

National Hurricane Program

Working for Safer Communities

Building Performance Assessment Team (BPAT) Program

FEMA's award-winning **Building Performance Assessment Team (BPAT)** program uses the combined resources of a Federal, state, local, and private-sector partnership to study how buildings perform under the forces of natural and manmade hazards, including the extreme winds, storm surge, wave and debris impact, and other hazards associated with hurricanes and coastal storms.

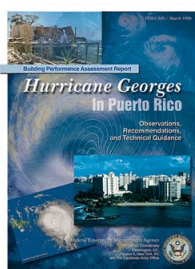
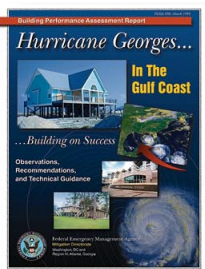
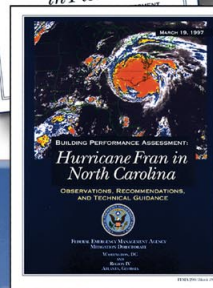
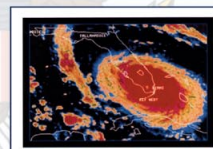
Under the BPAT program, FEMA deploys teams of experts in building science, snatural hazards, hazard mitigation, and building codes and regulatory requirements to:

- inspect buildings and infrastructure,
- conduct forensic engineering analyses to determine the causes of structural failure and success, and
- recommend actions that state and local governments, construction industry, and building code organizations can take to reduce future damage and protect lives and property in hazard areas.

Since the early 1990s, FEMA has deployed BPATs in response to:

- Hurricanes Andrew, Iniki, Emily, Opal, Fran, Georges in Puerto, and Georges in the U.S. Gulf Coast,
- flood disasters in California, Georgia, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Texas, and
- the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

BPAT observations, recommendations, and technical guidance are made available to the general public in published reports. Additional information about the FEMA BPAT Program, including BPAT newsletters, is available on the web at www.fema.gov/mit/bpat.



***Learning from Failure...
Building on Success***