

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****DIVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES**

Office of Earthquake Engineering

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*Flex your power!  
Be energy efficient!*

March 25, 2003

Mr. Karl Gillettee  
Edge Structural Composites  
145 Park Place  
Point Richmond, CA 94801

Dear Mr. Gillettee:

Thank you, for your interest in the Caltrans pre-qualification program for Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Composite systems used as alternative materials for seismic retrofit of column casings. The FRP Composites Technical Committee has reviewed your submittal of the Fiberbond VelaCarb 335U/Veloxx LR epoxy composite system for consideration of pre-qualification. Based upon the review of the reports and documentation of the Fiberbond VelaCarb 335U/Veloxx LR epoxy system submitted, I am pleased to inform you that the Edge Structural Composites Fiberbond VelaCarb 335U/Veloxx LR epoxy composite system has been approved as a Caltrans pre-qualified FRP Composite system for seismic retrofitting of columns. Please note that this approval only applies to the seismic retrofit of columns using alternative composite systems.

To continue our efforts in evaluating the long-term durability of FRP composite column jackets used for seismic retrofit, we have set up a demonstration site in Los Angeles area for each of the pre-qualified FRP composite manufacturers. Although, participation in the demonstration project was not a pre-qualification requirement, all of the pre-qualified systems have participated in our demonstration project at their own expense. Therefore, it is strongly encouraged that the Fiberbond VelaCarb 335U carbon fiber/Veloxx LR epoxy system also participates in our demonstration project. Please contact us for further details regarding our demonstration project.

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If you have any question, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 227-8874 or Jim Gutierrez at (916) 227-8256. Thanks for your interest in our bridge retrofit program.

Sincerely,



LI-HONG SHENG, Chairperson  
FRP Composites Technical Committee