

Cob Shake Table Test - University of British Columbia: The Stanley Park Ecology Society in Vancouver, BC in conjunction with The University of British Columbia's Civil Engineering Department conducted a shake table test on a half size version of a cob structure they built at their site. There is footage of these tests found at <http://stanleyparkecology.ca/visit-us/cob-house/> & <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChbccUQhpJc>. The shake table test portion of the video can be found between 2:55min and 6:24min. There were a total of 3 tests conducted and shown on the video, the first (3:59min) of which malfunctioned due to hydraulic failure, followed by two successful tests on a new structure. The first of the two successful iterations tested a recreation of the 1992 Landers, CA, 7.2 Richter Scale earthquake (4:55min). As shown on the video, the test lasted 18 seconds and produced minor, centralized, visible cracks with no significant fragmentation of the material. The second test followed directly after and was destructive testing made of synthetic earthquake record (5:17min). This test lasted 12 seconds before small fragmentation began to occur and 18 seconds until large fragmentation resulted in failure. Following the test Dr. Carlos Ventura, Professor and Director of the Earthquake Engineering Research Facility at The University of British Columbia states, "Shaking the structure up to 2g and seeing that the structure didn't collapse completely gives us reassurance that at least there is enough left over capacity of the structure to maintain weight and not collapse on top of people."