as in hot and cold rooms and all types of industrial supply locations.

These platforms can be easily installed even when equipment is live and operational—no drilling or anchoring is required, notes Acosta. They have been extensively tested and exceed UBC/IBC Seismic Zone 4 code requirements (Bellcore NEBS). They are also used in many different seismic-prone countries around the world.

For example, according to WorkSafe, Japan now has 1,000 users and more than 25,000 platforms installed. “We can say that ISO-Base has quickly become the defacto standard in Japan for seismic protection of IT racks and cabinets,” adds Hubbard. “ISO-Base has protected the IT racks in all cases, even where some of our users were right above the epicenter, such as the Sanyo Electronics factory during the Niigata M7 quake in October of 2004.”

Looking Back & Moving Forward

The creative vision of Don Hubbard combined with the entrepreneurial expertise of CEO Gil Moreno made it possible to found WorkSafe and to engineer its first seismic fastening products almost two decades ago. “We came up with ISO-Base Platforms while doing old-school seismic bracing,” says Hubbard. “We realized the need to reduce the stress on the equipment instead of adding stress to it with traditional bracing and bolting methods. Well into our second decade, we are constantly striving to increase our expertise by developing products to protect our clients’ businesses. The ultimate goal is to keep mission-critical equipment running as smoothly as possible and to ensure a rapid and easy operational recovery in the event of a seismic disturbance.”

According to Acosta, last August WorkSafe was selected by Cray and the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science to provide its patented ISO-Base seismic isolation technology to protect the world’s fastest supercomputer from seismic shock and vibration. In addition, last month, the University of Alaska Fairbanks base-isolated its first server cabinets in its central data center, home to the Arctic Region Supercomputing Center. The data center in Fairbanks is the University’s central IT hub for communication and data storage, housing around 100 server cabinets, many of which are supercomputers.

“Our innovations in seismic mitigation have been well received, not only in domestic seismic regions but also in seismic hot spots around the world,” says Acosta. “We have an established presence throughout the United States and Canada, as well as Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan, Turkey, and Mexico, with plans to expand into Western Europe, Central and South America, and Southeast Asia in the near future.”

WorkSafe’s ISO-Base Platform has been approved by the State of Washington and given the title of “sole source provider.” In addition, the company received the Award of Excellence from the 2004 National Earthquake Conference in the Mitigation category. WorkSafe Technologies products are also the only products to pass the stringent Canadian Government Standards Testing at the University of British Columbia, and the Japan Quality Assurance Organization has certified the ISO-Base Seismic Isolation Platforms for seismic requirements, which means they passed Japan’s rigorous quality and seismic performance testing. ■

by Julie Sartain
