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## The Geotechnical Group Presents

# SEISMIC DESIGN

## SHORT COURSE

Although more geotechnical in focus, this course will also cover important structural engineering concepts, and is designed for practicing civil engineers with either structural or geotechnical engineering backgrounds.

The short course will provide a comprehensive discussion of earthquake engineering procedures and methodologies, with a focus on geotechnical seismic design issues specific to the central and eastern United States (CEUS). The course will begin with a review of fundamental earthquake engineering and seismological concepts, such as fault mechanisms, attenuation of seismic waves, and local site effects. Coverage will include the basic concepts of probabilistic seismic hazard assessment and the development of the seismic hazard maps used for design. The discussion will cover recent studies that have led to increased seismic design requirements for the CEUS region.

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

**8:00 Registration & Breakfast**

**8:30 Introduction**

**8:45 Earthquake Basics, Mechanics & Effects**

**10:15 Break**

**10:30 Seismic Hazard Analysis and IBC 2006**

**12:00 Lunch**

**1:00 Seismic Hazard Analysis and IBC2006**

**2:15 Ground Motion and Site Response w/ IBC 2006 examples**

**3:30 Break**

**3:45 Liquefaction – overview and review of latest developments**

**4:30 End Session**

**INSTRUCTOR:** James R. Martin, II, Ph.D.

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, March 26, 2009  
8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Pantagis Renaissance (Snuffy's)  
250 Park Avenue (Off Route 22 East) Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

**COST:** \$150 per person

**REGISTER:** RSVP by February 27, 2009. Send Name, phone number, and e-mail address to M. Golam Kabir, [gkabar@converseconsultants.com](mailto:gkabar@converseconsultants.com), (973) 428-0934 x 137 or Register online at <http://branches.asce.org/northjersey> and click on the RSVP button included on the website.

**\*PDH:** Six (6) PDH's will be presented upon course completion

**Please make checks payable to ASCE North Jersey Branch**

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The talk around the water cooler has lately centered on ethics: Is it irresponsible to throw over \$80 billion dollars at the states and ask them to begin spending the money in 120 days? For some agencies, this increase represents 50% or more of their annual budget. Most states lack the staff and policies to provide the level of oversight required by the legislation. While transparency in government is a good thing, it does present its own set of challenges.

There was an interesting article in the New York Times about how several of the states plan to spend their money. With little time to decide the best use for the money, states are forced to dust off plans for projects long abandoned. If the states had determined previously that these projects were not important enough to find funds in the past, are these projects more worthy or justifiable now that money is available? Or are we simply jumping spend the money in any haphazard way according to the 120 day implementation schedule?

Much latitude has been given to the states in determining how to spend the money. Should the money be spent for 1 or 2 mega-projects where the price tag is exorbitant? Should the money be distributed throughout the state in poor and affluent areas alike?

Is it justified to repair a remote rural two-lane county road through farmland when compared to a well-used four-lane highway serving the business district?

Let's throw another question into the mix: the projects which will begin construction this summer were designed in a different time under different constraints. If we knew then, what we know now, would we still advocate the same solutions? For example, the immediate solution to traffic congestion is to widen the highway. It can be accomplished for a particular amount of money based on the site constraints.

Looking to the future, it is well understood that mass transit is the direction we must take. It will reduce congestion, reduce pollution, and reduce our energy consumption per capita. Building the framework to implement mass transit is far more expensive than simply widening a highway.

While the infrastructure to support mass transit will be constructed in phases due to the enormous scale of such an undertaking, most cities and states do not have any plans sitting on the shelves to even begin these projects. If the timeline to spend the money was extended to 5 or 10 years, would more states advocate regional solutions to regional prob-

lems? Would you build 1 new water treatment plant to serve the county or would you increase capacity at 3 local treatment plants still using outdated technology?

As my astute colleague points out, we must remember that this is not an infrastructure bill. This is a stimulus package with an infrastructure component. This is not engineering at its best. This is our government recognizing that infrastructure is an effective vehicle for job creation. I hope history will remember it as such.

Until Next Month,



Teresa Peterson, P.E., C.M.E.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

*Geotech Full Day Seminar on Seismic Design - 3/26*

*Transportation Technical Group 1/2 Day Seminar - 4/7*

*New Giants Stadium Tour - 4/16*

*STG Half Day Seminar on Accelerated Bridge Construction Techniques - 4/30*

*ASCE NJ Section Awards Dinner - 5/8*

*ASCE North Jersey Branch Awards Dinner - 5/14*

You can renew your ASCE and Section/Branch membership today by going to [www.asce.org/renewal](http://www.asce.org/renewal)



**Have you paid your 2009  
ASCE membership dues?**

[Click here to renew today!](#)



# REPORT CARD FOR AMERICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE

## ASCE Releases 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure

The American Society of Civil Engineers issued its latest Report Card for America's Infrastructure, the fourth since 1998. Never has the need for infrastructure investment received such national attention as it is now in the context of stimulating our economy. Recognizing the importance of informing and contributing to this discussion in a timely manner, we made the decision to release the key components of our 2009 Report Card two months ahead of schedule. Today ASCE released the grades for 15 categories of infrastructure, solutions for improvement, and a five year investment need figure.

The overall grade for the nation's infrastructure is again a D and the cost to bring it up to good condition has risen to \$2.2 trillion. In more than a decade, the United States has made no measurable progress in improving either the condition or performance of our roads, bridges, water systems or other vital infrastructure when viewed in aggregate.

Despite these low grades and years of delayed improvement, the problems are not beyond our ability to solve. As stewards of the nation's infrastructure, civil engineers can provide the public and policymakers with expert advice on the condition and ways to improve the nation's infrastructure. To begin that task, ASCE offers these five Key Solutions to raise the grades:

1. Increase federal leadership in infrastructure to address the crisis.
2. Promote sustainability and resilience in infrastructure to protect the natural environment and with stand natural and manmade hazards.

3. Develop national, regional, and state infrastructure plans that complement a national vision and focus on system-wide results.

4. Address life-cycle costs and ongoing maintenance to meet the

needs of current and future users.

5. Increase and improve infrastructure investment from all stakeholders.

Detailed information on the grades and solutions can be found on the 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure Web site. Be sure to use the Tell-a-Friend feature on the Web site to help us spread the news!

<http://www.asce.org/reportcard/2009/index.html>

### Now is the time to act!

Our nation faces an incredible opportunity not only to improve the condition of the nation's infrastructure, but to contribute to much needed economic relief. ASCE members are strongly urged to contact their federal legislators in support of the infrastructure funding included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Please share the findings of the Report Card with your lawmakers and explain the specific infrastructure needs in your community. Visit ASCE's Click & Connect with Congress Web site for additional information and a sample message.

Thank you for your support and I look forward to improving the nation's infrastructure together!

Sincerely,

D. Wayne Klotz, P.E., D.WRE, F.ASCE  
President

P.S. - If you have not, renew your 2009 ASCE membership to support the fight to renew our nation's infrastructure.

### 2009 GRADES

Aviation	D
Bridges	C
Dams	D
Drinking Water	D-
Energy	D+
Hazardous Waste	D
Inland Waterways	D-
Levees	D-
Public Parks & Recreation	C-
Rail	C-
Roads	D-
School	D
Solid Waste	C+
Transit	D
Wastewater	D-

America's Infrastructure

**GPA = D**

★★★

Estimated 5 Year  
Investment Need

**\$2.2 Trillion**

## Engineers Without Borders - Northern New Jersey Updates

Over the past year the Engineers Without Borders Northern New Jersey Professional Chapter (EWB-NNJ) has made exciting progress. Last year when we wrote about EWB-NNJ in the ASCE newsletter the chapter was still finding its footing, we had formed a formal chapter and we were doing our best to assist local college chapters, but we had not yet started our own project. We are glad to report that since that time we have made tremendous strides in our growth and we are currently working on plans to send our first group of engineers overseas for a project in Kenya.

For our first project, EWB-NNJ is working to provide the village of Kipingi, located in the Nyanza Province of southwestern Kenya, with clean drinking water. . A single hand pump is the only clean water source shared by the community of 1,500 people spread over an approximately 5 square kilometer area. The pump is not deep enough to produce sufficient water for the community and villagers have to travel long distances just to use it. When a villager gets to the pump and it is dry they may wind up waiting for 3 to 4 hours until the pump can have recovered sufficiently to fill their water bucket that is used to carry the water from pump back to their family. As a result of the difficulty in finding potable water, villagers often consume water that has collected in ditches or seasonal rivers that form during the rainy season; a practice that has led to a high rate of waterborne diseases.

EWB-NNJ's goal is to provide a sustainable source of clean water for the village, which will improve the health and living conditions of the locals. To do this we are partnering

with community leaders and engineers who are members of EWB-Kenya. We are currently planning on installing a deep borehole well with a solar pump and storage tank. In the future the system could potentially be expanded to provide a piping network connecting different parts of the village.



The first milestone of the project is an assessment trip, on which a team of 3 to 5 members of EWB-NNJ will travel to the community to meet with the villagers and gather data that will be used for design of the system. Our first assessment trip is fast approaching, scheduled for March 2009. During the trip the EWB-NNJ team will engage the community in discussions to determine who will be responsible for maintaining the future water system, research the layout of the village, collect available hydrologic records, and identify the availability / ability of local contractors and construction equipment.

Anyone interested in learning more about this project or EWB in general should contact Chloe Weck at [chloe.weck@gmail.com](mailto:chloe.weck@gmail.com). The new chapter website is currently under construction but will be available soon at [www.ewbnnj.org](http://www.ewbnnj.org). Additionally, the chapter is responsible for raising the funds necessary to complete the project and anyone interested in

donating to the project can do so at the EWB-NNJ page on the EWB USA web-site (<http://www.ewb-usa.org/chapters.php?ID=936>).

In other news, our local student chapters continue to do incredible work. The Stevens Institute of Technology Chapter (EWB-SIT) went on an implementation trip to Jarabacoa Dominican Republic over the summer. While there the team and the community of El Dulce broke ground on a micro hydro-electric system that EWB-SIT had designed. After spending years collecting data on the community needs and local sources and then using that information to design a system that would help the community, it was a fulfilling experience for all involved. The construction of the entire system should take approximately two years.

The New Jersey Institute of Technology Chapter (EWB-NJIT) continues to develop their plans to bring clean water to Milot, Haiti. The EWB-NJIT chapter is developing ways to empower locals to improve their drinking water quality using biosand filters. In October three members from the chapter traveled to the area on an assessment trip to gather project information. The travel team tested water quality, researched the availability of local construction materials, scouted locations where a business of building the filters could be located and formed a water committee of local community leaders to help implement EWB-NJIT project in Milot. EWB-NJIT hopes to create a local sustainable organization that can supply the community with biosand filters.

# Official Ballot - North Jersey Branch Officers - 2009 / 2010

## Official Ballot - North Jersey Branch Officers – 2009/2010

Instructions: *In the right-hand* column, mark your vote for each office as indicated. Write-in candidates are permitted; eligibility and willingness to serve will be verified. To be valid, ballots must be signed and all information requested at the bottom must be provided.

This ballot must be received on or before April 15, 2009 by the Branch President:

*Teresa L. Peterson, P.E. C.M.E.*  
*tpeterson@gfnet.com Fax: 908-755-9849*

*Gannett Fleming, Inc.*

*Southfield Center, Suite 205*

*One Cragwood Road, South Plainfield, NJ 07080*

Indicate Vote Here

**President**

(No Vote Required)

Kevin Doyle, P.E.

**President – Elect**

(Vote for One Candidate)

M. Golam Kabir Ph.D., P.E.

Write-In Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Vice President**

(Vote for One Candidate)

Kerri Tyerman, P.E.

Write-In-Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Secretary**

(Vote for One Candidate)

Greg Landry

Write-In-Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer**

(Vote for One Candidate)

Scott Lubarsky, P.E.

Write-In-Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Director(s)**

(Vote for Two Candidates)

Katy Ubinger, P.E.

Lamis Malak, P.E.

Write-In Candidate

Write-In Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Name (Print):

\_\_\_\_\_

Membership No.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

**UPCOMING EVENTS****SAVE THE DATE**

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

**Infrastructure Stimulus for the NY/NJ Region****SPEAKERS/TOPICS:**

**Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director**  
North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

**Rick Hammer, Assistant Commissioner**  
New Jersey Department of Transportation

**Steve Santoro, Assistant Executive Director**  
New Jersey Transit Corporation

**Scott Murrell, Chief Engineer**  
Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

**Joseph Rago, Director**  
Station Programs Amtrak

**TIME:** 2:30 – 3:20 P.M. *Registration and Meet & Greet*  
3:20 – 3:40 P.M. *Presentation Begins / Dinner to Follow*

**COST:** \$80 – Members, \$90 – Nonmembers, \$40 – Students  
*Please make checks payable to ASCE North Jersey Branch*

**REGISTER:** *RSVP by Friday, April 3, 2009 (“No Shows” will be billed)*  
*Register online at <http://branches.asce.org/northjersey> and click*  
*On the RSVP button included in the event flyer*  
*Or send name, telephone number and e-mail address to:*  
*Jean Go, Jacobs, at [Jean.Go@jacobs.com](mailto:Jean.Go@jacobs.com) or (862) 242-7257*

**PDH:** *Eligibility for PDH Credits is under review*

*At LaQuinta, 38 Two Bridges Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004*

**CTG Tour of The NEW GIANTS Stadium****April 16, 2009 3PM-5PM**

Where: Giants Stadium, Skanska Visitor's Center/Trailer  
Networking Happy Hour to follow tour at Grasshopper located at 645 Washington Ave, Carlstadt, NJ,  
**Appetizers to be provided with cash bar**

**Price: \$25**

We are limited to 50 persons for this tour, participation is on a first come policy.  
RSVP by April 13th to Katy Ubinger at [kubinger@csrgroup.com](mailto:kubinger@csrgroup.com) or (973) 667-1600 Ext. 137



Photo by: Michael Christodoulakis for Stantec

## Engineers Week 2009 *A Success Once Again!*

The 2009 Engineers Week was held on President's Day, Monday, February 16th, and Saturday, February 21st at the Liberty Science Center (LSC) in Jersey City, NJ. The NJ Section of ASCE took the lead again in sponsoring the event with our longtime partner and host, Liberty Science Center. With over 4700 visitors on Monday and nearly as many visitors on Saturday, we were able to share our various EWeek sponsored exhibits and displays manned by local volunteers.



We would like to give special thanks to our exhibitors: **NSBE-AE of Central Jersey, Team Landroids of NJ FIRST Lego League, Construction Industry Advancement Program (CIAP) of NJ, Storming-Robots, and Legomaster.** Legomaster brought his robot model displays as well as millions of LEGO pieces for the visitors to play with. Pearl Hwang (Langan Engineering) of Team Landroids from NJ FIRST Lego League greatly appreciates our effort in providing them a venue in showcasing their robot design and their team presentation skills to the visitors of LSC. Jud Wible of Parsons Brinckerhoff provided giveaways to the visitors of LSC with calculator rulers and mini yellow dump truck stress balls as well as to talk about the civil engineering profession.

New addition to this year were **PSE&G and Cyberchase of Thirteen/WNET-NY(PBS).** Digit of Cyberchase who walked around the activity tables was a big hit with the young

and old. PSE&G brought out scale model display that showed the young audiences the danger of not calling before you dig. Some wore on the hats, boots and gloves that their maintenance crews wear when dealing with high voltage wires.

***“It is evident that Engineers Make It Work!”***

EWeek could not be possible without the efforts of our volunteers. This year's volunteers were comprised of engineers who represented a wide range of engineering disciplines from various engineering companies, organizations and universities. In addition we would like to thank the students from **Alpha Phi Omega of Stevens Institute of Technology** and **ASCE Student Chapter of NJIT** who came out in large numbers to volunteer. It is also important to recognize the efforts of individuals like Diana Rodriguez and Sarah Weissman who as part of the planning



committee, contributed toward the great success in this year's event. Also to Chris Coke, Jean Hansen, Teresa Peterson, Shawn Savage, and Natalie & Corey Marshall who throughout the years have continued their involvement.

Acknowledgement must be given to our corporate sponsors who continue to support this engineering K-12 outreach. We would like to thank the following companies: **Parsons Brinckerhoff, Boswell Engineering, Pennoni Associates, TranSystems, LAN Associates, Railroad Construction Co. Inc., T&M Associates and Rutgers University.**

Lastly, the volunteers and exhibitors would like to thank **Liberty Science Center** for continuing to be our annual host site in supporting our effort in showcasing Engineers Week in NJ. Their staff has been outstanding in accommodating our needs at the pre-planning and during the event.

We again encourage everyone to participate when you can and help increase awareness to the wonderful world of engineering. From the continued record numbers of visitors comprising of teachers, parents and students who let us know that they appreciate what we do and they look forward to Engineers Week each and every year; it is evident that **Engineers Make It Work!**

Hope to see you all again next year!

Sincerely,

2009 Engineers Week Committee:  
Richard Pascual, Diana Rodriguez, & Sarah Weissman

ASCE North Jersey Branch - 2009 Civil Engineering Awards	
Description	Criteria
<b>Civil Engineer of the Year</b> Presented to an individual who has contributed substantially to the advancement of the civil engineering profession.	ASCE membership grade of member, fellow, honorary or life member. Member in good standing with the New Jersey Section and North Jersey Branch.
<b>Young Civil Engineer of the Year</b> Presented to a young civil engineer who has significantly contributed to the civil engineering profession.	ASCE membership must be at least associate member. Must be 35 years of age or younger as of February 1, 2009. Must be in good standing with New Jersey Section & North Jersey Branch.
<b>Service to the People Award</b> Presented to an elected or appointed government official who has contributed substantially to the status of the civil engineering profession by meritorious public service.	Must hold office in a jurisdiction that corresponds to an area within the boundaries of the North Jersey Branch.
<b>Educator of the Year Award</b> Presented to an outstanding educator who has contributed substantially to civil engineering through knowledge and guidance.	Must be affiliated with an educational institution located in the State of New Jersey. Institution must support a civil engineering (or civil engineering technology) curriculum
<b>Government Civil Engineer of the Year Award</b> Presented to an individual who has contributed substantially to the advancement of the civil engineering profession in the government sector.	ASCE membership grade of member, fellow, honorary or life member. Member in good standing with the New Jersey Section and North Jersey Branch.
<b>Excellence in Journalism Award</b> Presented in the name of a journalist or publication that has reported the accomplishments of those persons or in civil engineering.	Journalist or publication is located within OR covers relevant topics within the boundaries of the North Jersey Branch. Advanced public knowledge and understanding of civil engineers. Describes the relevant project or issue and the civil engineer's role in the project.

**Nomination Form**

**Nomination By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number & Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Job Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Employer/ School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Member of ASCE:** yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_; **If yes, Membership Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

**Award(s) Nominated For (list all that apply):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list academic degrees, involvement in other profession societies, civil or charitable activities, other awards or honors:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Achievement:** Please support the candidate's nomination with a brief statement of 200 words or less, on a separate sheet.

**Excellence in Journalism Award:** Include a copy (original or photocopy) of the article as it appeared in the publication, which should include the publication's masthead and date of publication, article title, publication date, publication name, publication phone and fax, and the journalist's editor and publisher, and a description of how the entry meets the criteria.

Please fax or email this completed form and attachments to Kathy Ubinger at (973) 667-2054 or [kubinger@csrgroup.com](mailto:kubinger@csrgroup.com) by April 15, 2009 Additional forms are also available on-line at <http://branches.asce.org/northjersey/>

## Projects In Our Region



### Raymond Boulevard Reversible Bus Lane, Newark, NJ

Newark Penn Station (NPS), located in downtown Newark, is a gateway to New Jersey's largest city, providing multi-modal and interconnection services for subway, bus, taxi, and rail, with connection to Newark Liberty International Airport. Traffic gridlock on Raymond Boulevard during the weekday evening peak travel period had decreased the ability of buses to circulate out of the four bus lanes under NPS adjacent to Raymond Boulevard. It was estimated that over nine percent (9%) of buses leaving NPS were delayed by over six (6) minutes. Approximately 130 buses on 14 bus lines operate each weekday evening peak period and carry more than 3,000 passengers

The \$1.2 million project provides an exclusive bus lane during the weekday evening time period (3:30 PM to 6:30 PM Monday-Friday) on Raymond Boulevard westbound between Newark Pennsylvania Station and McCarter Highway (NJ Route 21). This lane converts to a left-turn lane in the eastbound direction during all other times. The project has improved the weekday evening travel time of buses leaving NPS from approximately nine (9) minutes to three (3) minutes.

#### PROJECT FEATURES

Black decorative fluted traffic signal poles, mast arms, and lighting arms.  
LED Lane Control Signals for reversible bus lane.  
Model 2070 Traffic Signal Controllers and black Type 332 cabinets.  
Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) and battery-backup system.  
Video Detection System.  
Copper cable traffic signal system interconnection.  
Decorative stamped colored crosswalks.  
Milling and overlay of reversible bus lane.

ADA-Compliant accessible pedestrian push-button signals (APS) with audible walk messages.  
Countdown pedestrian signals.  
Revised signing and striping.

Sidewalk and granite curbing at Raymond Blvd.-Raymond Plaza East intersection.

Exclusive bus phase at the Raymond Boulevard-McCarter Highway (NJ Rt. 21) signalized intersection during weekday evening peak period.

Coordination of signal timing to maximize traffic flow along Raymond Blvd

Title & Location: Raymond Boulevard Reversible Bus Lane, Newark, NJ  
Client/Owner: NJTRANSIT/City of Newark  
Designer: Gannett Fleming  
Contractor: Daidone Electric  
Cost: \$1.2 million

*If you have photographs of any recent projects in our region and would like to submit them please send the photos, along with a short description, to:*

[Kevin.Doyle@stantec.com](mailto:Kevin.Doyle@stantec.com)

## NORTH JERSEY BRANCH TECHNICAL GROUPS

Join one of these groups and get involved with others in your field of interest. For more information, contact Kevin Doyle, P.E. at [Kevin.Doyle@stantec.com](mailto:Kevin.Doyle@stantec.com) or any of the individuals listed below:

#### STRUCTURAL GROUP

Satish Patel  
(732) 452-9200  
[satish.patel@jacobs.com](mailto:satish.patel@jacobs.com)

#### WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

Ramesh Rajagopal (908) 755-0040  
[rjagopal@gfnet.com](mailto:rjagopal@gfnet.com)

#### CONSTRUCTION GROUP

Katy Ubinger  
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[kubinger@csrgroup.com](mailto:kubinger@csrgroup.com)

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#### PROFESSIONAL ISSUES GROUP

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#### GEOTECHNICAL GROUP

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Whippany, NJ 07981  
Tel: (973) 428-0934  
Fax: (973) 428-0713

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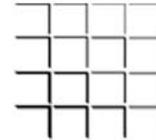
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