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USACE / NAVFAC / AFCEA UFGS-16070A (April 1999)  
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Preparing Activity: USACE Replacing without revision  
CEGS of same number and date

UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

References are in agreement with UMLR dated 25 June 2004

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04/99

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### SECTION 16070A

#### SEISMIC PROTECTION FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT 04/99

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NOTE: This guide specification covers the requirements for seismic protection of electrical equipment, conduit, and exterior utilities. This guide specification will be used in conjunction with Section 13080 SEISMIC PROTECTION FOR MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT.

Comments and suggestions on this guide specification are welcome and should be directed to the technical proponent of the specification. A listing of technical proponents, including their organization designation and telephone number, is on the Internet.

Recommended changes to a UFGS should be submitted as a Criteria Change Request (CCR).

Use of electronic communication is encouraged.

Brackets are used in the text to indicate designer choices or locations where text must be supplied by the designer.

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#### PART 1 GENERAL

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NOTE: The intent of this specification is to provide for adequate resistance to lateral forces induced by earthquakes for electrical equipment and systems described herein. The design seismic lateral forces are in addition to the "normal" gravity forces (weight) acting on the components of a system.

Equipment in the following seismic design categories do not require protection from seismic events (refer to Chapter 4 of TI 809-04 for definition of categories A through F; note that Chapter 10 of TI 809-04 uses the word "components" instead of "equipment").

a. Equipment in Seismic Design Categories A and B.

b. Equipment in Seismic Design Category C when the importance factor is equal to 1.0.

c. Equipment in Seismic Design Categories D, E, and F that are mounted at 1.2 m (4 feet) or less above a floor level and weigh 1780 N (400 lbs) or less and are not critical to the continued operation of the structure.

d. Equipment in Seismic Design Categories C, D, E, and F weighing 95 N (20 lbs) or less or distribution systems weighing 7 N/m (5 lb/ft) or less.

This section can be used for bracing details of medical equipment by editing the specification accordingly.

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#### 1.1 REFERENCES

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NOTE: Issue (date) of references included in project specifications need not be more current than provided by the latest guide specification. Use of SpecsIntact automated reference checking is recommended for projects based on older guide specifications.

\*\*\*\*\*

The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. The publications are referred to within the text by the basic designation only.

##### ASTM INTERNATIONAL (ASTM)

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| ASTM E 580 | (2002) Application of Ceiling Suspension Systems for Acoustical Tile and Lay-In Panels in Areas Requiring Moderate Seismic Restraint |
|------------|--|

##### U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

|           |                                     |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| TI 809-04 | (1998) Seismic Design for Buildings |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|

##### UNDERWRITERS LABORATORIES (UL)

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| UL 1570 | (1995; Rev thru Nov 1999) Fluorescent Lighting Fixtures  |
| UL 1571 | (1995; Rev thru Nov 1999) Incandescent Lighting Fixtures |

## 1.2 SUBMITTALS

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NOTE: Submittals must be limited to those necessary for adequate quality control. The importance of an item in the project should be one of the primary factors in determining if a submittal for the item should be required.

A "G" following a submittal item indicates that the submittal requires Government approval. Some submittals are already marked with a "G". Only delete an existing "G" if the submittal item is not complex and can be reviewed through the Contractor's Quality Control system. Only add a "G" if the submittal is sufficiently important or complex in context of the project.

For submittals requiring Government approval on Army projects, a code of up to three characters within the submittal tags may be used following the "G" designation to indicate the approving authority. Codes for Army projects using the Resident Management System (RMS) are: "AE" for Architect-Engineer; "DO" for District Office (Engineering Division or other organization in the District Office); "AO" for Area Office; "RO" for Resident Office; and "PO" for Project Office. Codes following the "G" typically are not used for Navy projects.

Submittal items not designated with a "G" are considered as being for information only for Army projects and for Contractor Quality Control approval for Navy projects.

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Government approval is required for submittals with a "G" designation; submittals not having a "G" designation are [for Contractor Quality Control approval.][for information only. When used, a designation following the "G" designation identifies the office that will review the submittal for the Government.] The following shall be submitted in accordance with Section 01330 SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES:

### SD-02 Shop Drawings

Lighting Fixtures in Buildings  
Equipment Requirements

Detail drawings along with catalog cuts, templates, and erection and installation details, as appropriate, for the items listed. Submittals shall be complete in detail; shall indicate thickness, type, grade, class of metal, and dimensions; and shall show construction details, reinforcement, anchorage, and installation with relation to the building construction.

### SD-03 Product Data

Lighting Fixtures in Buildings[; G][; G, [\_\_\_\_\_]]

Equipment Requirements[; G][; G, [\_\_\_\_]]

Copies of the design calculations with the detail drawings. Calculations shall be stamped by a registered engineer and shall verify the capability of structural members to which bracing is attached for carrying the load from the brace.

Contractor Designed Bracing[; G][; G, [\_\_\_\_]]

Copies of the Design Calculations with the Drawings. Calculations shall be approved, certified, stamped and signed by a Registered Professional Engineer. Calculations shall verify the capability of structural members to which bracing is attached for carrying the load from the brace.

### 1.3 SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

#### 1.3.1 General Requirements

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NOTE: Designer should verify that specified details do not interfere with the performance of the cathodic protection system (when used) or of the vibration isolation systems.

For systems and equipment in buildings that have a performance objective higher than life-safety, the designer should show a "GA" classification for the items under SD-02 Shop Drawings in the SUBMITTALS paragraph. The Engineer of Record (EOR) should review the details of these essential systems and assess their impact on the structural supporting system of the essential building.

\*\*\*\*\*

The requirements for seismic protection measures described in this section shall be applied to the electrical equipment and systems listed below. Structural requirements shall be in accordance with Section 13080 SEISMIC PROTECTION FOR MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT.

#### 1.3.2 Electrical Equipment

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NOTE: The designer must ensure that the list below includes all electrical items to be braced. Delete the items which are not part of the project and add items which are not included in the list.

For equipment and systems in buildings with a performance objective greater than life-safety, the designer should provide two separate lists of equipment and systems: 1) Items that are essential to the higher level of post-earthquake performance, and 2) Items that are not essential but are necessary to provide a life-safety level of earthquake protection.

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Electrical equipment shall include the following items to the extent

required on the drawings or in other sections of these specifications:

|                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Control Panels               | Air Handling Units  |
| Pumps with Motors            | Switchgear          |
| Light Fixtures               | Unit Substations    |
| Motor Control Centers        | Transformers        |
| Switchboards (Floor Mounted) | Storage Racks       |
| [_____]                      | Solar Heating Units |

#### 1.3.3 Electrical Systems

\*\*\*\*\*  
NOTE: The designer must list below all electrical systems which are to be installed or modified.  
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The following electrical systems shall be installed as required on the drawings and other sections of these specifications and shall be seismically protected in accordance with this specification: [\_\_\_\_\_]

#### 1.3.4 Contractor Designed Bracing

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NOTE: Retain this paragraph when the Contractor will design the bracing. The designer will refer and/or modify the listings above or will list below the equipment and systems to receive seismic bracing. Delete this paragraph when all bracing details and locations are indicated on the drawings.  
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The Contractor shall design the bracing in accordance with TI 809-04 and additional data furnished by the Contracting Officer. Resistance to lateral forces induced by earthquakes shall be accomplished without consideration of friction resulting from gravity loads. TI 809-04 uses parameters for the building, not for the equipment in the building; therefore, corresponding adjustments to the formulas shall be required. Loadings determined using TI 809-04 are based on strength design; therefore, the AISC LRFP specifications shall be used for the design. The bracing for the following electrical equipment and systems shall be developed by the Contractor: [\_\_\_\_\_].

#### 1.3.5 Conduits Requiring No Special Seismic Restraints

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NOTE: Retain only those items found in the project for this list of conduits that do not require seismic restraints. For facilities designated as critical, hazardous, or essential, delete or make exceptions for conduits which will require seismic restraint.  
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Seismic restraints may be omitted from electrical conduit less than 64 mm 2-1/2 inches trade size and [\_\_\_\_\_]. All other interior conduit, shall be seismically protected as specified.

#### 1.4 EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

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NOTE: Seismic control does not guarantee that the equipment itself is rugged enough to survive earthquake shaking. When a piece of equipment is required to remain operational after an earthquake, the manufacturer should be consulted regarding the capabilities of the equipment to withstand seismic loading.  
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##### 1.4.1 Rigidly Mounted Equipment

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NOTE: Rigidly mounted equipment is defined as having a period of vibration of 0.06 seconds or less for the equipment plus its mounting. Equipment with a fundamental period greater than 0.06 seconds should be assumed to be flexibly mounted or nonrigid and designed in accordance with the next paragraph below.

List items that may require additional reinforcements (internally) to prevent permanent deformation, dislocations, separation of components, or other damage, which would render the equipment inoperative for significant periods of time following a seismic event and to meet the specified requirements (such as engine-driven generators, etc., which consist of a number of individual components built into an assembly by the manufacturers). For emergency generators include auxiliary items required for the generator to operate, such as battery racks and day tanks.

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The following specific items of equipment: [\_\_\_\_\_] to be furnished under this contract shall be constructed and assembled to withstand the seismic forces specified in TI 809-04, Chapter 10. Each item of rigid electrical equipment shall be entirely located and rigidly attached on one side only of a building expansion joint. Piping, electrical conduit, etc., which cross the expansion joint shall be provided with flexible joints that are capable of accommodating displacements equal to the full width of the joint in both orthogonal directions.

Engine-Generators  
Substations  
Transformers  
Switch Boards and Switch Gears  
Motor Control Centers  
Free Standing Electric Motors  
[\_\_\_\_\_]

##### 1.4.2 Nonrigid or Flexibly-Mounted Equipment

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NOTE: The appropriate lateral force coefficient, based on the guidelines in Section 13080 SEISMIC

**PROTECTION FOR MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT for nonrigid  
or flexibly-mounted equipment, should be calculated  
and inserted in the second bracketed blank space.**

\*\*\*\*\*

The following specific items of equipment to be furnished: [\_\_\_\_\_] shall be constructed and assembled to resist a horizontal lateral force of [\_\_\_\_\_] times the operating weight of the equipment at the vertical center of gravity of the equipment.

## PART 2 PRODUCTS

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**NOTE: Appropriate materials for structural supports  
must be used in corrosive environments. Dissimilar  
metals must be isolated.**

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### 2.1 LIGHTING FIXTURE SUPPORTS

Lighting fixtures and supports shall conform to UL 1570 or UL 1571 as applicable.

### 2.2 SWAY BRACING MATERIALS

Sway bracing materials (e.g. rods, plates, rope, angles, etc.) shall be as specified in Section 13080 SEISMIC PROTECTION FOR MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT.

## PART 3 EXECUTION

### 3.1 SWAY BRACES FOR CONDUIT

Conduit shall be braced as for an equivalent weight pipe in accordance with Section 15070A SEISMIC PROTECTION FOR MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT.

### 3.2 LIGHTING FIXTURES IN BUILDINGS

Lighting fixtures and supports shall conform to the following:

#### 3.2.1 Pendant Fixtures

Pendant fixtures shall conform to the requirements of TI 809-04, Chapter 10.

#### 3.2.2 Ceiling Attached Fixtures

##### 3.2.2.1 Recessed Fluorescent Fixtures

Recessed fluorescent individual or continuous-row mounted fixtures shall be supported by a seismic-resistant suspended ceiling support system built in accordance with [ASTM E 580] [Section 09510 ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS]. Seismic protection for the fixtures shall conform to the requirements of TI 809-04, Chapter 10. Recessed lighting fixtures not over 25 kg 56 pounds in weight may be supported by and attached directly to the ceiling system runners using screws or bolts, number and size as required by the seismic design. Fixture accessories, including louvers, diffusers, and lenses shall have lock or screw attachments.



#### 3.2.2.2 Surface-Mounted Fluorescent Fixtures

Surface-mounted fluorescent individual or continuous-row fixtures shall be attached to a seismic-resistant ceiling support system built in accordance with [ASTM E 580] [Section 09510 ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS]. Seismic protection for the fixtures shall conform to the requirements of TI 809-04, Chapter 10.

#### 3.2.3 Assembly Mounted on Outlet Box

A supporting assembly, that is intended to be mounted on an outlet box, shall be designed to accommodate mounting features on [100] [75] mm [4] [3] inch boxes, plaster rings, and fixture studs.

#### 3.2.4 Wall-Mounted Emergency Light Unit

Attachments for wall-mounted emergency light units shall be designed and secured for the worst expected seismic disturbance at the site.

#### 3.2.5 Lateral Force

Structural requirements for light fixture bracing shall be in accordance with Section 13080 SEISMIC PROTECTION FOR MISCELLANIOUS EQUIPMENT.

-- End of Section --