

### NEWS THIS MONTH

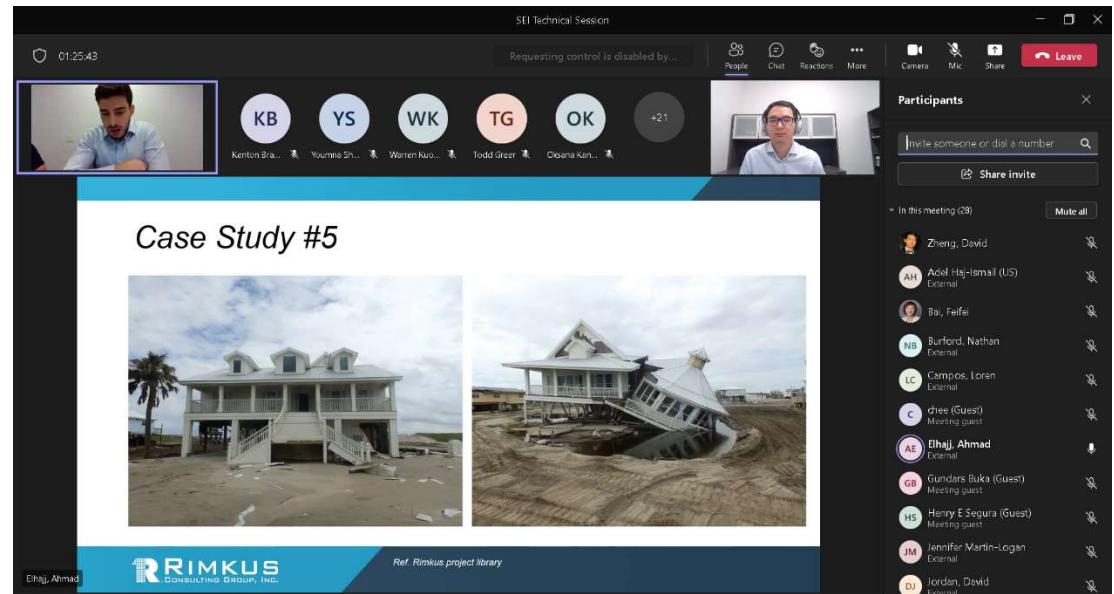
Technical Session on  
March 29, 2022

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Design of Durable PT  
System

### GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBER

Babak Pourazarm, P.E.,  
Vice Chair



*Design/Construction Defect Case Study*



Ahmad Elhajj, P.E.



Antonio Piña, P.E.

## Lessons Learned from Design/Construction Defects

**On March 29, 2022, Mr. Elhajj, P.E. and Piña, P.E. delivered a SEI Technical Session Webinar regarding Design/Construction Defects.**

Rimkus Consulting Group, Inc. is a worldwide provider of forensic consulting services to insurance companies, law firms, corporations and government agencies. Mr. Elhajj and Mr. Antonio, consultants of Rimkus, drew from their years of experience, addressed the common construction defects in their presentation. It was further explained that the causes of the defects could come from construction, design, and/or manufacturing deficiencies. The legal and the insurance aspects of the construction defects could have profound impacts to the designers or the construction contractors.

Natural disasters, such as hurricanes, tornados, flood, ice, and etc, could cause significant damage to the buildings. The presenters shared six real-life cases studies to showcase the forensic processes of identifying the root causes of the construction defects.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **“Design of Durable PT System with Electrically Isolated Tendons” by Jean-Baptiste Damage on April 26, 2022.**



Jean-Baptiste Damage

This speech will present the strategy proposed to overcome the issue identified in the last years on the SH 146 durability of the post-tensioning. The process includes a global approach from the design of the system, the manufacturing as per international practices, the installation through qualified team and process and last but not least some low-cost solution to prove the performance of the tendon regarding durability as per installation and for the long-term operation.

Please click on the following link for registration\*.

<https://ascehouston.org/meetinginfo.php?id=671&ts=1649716574>

\*This event is a virtual meeting. A link to access the meeting will be included at the bottom of your payment receipt email upon registration.

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## GET TO KNOW YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBER - Vice Chair



Babak Pourazarm, P.E.

Babak joined SEI board when he moved to Houston in 2019. Babak is a Senior engineer and has been working with Arup for more than 10 years. He is experienced in a wide range of projects with the current focus on energy and offshore structures. Outside work Babak enjoys spending time with his family and running outdoors.

### **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT SEI HOUSTON CHAPTER?**

I enjoy the opportunity of meeting peers and learning about their projects.

### **WHAT DO YOU WANT TO ACCOMPLISH AS A BOARD MEMBER THIS YEAR?**

I'd like to help grow awareness on carbon footprint of engineering projects and how that can be minimized.