



Name ASHRAF HABIBULLAH, S.E.

Title Dr.

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Birth Date March 11, 1947

Birthplace Pakistan (and U.S. naturalization date, if applicable)

Professional Profile:

Global leader in structural and earthquake engineering, pioneer of computational methods in structural engineering, and founder of the world's most influential structural engineering software, Dr. Ashraf Habibullah has, over five decades, fundamentally transformed the practice of structural engineering worldwide, shaping modern skylines, advancing seismic safety, and redefining engineering education through technology, computational innovation and global leadership.

As founder, President, and CEO of Computers and Structures, Inc. (CSI), he has led the development of SAP2000, ETABS, SAFE, CSiBridge, Perform 3D, CSiPlant, CSiCOL powerful yet user-friendly tools that have improved the daily professional life of structural engineers by reducing repetitive manual work, increasing analytical reliability, and enabling a genuine focus on creativity, performance-based design, and human safety. These programs are used by thousands of firms in more than 160 countries and have supported the design of landmark buildings and critical infrastructure, especially in high-seismic-risk regions, thereby contributing directly to safer communities and more resilient cities.

Through his keynote lectures on performance-based design and the future of earthquake engineering, Dr. Ashraf Habibullah has shifted the profession from purely code-prescriptive practice to a modern, model-based culture that explicitly addresses real structural behavior under earthquakes, allowing engineers to 'shake' the structure and fix its weaknesses before the structure is even built. This has given engineers clearer conceptual frameworks, better decision-making tools, and a stronger connection between their technical work and the protection of human life. At the same time, he has invested heavily in education and access to technology: large-scale donations of CSI software to universities in developing countries – including Romania – and the establishment of multiple academic Chairs at UC Berkeley have expanded opportunities for young engineers and ensured that high-quality tools and teaching are available far beyond the traditional centers of excellence.

Ashraf Habibullah also promotes a holistic view of engineering that integrates art, culture, and social responsibility, strengthening the social status and self-image of engineers. As Grand Benefactor of the San Francisco Ballet, co-founder and founding president of Diablo Ballet, and founder of Engineers' Alliance for the Arts, he connects structural elegance with artistic expression and introduces students, engineers and the general public to the creative side of structural engineering. Frequently cited by *Engineering News-Record* as a "Newsmaker" and known for presenting engineers as "rock stars," he has become an advocate for the profession itself, helping to attract new generations to civil and structural engineering. Through his philanthropic work for hospitals, educational foundations, and charities, he demonstrates that engineering leadership can and must serve the broader human condition, thereby improving not only the professional lives of structural engineers, but also the safety, culture, and well-being of the communities they serve.

Education:

- Master of Science (M.Sc.) In Civile Engineering, 1970
University of California, Berkeley
Structural Engineering & Structural Mechanics (SESM)
- Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.), 1969
NED College (Karachi, Pakistan)

Professional Experience:

- Founder, President and CEO of Computers and Structures Inc., 1975 – Present

Professional Association/Society Memberships:

- California Registered Structural Engineer, License No. #1976
- California Registered Civil Engineer, License No.#22361
- Life Member, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
- Member, American Concrete Institute (ACI)
- Member, American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC)
- Member, Structural Engineers Association of California
- Member, International Code Council
- Honorary Member, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI)
- Honorary Member, Structural Engineers Association of Northern California
- Honorary Member, Structural Engineers Association of Southern California
- Board Member, Engineering Advisory Board, College of Engineering, University of California, Berkeley

Awards and Honors:

- National Academy of Engineering (NAE), United States, 2024
The highest professional distinction for engineers in the United States, awarded for extraordinary contributions to engineering practice and innovation.
- Inducted into the College of Fellows, Structural Engineers' Association of California, 2025
- Doctor Honoris Causa,
Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña (UNPHU).
- H. J. Brunnier Lifetime Achievement Award, Structural Engineers Association of Northern California – For changing the practice of structural engineering for the better through the development of efficient and user-friendly structural analysis programs.
- George Winter Award, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) – In recognition of leading the development of highly complex software for structural analysis and design and for founding the Engineers Alliance for the Arts and the Diablo Ballet.
- Charles S. Whitney Medal, American Concrete Institute (ACI) – For computer applications that have changed and modernized structural engineering practice to a level never envisioned just a few decades ago.
- Community Involvement Award, Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) – For his outstanding commitment to improve the public perception of structural engineering.
- Trustees' Citation Award, University of California, Berkeley Foundation – For distinguished service in campus fundraising.

- President's Award, ASCE – Structural Engineering Institute – For exemplary contributions to the success of SEI.
- Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution Award to the Arts Community, San Francisco Business Arts Council.
- Award in recognition of his significant contributions to the arts and culture of the country, Contra Costa County Arts Council.
- Award for Top Seismic product of the 20th Century for ETABS, Applied Technology Council.
- President's Award, Structural Engineers Association of Arizona.
- Elected member of CEE Academy of Distinguished Alumni in recognition of a distinguished professional career and lifelong dedication, support, and advancement of Berkeley CEE, University of California, Berkeley

Technological Portfolio and Algorithmic Innovation

CSI is recognized globally as the pioneer in the development of software for structural and earthquake engineering. Thousands of engineering firms in over 160 countries have chosen CSI's software to design the tallest buildings of all the major skylines in the world, including the Burj Khalifa in Dubai and the Freedom Tower in New York.

Under Mr. Habibullah's leadership, CSI developed four software pillars that define the built environment:

- SAP2000 (Structural Analysis Program): The first software to introduce object-based modeling. It integrated nonlinear dynamic time-history solvers, allowing engineers to simulate real earthquakes and observe plastic hinge formation.
- ETABS (Extended Three-Dimensional Analysis of Building Systems): The most influential software for high-rise buildings. It features optimized algorithms for P-Delta analysis and was used to design the Burj Khalifa, managing complex effects like creep and shrinkage.
- SAFE (Slab Analysis by the Finite Element Method): Introduced finite element rigor to slab and foundation design, including punching shear and long-term deflection analysis.
- CSiBridge: A parametric tool that automates the generation of influence lines and moving loads for transport infrastructure.
- CSiPlant: An integrated engineering software product for analysis and design of piping systems and frame structures, including piping code compliance checks with stress-intensification and flexibility factors that are automatically calculated and applied.
- Perform 3D: A nonlinear analysis and design product focused on displacement-based and capacity design of buildings.
- CSiCOL: A comprehensive software package used for the analysis and design of columns, efficiently addressing the design of columns of any concrete, reinforced concrete, or composite cross-section.

Public Image and Media

Dr. Ashraf Habibullah has been repeatedly cited by *Engineering News-Record (ENR)* as a "Newsmaker" for his impact on the engineering industry.

Through CSI's YouTube channel, LinkedIn presence, and his distinctive lighted jacket, he promotes the idea of engineers as "rock stars" to inspire younger generations and address the talent crisis in the engineering profession.

Recent Keynote/Plenary Lectures:

- Keynote Speaker, "An Introduction to: Performance Based Design - The Future of Earthquake Engineering", SEA of Arizona, (June 2025)
- Keynote Speaker, "Introducing Performance Based Design - The Future of Earthquake Engineering", SEA of Arizona, (June 2024)

- Keynote Speaker, “A Historical Perspective of CSI, SAP2000 & ETABS as they turn 50!” SEA of Arizona, (May 2024)
- Keynote Speaker, “Structural Engineering: Preserving Past, Protecting Present, Building Future”, Bangkok, (May 2023)
- Keynote Speaker, “The Digital Age and Human Engineering”, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute and Stanford University (2023)
- Keynote Speaker, “The Grandeur & Splendor of Structural Engineering”, The Structural Engineers Association of Texas, SEAoT, (2022)
- Keynote Speaker, “A Celebration of Earthquake Engineering with Ashraf Habibullah”, (October 2022)
- Keynote Speaker, California Polytechnic State University, (2019).

Keynote speaker at numerous charity and fundraising events, supporting healthcare and education for underprivileged children:

- Keynote Speaker, Shaukat Khanium Memorial Cancer Hospital Fundraiser, Garden Grove, California (October 2018)
- Keynote Speaker, Diamer Bhasha and Mohmand Dam Fund San Francisco Bay Area Fundraiser (October 2018)
- Keynote Speaker, Fundraising Dinner to Support Indus Hospital, Pakistan, Hosted by Friends of Indus Hospital at Royal Palace Banquet Hall, Fremont, California (October 2018)
- Keynote Speaker, The Citizens Foundation USA Annual Fundraiser (October 2017)

Humanistic Vision and Philanthropy

Dr. Ashraf Habibullah has a deep personal interest in human psychology and behavior and seeks to help people from all walks of life reach their maximum potential. He donates his time, resources, and expertise as a speaker to support humanitarian organizations, hospitals, and educational institutions worldwide.

Key philanthropic initiatives include:

- Academic Chairs at UC Berkeley: Established and endowed these chairs to ensure the university can continue to attract elite professors in structural engineering.
- Support for the Arts: A Grand Benefactor of the San Francisco Ballet, he promotes a holistic education by linking the grace of ballet to the elegance of structural design.
- Global Software Donations: Ashraf’s generosity has enabled new generations of civil engineers and change-makers to pursue their passions. CSI donates millions of dollars in software licenses to universities (including Romania) ensuring future engineers in high-seismic-risk areas have access to.

Other Professional and Cultural Activities:

Dr. Ashraf Habibullah advocates a holistic vision that integrates engineering, arts, and social responsibility.

Ashraf also has a keen passion for the arts and social causes. He is co-founder of the critically acclaimed Diablo Ballet and founder of the Engineer’s Alliance for the Arts, an organization that exposes school children to technology, focusing on the artistic aspects of bridge engineering.

- Founder, Engineers’ Alliance for the Arts (1997) – An organization that introduces school children to engineering and technology by focusing on the artistic aspects of bridge engineering and structural design.
- Co-Founder and Founding President, Diablo Ballet (1994) – A California-based, critically acclaimed dance company that highlights the connection between artistic expression and structural elegance.