

Being Prepared

For Mother Nature



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Brief Background

- Earthquakes commenced September 2010 with magnitude 7.1
- Over the following 3 years we have endured over 12,500 earthquakes including 3 over magnitude 6 and 53 over magnitude 5
- Geographical area has no recent history of earthquakes prior to September 2010
- Easy to say “it won’t happen to us” but a good example that sometimes it does!

Addington Raceway

- Hosts New Zealand's largest raceday in either horse code (20% bigger than any other day held in the Country) with approximately 25,000 people in attendance (city population approximately 348,000)
- New Zealand's busiest racetrack with over 40 harness fixtures and 135 greyhound fixtures held during 12 month season
- Public Stand demolished as a result of damage experienced in September 2010 and February 2011 earthquakes
- Abandoned racemeeting in December 2011 when hit by magnitude 5.8 earthquake minutes before opening race
- That afternoon had 4 individual earthquakes over 5.2 within an hour and a half including a 6.2 "aftershock"



**Cup Day @
Addington Raceway**
25,000 people in attendance



Lessons Learned

- Communication- local cell towers knocked out, only communication possible via Radio Telephone (RT's) which we did not previously have but do now for every race meeting (not just big days)
- Communications Centre housing emergency services representatives housed away from main buildings
- Evacuations- instigate practical trials when venue actually in operation, with “actual live trials” now undertaken. More detailed practical planning around major events involving casual/additional staff pool
- Emergency Kits- now housed on track to include torches-lighting, thermal blankets, loud hailer, water, hi-viz vests, hard hats, first aid kits etc. all kept in protected/secure area

Lessons Learned Continued:

- Pre-event briefing- **EMT** group established who meet prior to every race meeting to go through specifics of that event
- Customer briefings- written messages included in racecards giving relevant instructions and also verbal address prior to all functions commencing outlining safety protocols etc.
- Locking down venue after evacuation- need a plan to secure once decision is made not to continue event, to prevent unauthorised re-entry
- Security of cash etc.- ensure plan is in place to house/secure valuables once buildings are evacuated
- Designated Safety Officer for large events to manage room capacity and “live issues”
- Structural Engineer on standby when hosting major events

Lessons Learned Continued:

- An Earthquake can be followed by an even larger aftershock!

