

Global Risk Miyamoto *Press Release*

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US STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS REPORT ON CHINA EARTHQUAKE DEVASTATION

May 20, 2008, Sichuan, China - Structural engineers from Global Risk Miyamoto (GRM) and Miyamoto International were dispatched to China in response to last Monday's M7.9 earthquake. Observations and data identifying significant causes to structural failures and successes are being posted daily on www.grmcat.com.

The reconnaissance team arrived in China to overwhelming devastation. In this excerpt, Kit Miyamoto writes, "We witnessed a pile of rubble which was Juyuan Middle School and housed 1,000 students. Seven-hundred kids died here and 20 are still missing. The collapsed building is constructed of non-ductile cast-in-place concrete columns and beams, and precast concrete floor planks. This school was built in 1996; which is relatively modern. However, the non-ductile detailing of concrete elements and unreinforced masonry turned out to be killers."

Thus far, this earthquake is being blamed for 50,000 deaths, 245,000 injured, 4.8 million refugees, and economic losses exceeding \$10 billion USD. As the team continues to travel throughout the affected region and gather vital data, new postings and photos will be uploaded to the site.

Global Risk Miyamoto (GRM) is a joint venture formed by Global Risk Consultants, the worldwide leader in unbundled property loss control, and Miyamoto International, one of the largest structural engineering firms in California. The company was formed specifically to provide the risk management community with accurately quantified site-specific risk identification and loss expectancies resulting from natural hazard perils such as earthquakes, windstorms, hurricanes, typhoons, and floods.

Miyamoto International provides structural, earthquake and wind engineering services related to the design and strengthening of buildings. Project sectors include: seismic evaluation and retrofit, education, commercial, civic, corporate, healthcare, and infrastructure. With six offices on the west coast and one in Tokyo, Japan, Miyamoto International is one of the largest and fastest growing structural engineering firms.

For more information, visit our website at www.GRMcat.com

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Piles of debris sit where Juyuan Middle School once stood.