

# First Jolt: <sup>Shake</sup>/Alert

for the next big earthquake in California

*Current status and future outlook for earthquake early warning in California*

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a collaboration between...



Swiss  
Seismological  
Service



# What is **Shake/Alert?**

→ Earthquake Early Warning

- rapid detection of earthquake nucleation
  - instant alerts of forthcoming ground shaking
  - updated shaking predictions as ground motion propagates
  - more rapid “post-earthquake” information  
ie ShakeMaps
- a continuum of earthquake information



# Earthquake early warning

## Statewide seismological networks

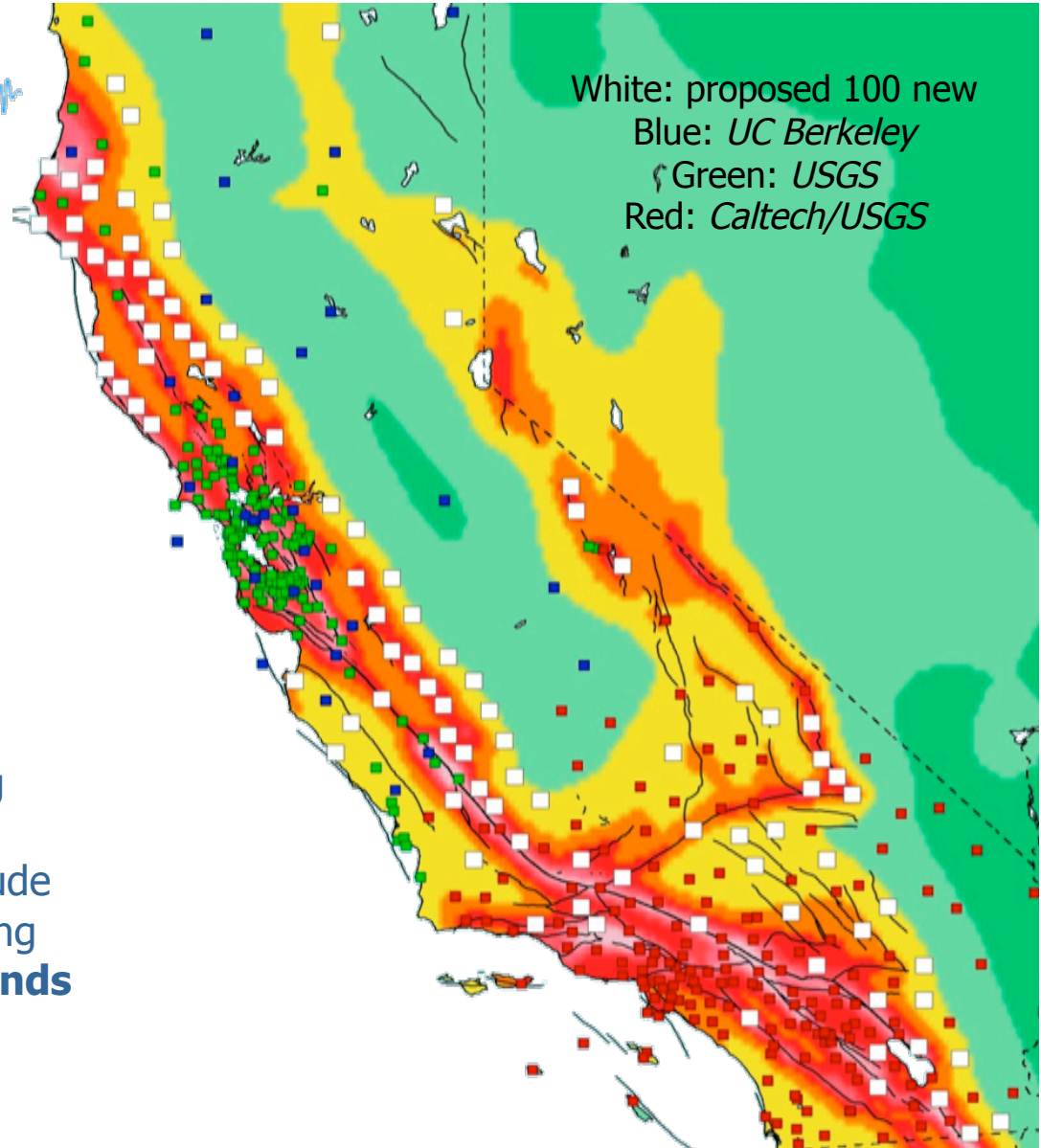
**CISN** California Integrated  
Seismic Network 

**Continuous real-time seismic data currently streams from 400 stations across the state**

An additional 100 have been proposed to fill the gaps (white)

### **Real-time processing**

- detects earthquakes
  - estimates the magnitude
  - predicts ground shaking
- ...all in a few seconds**





# Warning times at San Francisco City Hall

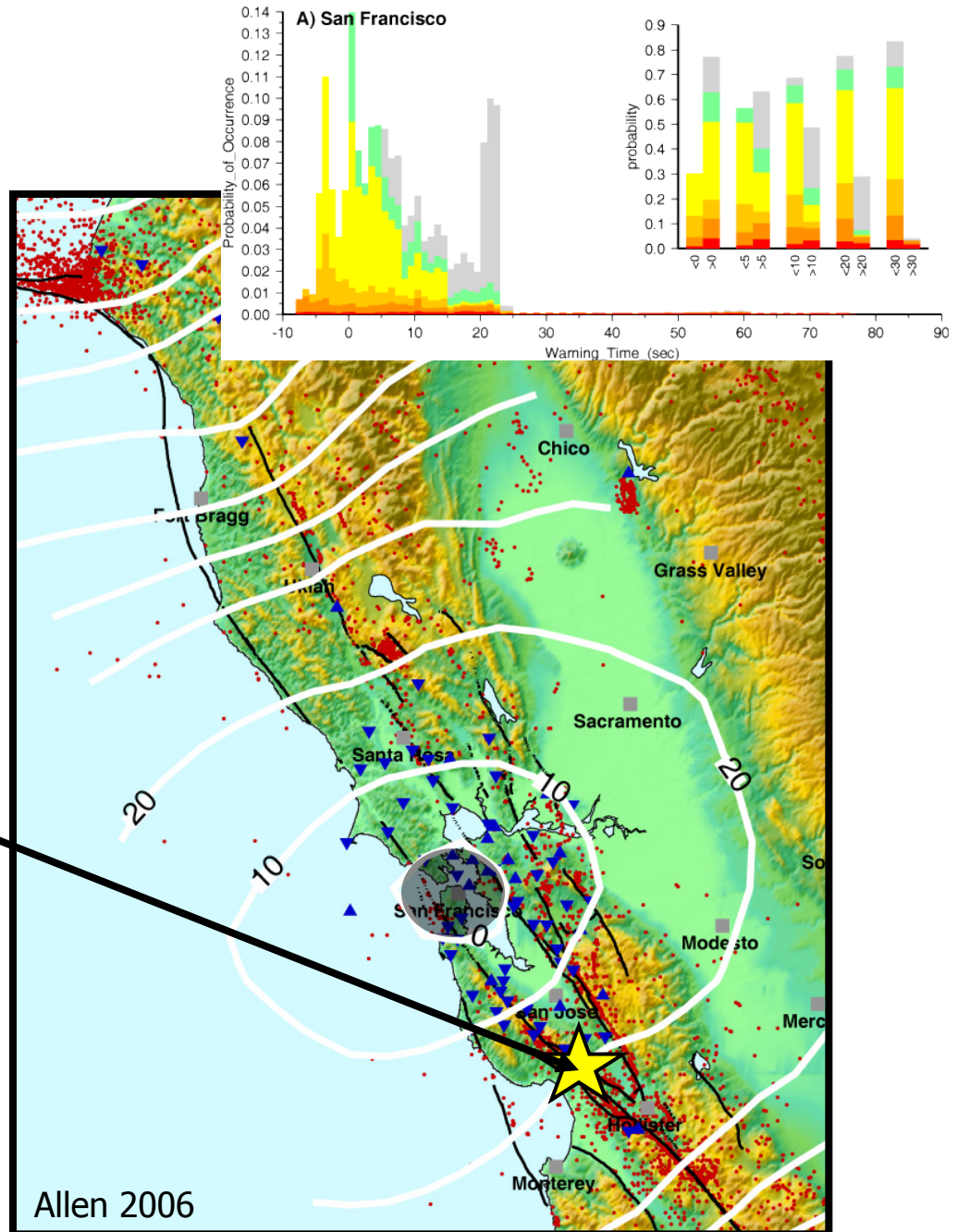
A few to tens of seconds  
up to ~1 min

## Loma Prieta earthquake

- 20 sec warning for San Francisco and Oakland

84% of the fatalities were in San Francisco and Oakland

- Existing stations
- 2 sec system latency
- From "Alarm" time (4 sec data, 4 stations)

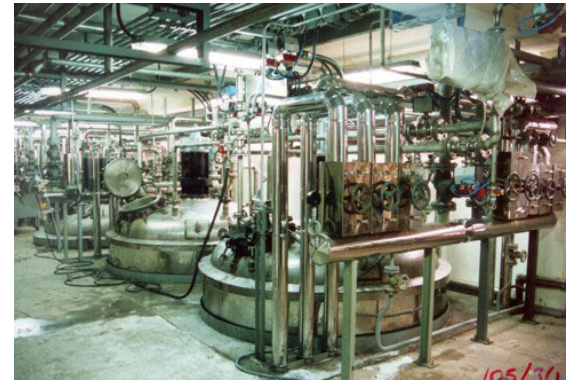


# Who would use this?

## 1. Personnel protection

### Move to a safe zone

- under a table
- away from falling hazards and windows
- away from hazardous chemicals and machinery



# Who would use this?

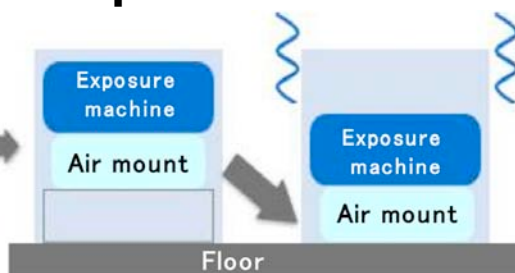
1. Personnel protection
2. Automated mechanical response

- slow and stop trains,
- airplanes “go-around”
- red toll/meter lights at entries
- open elevator doors and exits
- isolate hazardous chemicals
- sensitive equipment to safe mode



# OKI

chip manufacturer



## 2003: Two earthquakes

- \$15 million in losses
- 17 and 13 days loss of productivity

***Installed warning system + shear walls***

## Two earthquakes since installation

- \$200K in losses
- 4.5 and 3.5 days loss of productivity

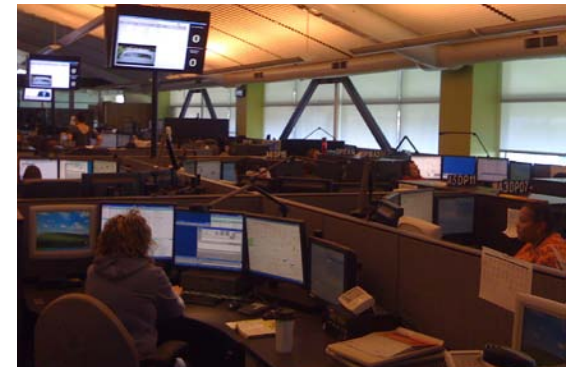


# Who would use this?

1. Personnel protection
2. Automated mechanical response
3. Situation awareness

**Understand why systems are failing**  
**Prevent cascading failures**

- transportation and utility systems
- information before communications are lost



# Warning to test user group

- Will begin providing warnings to small test user group in 2010
- Currently looking for interested user groups



Warnings communicated via internet and dedicated links initially

