



Partners in Prevention

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FLASH to Share Expertise During American Samoa Seismic Training Program

In an unprecedented trip for FLASH, team member Mike Rimoldi, will travel across the equator to the Southern Hemisphere. Rimoldi will serve as an instructor for the American Samoa Seismic Training Program beginning April 10. Along with the assistance and technical expertise of engineer Bill Gordon and former U.S. Environmental Protection Agency staff member Tim Bodell, Rimoldi will present information on how to make structures safer in an area that has an ever-present risk for seismic activity.

"I understand the need and importance of being able to share information related to building codes and building safer structures, especially in an area which has a high risk of natural disasters," Rimoldi said. "It's much like where I live in Florida. We have to be prepared."

American Samoa is a U.S. territory covering seven South Pacific islands and atolls and is located approximately half way between Hawaii and Australia. Roughly the size of Washington, D.C., it has a population of approximately 60,000 residents. American Samoa has the highest United States military enlistment rate of any state or territory, 30 players in the NFL, and more than 200 players in Division I NCAA Football programs.