

Haiti Toolkit Meeting Notes

February 17, 2010
National Institute of Building Sciences

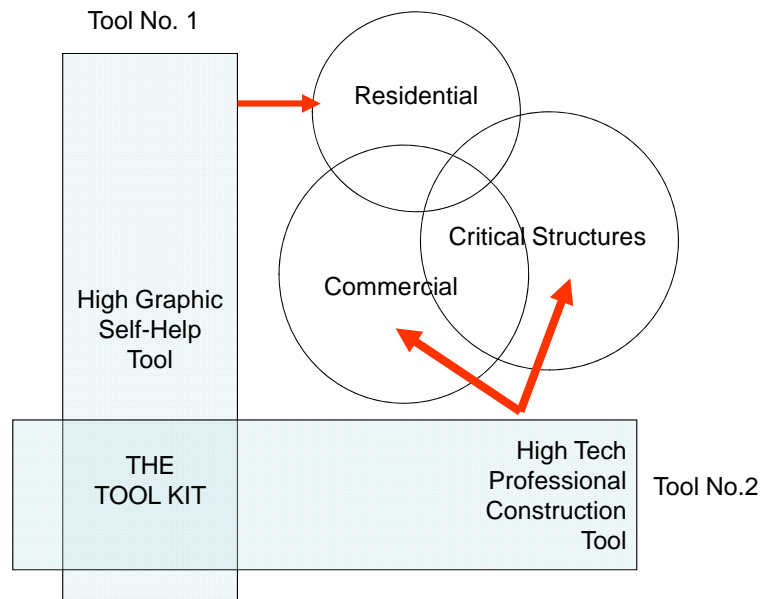
Thank you everyone for participating in the Haiti Toolkit Meeting on February 17, 2010. Attached you will find a list of on-site participants and those known to have participated via email.

We made significant progress in our discussion, much to the credit of those participating. I am actively pursuing a web portal to start work on this project. There were some great outcomes from this meeting. Our work scope has been clearly defined and based on the discussions; we need to focus on development of at least two tools in our kit: one addressing residential construction and the other setting forth recommendations for other structures including commercial and critical structures.

By definition, we should classify residential as single or two family dwellings. I am not sure if this is an appropriate breakdown given the culture in Haiti but it is at least an initial stab at where to begin.

The other occupancy type, commercial needs to be separated into two categories, separating out critical structures such as hospital, schools, and other emergency service facilities.

The diagram below sets apart these three occupancy types.



Within the three occupancy classifications, we need to address the following components:

- Project Oversight
- Design Criteria
- Materials and Systems
- Training
- Enforcement and Quality Control
- Reconnaissance, Information Gathering and Feedback

I did take the liberty of combining the Reconnaissance, Information Gathering and Feedback categories into one component. Hopefully, this does not pose any undue concern for any of the participants

It was determined the residential component of the toolkit should be developed as a graphical presentation that illustrates best practices for critical connections and securing sustainable construction. The tool set for commercial structures could reflect current best practices to achieve resistance to hazards attributed to seismic and high wind events.

The discussion also focused on the recommendation that all critical structures, particularly health care facilities, should be constructed in a manner to mitigate damage resulting from hazards such as hurricanes and earthquakes particularly when funded with resources from the United States.

The timetable for this project is identified as 60 to 90 days for completion. Once the portal is activated, committees can start their work. Periodic updates will be provided to all participants via webcast meetings. Subcommittees would work through teleconferencing or e-meetings to complete their work. The web portal will provide a work page for each subcommittee and be open to all to view.

At this point, we are also looking for individuals to chair the subcommittees and participants in the various committees. To date, the following individuals have indicated a preference for committees and may have volunteered to chair:

- Project Oversight
 - o Nancy McNabb
 - o Tim Ryan
- Design Criteria
 - o Moises Macias
 - o Gary Ehrlich
 - o Pete DeMarco
 - o Robert Wills
- Materials and Systems
 - o Bob Smith (Water Systems)
 - o Robert Wills

Training

- John Gaal
- Pete DeMarco
- John Hattery
- Alfredo Ramirez
- Nancy McNabb
- Tim Ryan

Enforcement and Quality Control

- Pete DeMarco (Chair)

Reconnaissance, Information Gathering and Feedback

I would also like to acknowledge the offering from Open Geospatial Consortium to provide and support a web portal for the work on the Haiti Toolkit. More information will be forthcoming on the use of the portal in the coming days.