*The design is based on:*  
HP2: friction pendulum with double sliding surface (2 types)

HISLIDE-FRICITION PENDULUM						
Technical Characteristics						
Symbol	Abbreviation	Mark	Vertical Load[kN]	Displacement[mm]	Rotation [rad]	N*Pieces
			Seismic	Seismic		
	HP2-1	HP2 4000/430	4000	±180 ~ ±215	0.01	13
	HP2S-1	HP2S 4000/430	4000	±180 ~ ±215	0.01	2



Location MAP of sliders and isolators for the IREO SEZ - IT/ITES BUILDING PROJECT

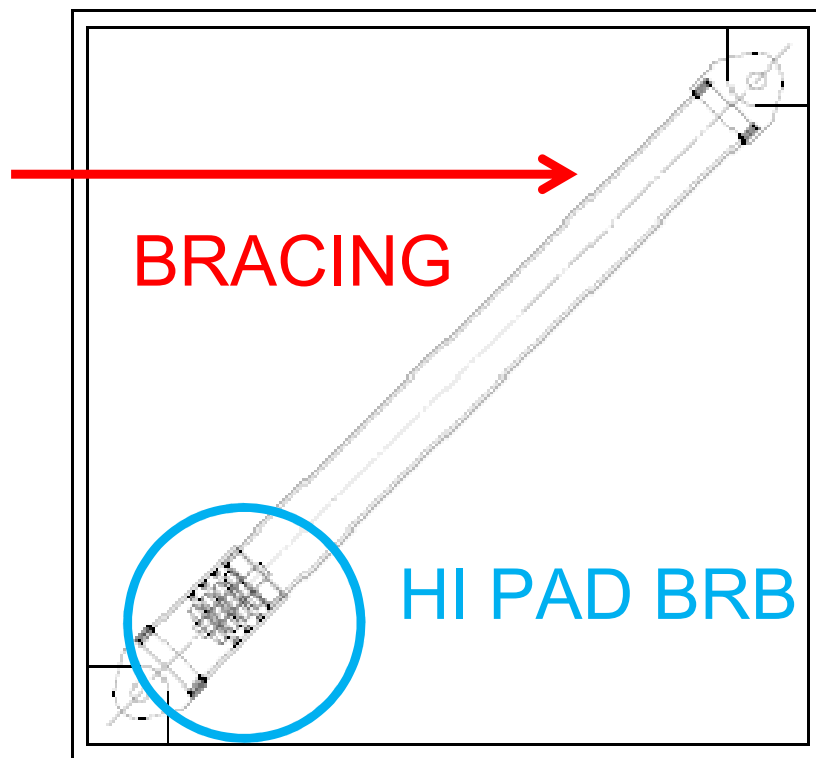
# IF THE BUILDING IS TOO TALL

There are the following possibilities:

1. To increase the damping of the building utilizing
  - Energy dissipating bracings, or:
  - Visco-elastic shear walls
2. To apply a TMD on top of the building

A buckling restrained bracing consist in a steel member subjected to tension and compression.

A portion of the member (**HI PAD BRB**) is subjected to yield. The buckling in compressen is restrained by a special device









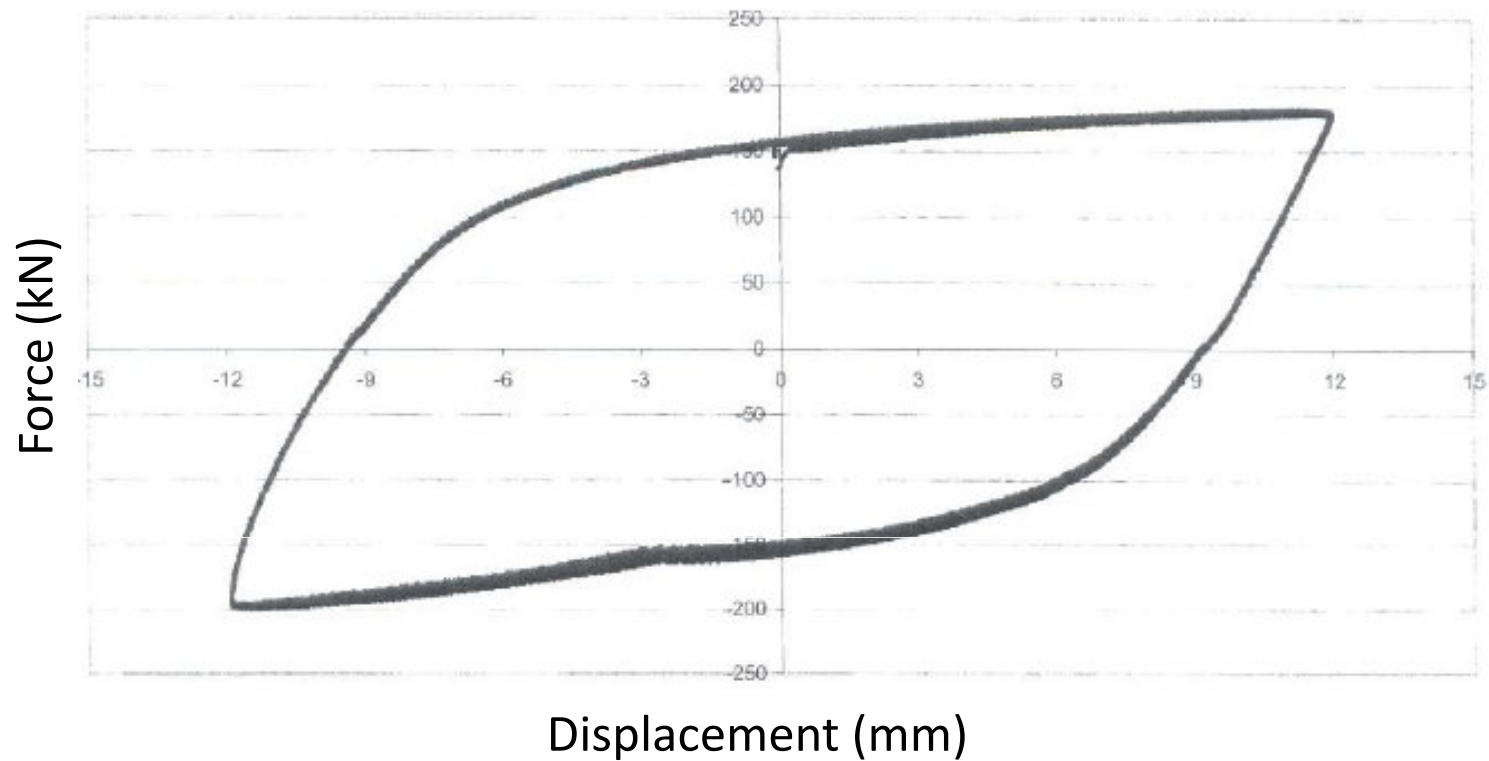


# HI-PAD

## Buckling Restrained Bracings

Dynamic testing

# HI-PAD BUCLING RESTRAINED BRACINGS



Typical load – deflection plot

# HI PAD BRB Design Criteria

- HI – PAD BRB are designed, manufactured and tested in accordance with EN 15129 Part 6
- They are characterized by 2 parameters:
  - $F_y$  the force at yield
  - $S_y$  the elastic displacement
- They may be modelled in a non linear analysis as bi-linear as shown in the following slide.
- They dissipate energy by yield

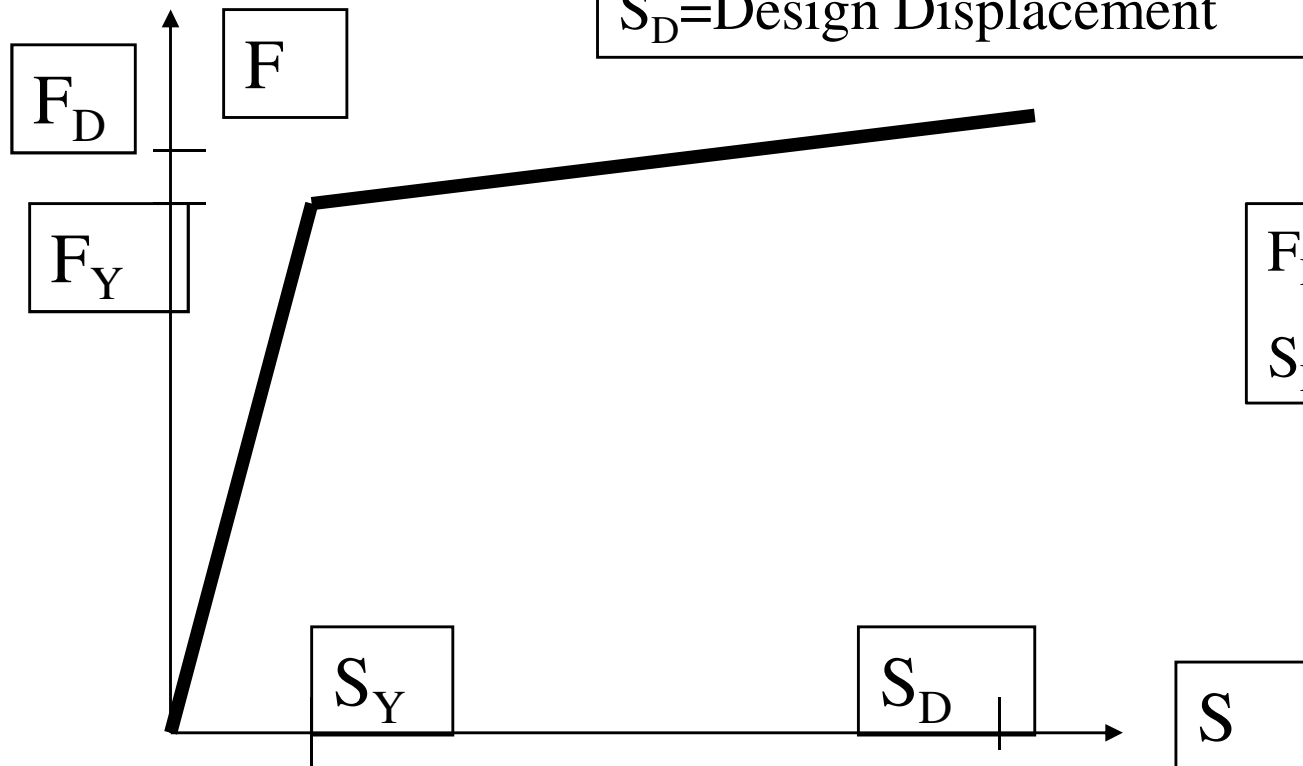
# MATHEMATICAL MODEL OF A HY-PAD BRB BRACING

$F_Y$  = Yield Force

$F_D$  = Force at design displacement

$S_Y$  = Displacement at yield

$S_D$  = Design Displacement



$$F_D = 1.15 F_Y$$

$$S_D = 15 S_Y$$

# MAIN ADVANTAGES USING BRB

- Service life  $\geq$  100 years
- Very limited maintenance requirements
- Limited space requirement
- Activation stroke of the order of 1 mm
- Suitable for any kind of structures
- Very good performance/cost ratio

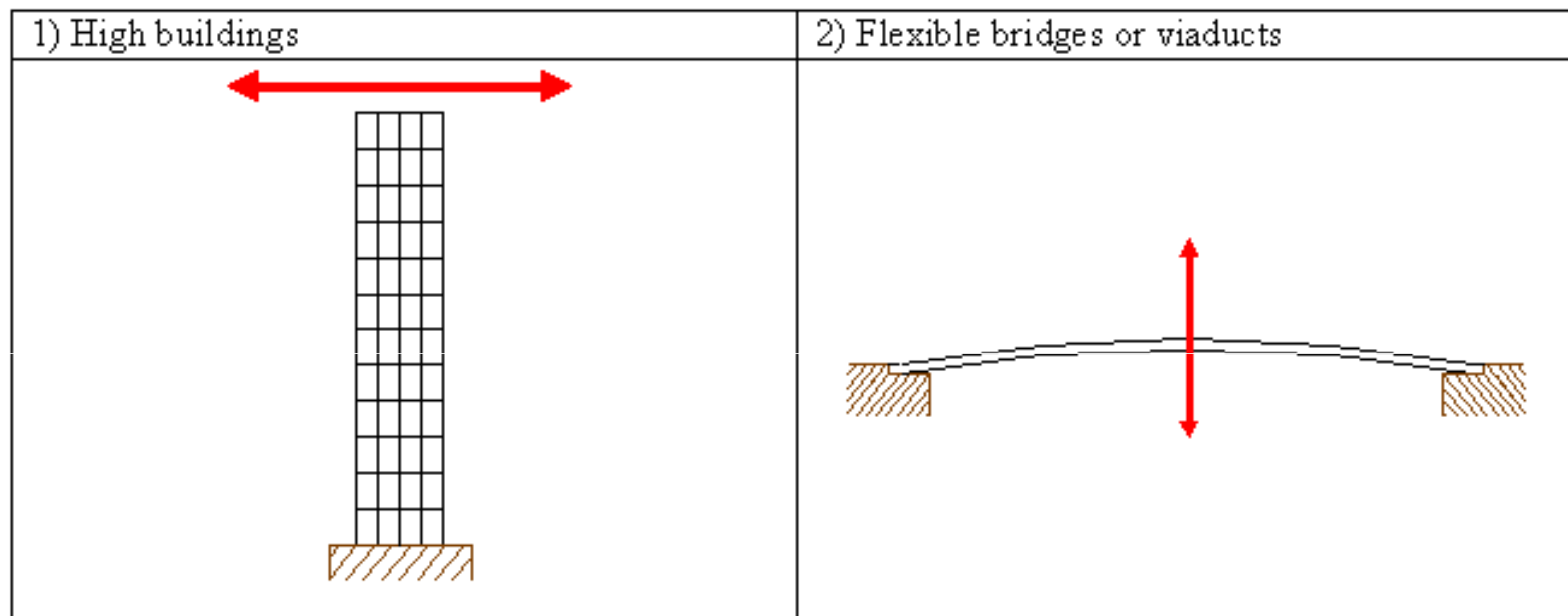
# WHAT IS A TMD

- TMD is a mass that is connected to the structure by a spring and a damping element without any other support, in order to reduce the vibration of the structure
- The frequency of the TMD is tuned to a particular structural frequency so that it will resonate out of phase with the structure

# MAIN USES OF TMD DEVICES

The TMD devices are used in tall or flexible structures in order to prevent structural problems due to the vibration of the structure

## TYPICAL CASES:





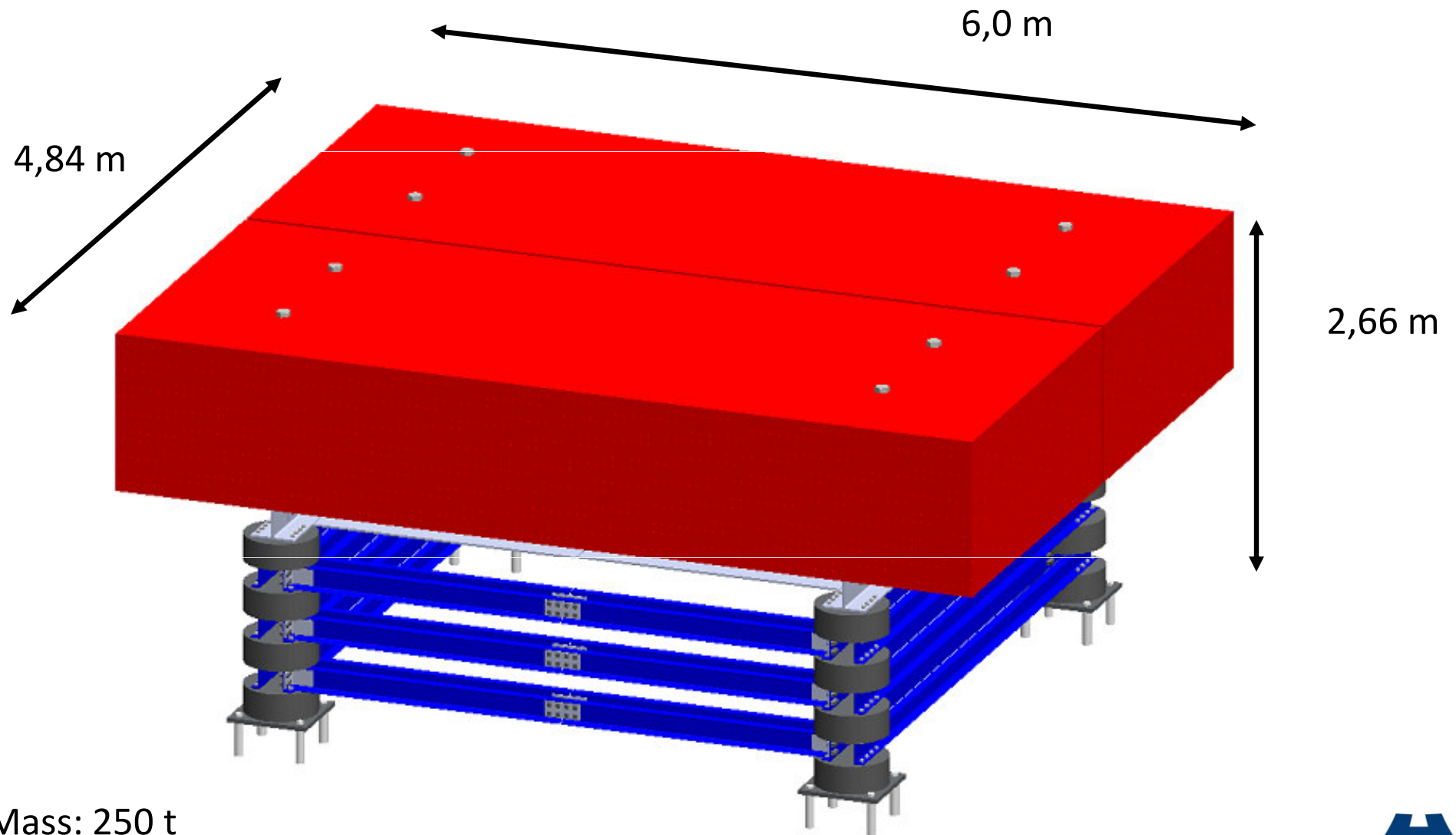


# TMD FOR NANSAN PLAZA

## TECHNICAL PROPERTIES

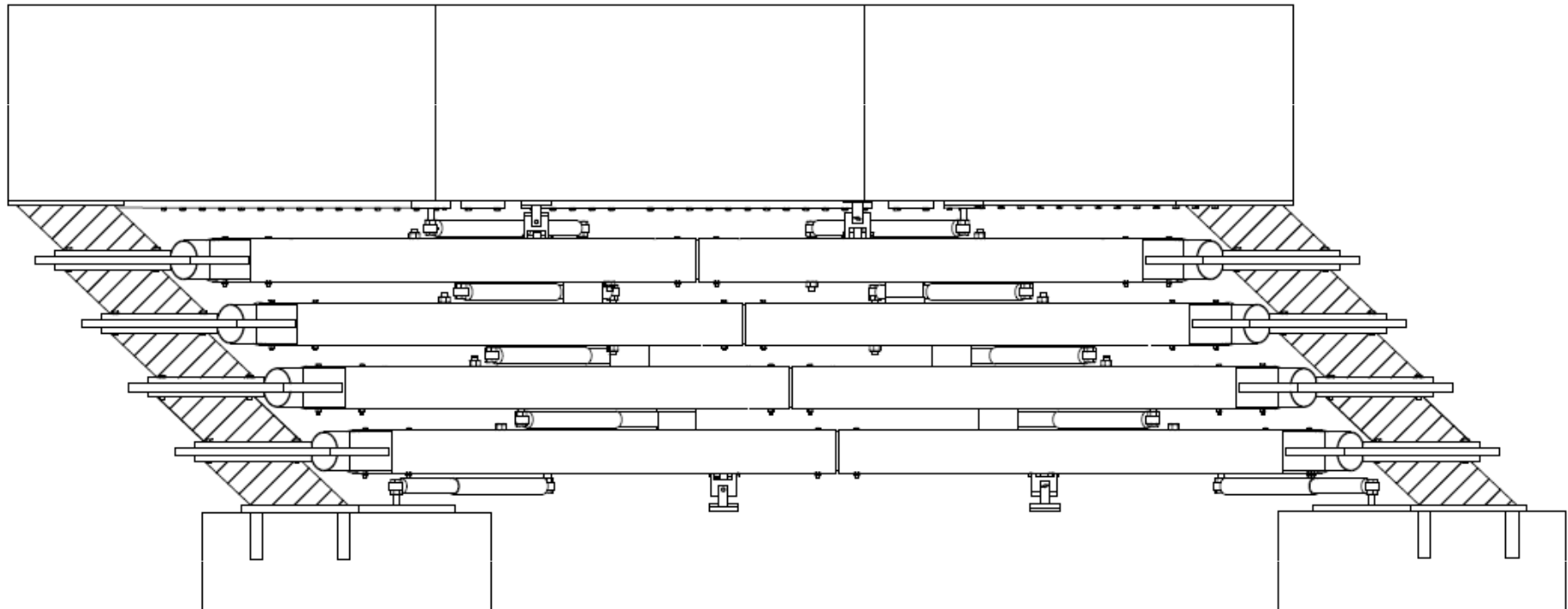
- Mass: 250 t (0,005 of the reference building mass). Adjustable  $\pm 10\%$
- X-direction stiffness 744 kN/m
- Y-direction stiffness 765 kN/m
- X-direction period 3,64 s  $\pm 5\%$
- Y-direction period 3,59 s  $\pm 5\%$
- Displacement  $\pm 780$  mm
- Equivalent viscous damping 10%

# TMD FOR NANSAN PLAZA (STEEL MASS)

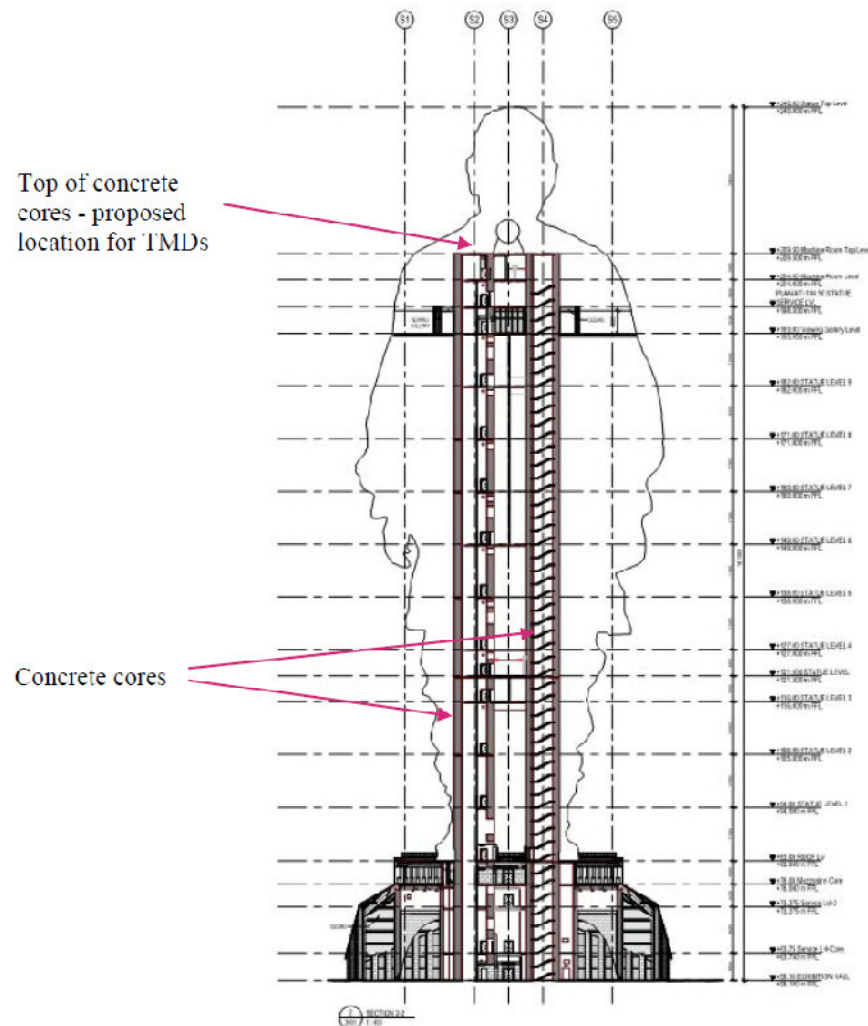


Mass: 250 t  
Weight: 2500 kN

# TMD AT MAXIMUM DISPLACEMENT



# Study for the TMD of the Statue of Unity in Gujarat



## 2. Performance requirements of the TMD

Each TMD shall provide the following performances

Nominal mass  $M = 200 \text{ t}$

Frequency in X direction  $F_X = 0,25 \text{ to } 0,40 \text{ Hz}$

Frequency in Y direction  $F_Y = 0,45 \text{ to } 0,65 \text{ Hz}$

Max displacement in X direction

At 0,25 Hz  $D_{1X} = \pm 1000 \text{ mm}$

At 0,30 Hz  $D_{2X} = \pm 750 \text{ mm}$

At 0,40 Hz  $D_{3X} = \pm 330 \text{ mm}$

Max displacement in Y direction

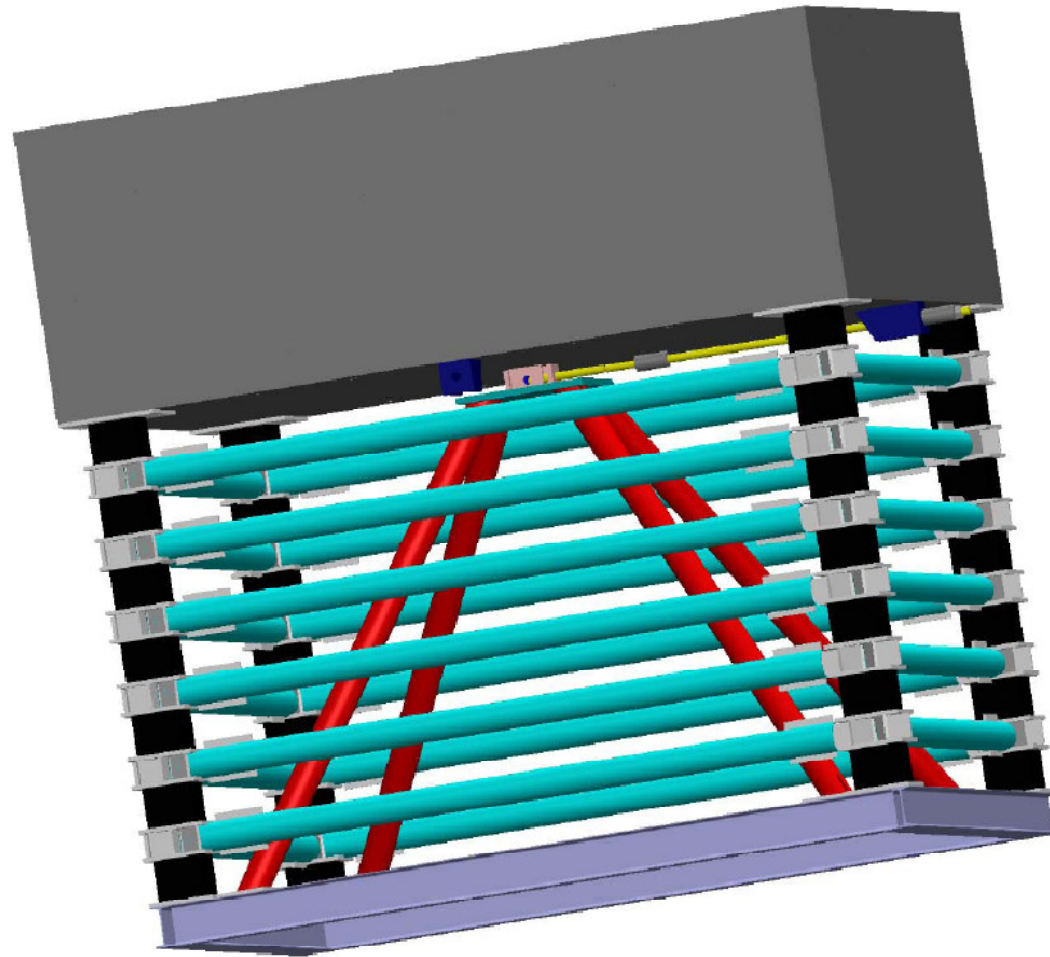
At 0,45 Hz  $D_{1Y} = \pm 180 \text{ mm}$

At 0,55 Hz  $D_{2Y} = \pm 130 \text{ mm}$

At 0,65 Hz  $D_{3Y} = \pm 100 \text{ mm}$

Equivalent viscous damping  $\xi = 15 - 19\%$

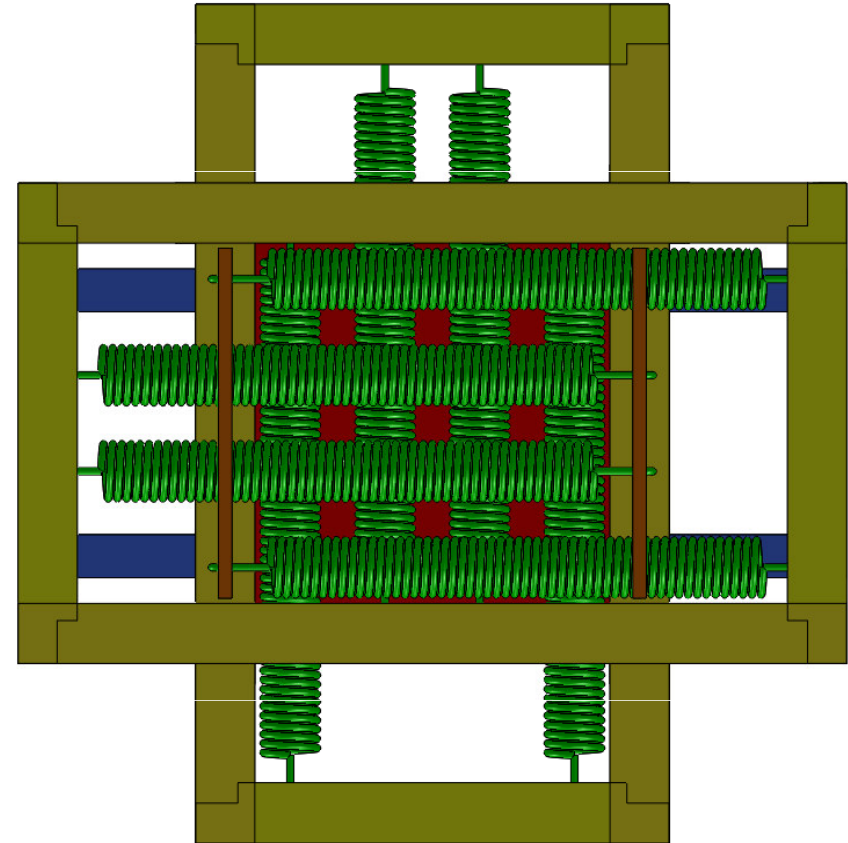
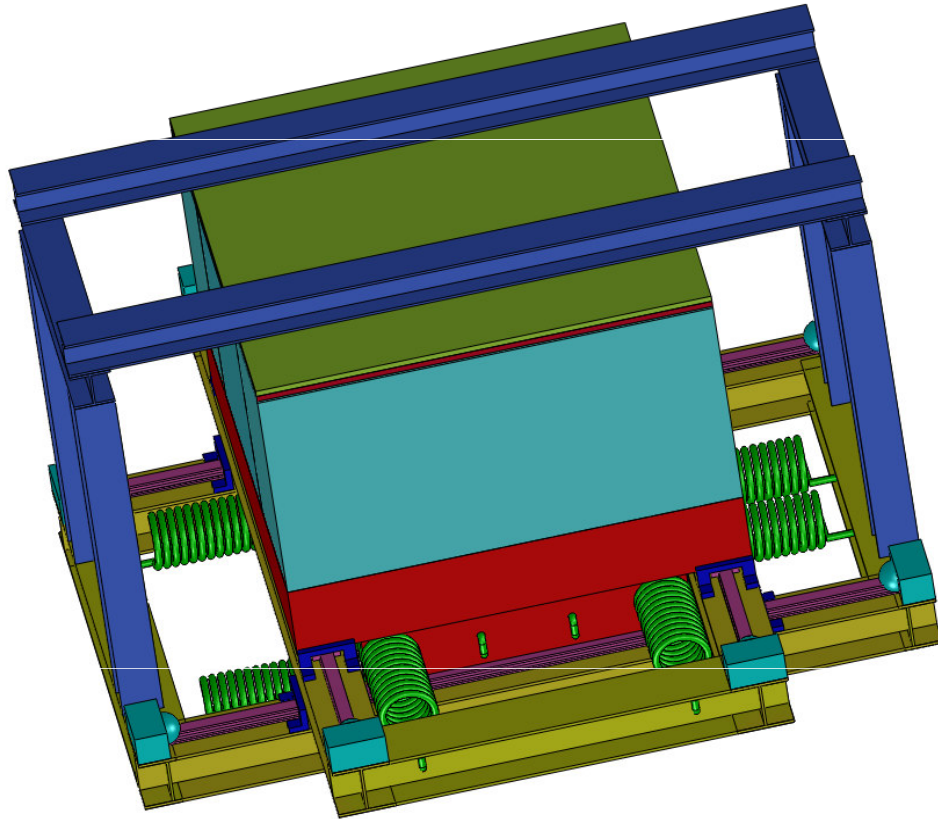
# Study for the TMD of the Statue of Unity in Gujarat



# TMD with electro-inductive damper for a chimney in Morocco

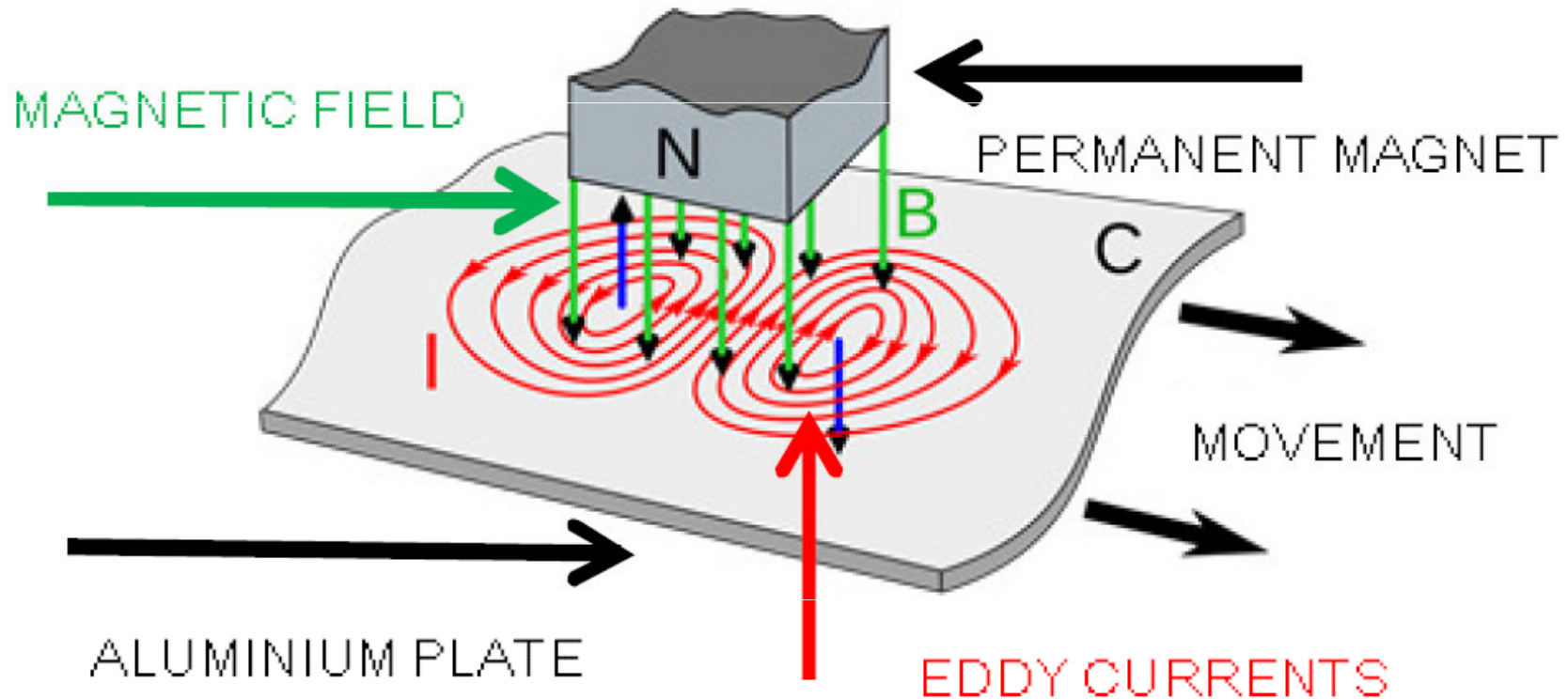
PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS	
Mass	10 t
Frequency	0,25-0.35 Hz
Max displacement	400 mm
Equivalent viscous damping	3 – 10%
Frequency adjustment tolerance	$\leq 0,005$ Hz
Service life	> 50 years

# TMD with electro-inductive damper for a chimney in Morocco



3D views

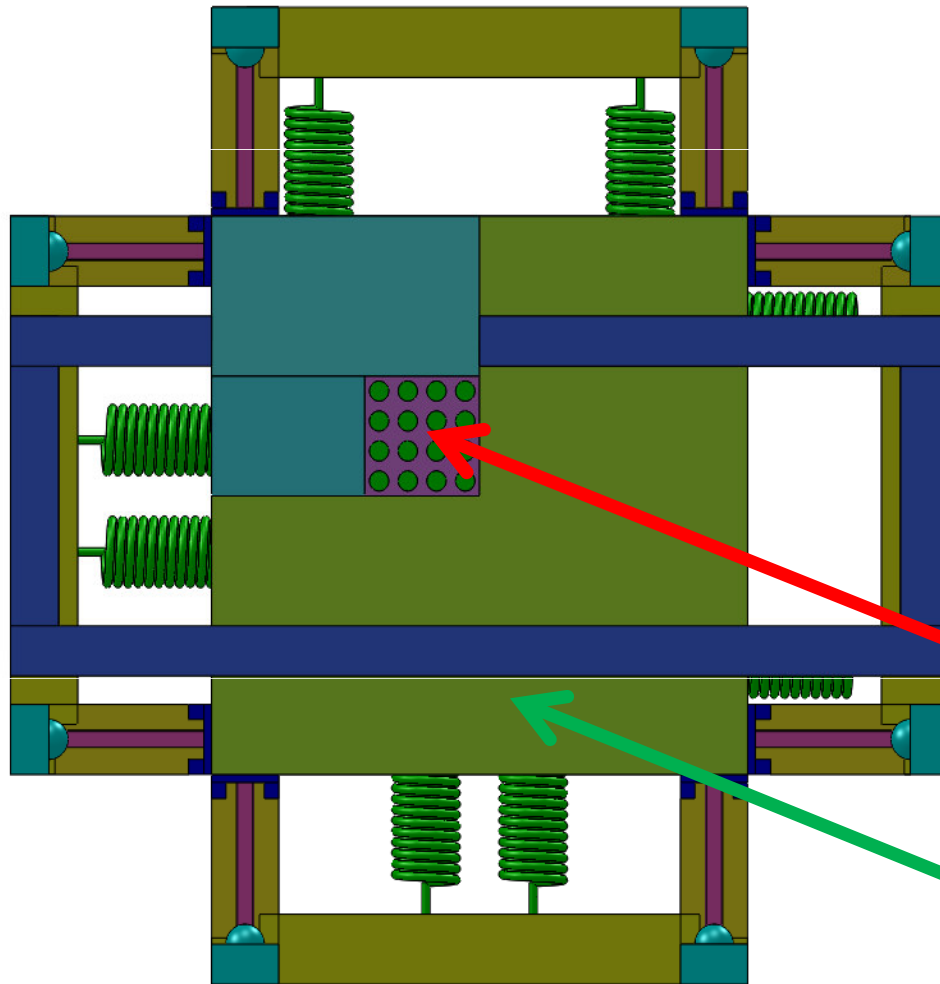
# TMD with electro-inductive damper for a chimney in Morocco



- The damping is given by the eddy currents (Foucault currents) generated by the relative movement of permanent magnets in an aluminium plate



# TMD with electro-inductive damper for a chimney in Morocco



- Detail of the permanent magnets in cobalt samarium

MAGNETS

ALUMINIUM PLATE

# Conclusion

- Base isolation is a mature and well proven technique to protect buildings from the earthquake.
- When applicable is the best possible solution to reduce the seismic action.
- Sliding pendulum isolators can grant a very high efficiency/cost ratio
- For tall buildings energy dissipating bracings and/or TMD represent a very good alternative solution



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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