MAURER
Seismic Protection Systems

Technical Information and Dimensions
MAURER
Seismic Protection Systems

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1. Introduction

The technical state of the art allows structures of any kind to be adapted to different load cases, e.g. traffic, wind, seismic impacts, etc. Therefrom, the appearing stresses are distributed in as far as possible a well-proportioned way over the entire structure or they are even essentially reduced from the very beginning in addition by special isolating and damping devices.

General concepts for appropriate protection of structures against earthquakes do not exist, as every structure is quite unique and requires individual considerations. Therefore MAURER SÖHNE is offering for every structure individual consulting and develops tailor made, mechanical devices for an effective adjustment of the structure to the occuring nominal seismic attack. A seismic protection system (Fig. 1) consists normally of seismic isolators (VS), or bearings, dampers (MHD) and/or shock transmitters (MSTU, MSTL) and seismic expansion joints (DS-F).

Earthquakes are often interpreted in terms of deformations and acting forces induced upon the structure. As a consequence, there is a tendency to think only about increasing the strength of the structure. Actually, forces and displacements are nothing but a mere manifestation of seismic attacks and do not in fact represent their very essence. An earthquake is actually a energy phenomenon and the forces causing stress in the structure are the final effect of that phenomenon.

Considering only the resulting response forces within the structure due to an earthquake leads to massive structural dimensions, stiff structures with enormous local energy accumulation and plastic hinges. This strengthening method combined with usual bearing arrangements (Fig. 2) permits plastic deformations by way of leading to yield stress and cracks. Aside of costly refurbishing interventions the structure is set temporarily out of service.

Consequently, severe structural damages occur if the structure is not sufficiently protected.
2. Concepts for seismic protection

2.1. ENERGY SHARING

ENERGY SHARING means, that the occurring seismic energy that enters from the soil is distributed to as many locations as possible, in order to facilitate constant stress all over the entire structure and to avoid significant energy accumulations at a few structural locations.

For this purpose special devices (Fig. 4), so called shock transmission units (see also page 8), permit relative displacements due to temperature differences, creep and shrinkage between deck and substructure during service conditions (Fig. 5). Only during the seismic load case or any suddenly induced traffic forces they behave like a rigid device (Fig. 6), distributing the horizontally acting seismic/traffic response forces to several spots. That way the capacity of the structure to store elastic as well as kinetic energy is increased. Accordingly, the corresponding structural displacements are smaller accordingly compared to not using shock transmission units. Thus the resulting horizontally acting forces are distributed more or less equally over the structure, and unequal energy distribution within the structure is avoided.

Unlike above assumption, the occurring forces and displacements during an earthquake are not the cause, but the effect of the short-lived dynamical occurrence of enormous amounts of stored mechanical energy from the ground. To be more effective the applied seismic concept has to consider the character of the earthquake. The distribution of the energy input over several structural locations is mostly not sufficient to protect the structure. Yet, this principle works out very well for moderate traffic forces.

The huge seismic energy input still reaches without mitigation to the superstructure as during the seismic load case every support axis gets rigid (Fig. 6) and the energy reaches easily the superstructure. From there the entire superstructure gets accelerated.

For medium to severe seismic attacks our second proposal ENERGY MITIGATION for seismic protection is recommended to be applied.
2.2. ENERGY MITIGATION

ENERGY MITIGATION means applying the concept according to the energy approach (see page 5 also) especially considering the „energy character“ of the earthquake. This method is based on ENERGY MITIGATION and costly strengthening measures are avoided.

Two methods are simultaneously applied:

1. **Seismic isolation:**
   The superstructure gets de-coupled from the ground. The so called seismic-isolation limits automatically the energy to a minimum to enter the superstructure during an earthquake. Due to this fact the natural period of the structure is increased, therefore reduces the spectral acceleration during a seismic attack (Fig. 7). Depending on the type of the employed multidirectional seismic isolators (see also page 15), they cater for not only the vertical load transmission but also for the active re-centering of the superstructure during and after an earthquake (Fig. 8+9). Re-centering means that the bridge deck displaced due to the seismic energy input is automatically shifted back by the seismic isolators into its original position.

2. **Energy dissipation:**
   By means of passive energy dissipation (= energy transformation) the seismic rest energy entering into the superstructure will be effectively dissipated by additional damping devices (see page 12) relieving the entire structure from additional strain (Fig. 8+9).

In case of need dampers can be additionally installed in lateral direction.

With the above suggested concept that combines seismic isolation with energy dissipation, the best possible seismic protection for structures is achieved.
In case flexible piers are located in the bridge center, the re-centering capability of the seismic system can also be achieved by placing fixed and laterally displacing spherical, pot or elastomeric bearings on these piers (Fig. 10). The fixed and laterally displacing bearings represent horizontally rigid devices in longitudinal bridge direction. During an earthquake the flexible piers will bend and will pull back the deck in the mid position. Simultaneously this system isolates the deck from the ground.

A major disadvantage of this system is the missing isolation in lateral bridge direction. The resulting lateral horizontal seismic forces have to be fully transmitted by suitable bearings. But in general such a system can be applied to retrofit projects, where normal sliding bridge bearings are already installed and a damping mainly in longitudinal bridge direction is required.

The concept of ENERGY MITIGATION taking advantage of seismic isolation and energy dissipation is the most effective method to design structures very economically, and with great safety margins. This concept grants that the structure will survive an earthquake without damages, thus being immediately prepared to cope with a following seismic attack.

To accommodate the displacements of the deck at the abutments and fill the gap in the carriageway, special seismic expansions joints are installed (Fig. 12). These joints have to enable quick alternating displacements in all directions (x, y and z), without getting damaged (see also page 18).
3. Energy approach concept for optimum seismic protection

As already mentioned in chapter 2.2. an earthquake is an energy phenomenon and therefore this energy character should be considered to achieve the best possible seismic protection for the structure.

Without any seismic protection system the seismic energy is entering the structure very concentrated at the fixed axis, thus hitting the structure mainly at one single axis (Fig. 13).

By means of shock transmission units the entering energy is distributed to several spots within the structure (Fig. 14). The energy input into the structure is still in same magnitude like without STU’s - no mitigation - but now the energy is spread over the entire structure in more or less equal portions.

By implementing additional seismic isolation and also energy dissipation capability, less energy is entering the structure (Fig. 15), and the remaining energy amount entering the structure is effectively mitigated.

The principles of physics that govern the effects of dissipation on the control of dynamic phenomena were studied more than two centuries ago (D’Alembert, Traité de dynamique, 1743). Nonetheless, their practical application has come about much later and within a much different time-frame in several sectors of engineering. The sector that was the first to adopt such damping technologies was the military (France, 1897) and let the country enjoy world supremacy in artillery for the better part of a decade. In not too short order the automobile industry followed in these steps by using dampers in their suspension systems to ensure the comfort and the stability of motor vehicles. In 1956 Housner already suggested an energy-based design for structures. Akiyama (1985), Uang (1988) and Bertero (1988) made a valuable contribution to the development of the aspects of an energy-based approach, which presently meets with great consensus.
The concept of the energy approach (Fig. 16) reduces effectively the energy induced into the structure (E_i) by ground motion through its foundations.

The amount of the structurally stored energy (E_s) has to be as low as possible to avoid damages. Therefore the value of the dissipated energy (E_d) must be great.

The energy part E_h (Fig. 17) out of E_d due to plastic deformation of the structure has to be kept low, as this way of energy dissipation causes structural yielding and cracks.

The drastic increase of the value of the energy of viscous phenomena (E_v) is the final opportunity to control the energy balance of the structure. It should be pointed out that E_v is associated with the response forces (F) that depend only on the velocity (v) through a constitutive law of type:

\[ F = C \times v^a \]

where exponent \( a \) ranging from 0 to 1.8, depending on the type of device. This \( E_v \) increase is realized by the use of specially developed highly efficient hydraulic viscous dampers named MHD (see page 12).

Exemplarily and simplified, we’d like to show the earthquake effects on a single oscillating mass (Fig. 18).

For this case the equation of motion is valid:

\[ m \dddot{x} + c \dddot{x} + kx + h(x) = -m \dddot{x}_G \quad (1) \]

By integrating the single terms of equation (1) with respect to \( x \), results in:

\[
\begin{align*}
\int m \dddot{x} \, dx &= \int m \dddot{x} \, dx = \int m \dddot{x} \\ &= \int \frac{1}{2} m \dddot{x}^2 = E_k \\
\int Fx \, dx &= \int c \dddot{x} \, dx = \int c \dddot{x}^2 \, dt = E_v \\
\int kx \, dx &= \int \frac{1}{2} kx^2 = E_h \\
\int h(x) \, dx &= E_h \\
\int -m \dddot{x}_G \, dx &= E_i
\end{align*}
\]

\[ E_i \leq E_s + E_d \]

\[ E_i \leq E_e + E_k + E_h + E_v = \int -M \dddot{x}_G \, dx \]

- \( E_e = \) elastic strain energy
- \( E_k = \) kinetic energy
- \( E_h = \) energy dissipated by hysteretic or plastic deformation
- \( E_v = \) energy dissipated by viscous damping
- \( m = \) mass of isolated structure
- \( x_G = \) absolute ground displacement

Fig. 16: Concept of energy approach considering the energy exchange between structure and environment

Fig. 17: Energy balance equation for structures

Fig. 18: Complex bridge structure explained with a simplified single oscillating mass
4. The way to the ideal seismic protection system

The especially adapted MAURER seismic protection system (Fig. 19) ensures full service abilities after the nominal earthquake and structural damages are totally avoided. Hence the structure is immediately ready for service again and for possibly following further earthquakes. In addition no refurbishing works of the devices or structure are necessary, which shows that this seismic protection system is also the most economic concept to choose.

The employed mechanical MAURER components for the seismic protection have been proving successfully in service for many years. Depending on request for the single components the design can be done according to EURO NORM, AASHTO, BRITISH STANDARD, DIN or any other standard.

Despite the fact that some guidelines for seismic engineering have been implemented in the last few years, every structure is unique, has to be individually calculated, and requires tailor made components.

MAURER is offering extensive general and individual consulting for the seismic components, as well as for the principle design of structures. On request MAURER performs a non-linear time history analysis (see also page 20) of the entire structure with the input data of the bridge designer. By application of the special seismic protection system of MAURER the bridge design needs not be changed. On account of the above mentioned reduced forces induced upon the structure by using this protection system the structural safety margins rise considerably. In order to save costs, it can also be considered to weaken the structure to the permissible stress limit by doing new structural calculations with the revised response forces. In that case, the actually requested safety margins stay on the same level as before without seismic protection system.

The advantages of a seismic protection system (Fig. 20) are obvious and satisfy protection and economic requirements.

**Advantages:**
- Maximum seismic protection with great safety margins,
- Compared to other methods like strengthening much more economical,
- No structural damages due to the design earthquake => prepared for following earthquakes and passable for traffic,
- No design changes of the structure are necessary by implementing a seismic protection system,
- Components can be easily installed,
- Approved by tests and in service for many years.

Fig. 19: Steps to built up a seismic protection system

1. Design by bridge designer
2. Non-linear Time History Analysis of the structure by MAURER with adaptation of the seismic protection system
3. Final adjustments (geometric/ constructive) of individual seismic components. Drawing up request list for components.

Fig. 20: Advantages of a MAURER Seismic Protection System
5. Technical description of shock transmission units (MSTU/ MSTL)

5.1. MSTU - Standard shock transmission unit

MSTU - MAURER shock transmission units are hydraulic devices (Fig. 21) to connect structural parts rigidly together in case of sudden occurrence of fast relative displacements due to earthquake, traffic, wind, etc. During service these devices react with an insignificant response force due to thermal or creep/shrinkage displacements.

In literature often alternative names are used for such kind of devices, e.g. Lock-Up Device (LUD), Rigid Connection Device (RCD), Seismic Connectors, Buffers or similar. But not all of these devices react in a similar way. Most of these devices don’t have the important force limiter function, which is described on following page for the MSTL.

Depending on the displacement velocity, the MSTU reacts with a certain nominal response force (Fig. 22). Very slow displacements due to temperature changes, and creep/shrinkage are causing minor response forces $F_T$ within the MSTU (see plot 1 in Fig. 22+23). The fluid inside the MSTU is flowing from one piston side to the other within the hydraulic cylinder.

During occurring sudden impact accelerations due to e.g. an earthquake or braking actions of vehicles, which result in greater relative displacement velocities between super- and substructure above approximately 0.1 mm/s, the MSTU reacts with an intense increase of its response force (see plot 2 in Fig. 22+23). The device is blocking any relative displacement between the connected structural parts now. The hydraulic synthetic fluid is not able to get from one piston side to the other at these great displacement velocities.
5.2. MSTL - Shock transmission unit with force limiter

Usually MAURER Shock Transmitters are equipped with an additional force limiter on request.

Compared to the “normal” standard shock transmission units with a theoretical unlimited blocking force in case of unforeseen infinite energy input, the MSTL with force limiter reacts with a well defined maximum response limit force (see FL in Fig. 24+25). This response force limit is normally defined slightly above the nominal blocking force (see FN in Fig. 24+25) or can also be chosen individually.

In case the maximum nominal response force of the MSTL will be exceeded by unforeseen dynamical seismic structural behaviour or too great seismic energy input, an “intelligent” control device enables displacements of the MSTL.

The response force is kept constant (see 2+3 in Fig. 25) by the “intelligent” control device, whereas the displacement velocity plays no important part, which means that the response force is independent from the displacement velocity during a seismic impact or a traffic impact.

The force limiter provides the designer the confidence and safety that the maximum response force of the shock transmission unit is well defined, independent from the amount of impact energy. This brings about the significant advantage that the structure can be calculated exactly for a defined response force. For normal standard shock transmission units without force limiter the structure has to be designed with greater safety margins – also more costly – and the shock transmission unit itself or the structure could be damaged in case the seismic impact is higher than expected.

The MSTL (Fig. 26) with force limiter in comparison to the standard MSTU safes structural overall costs and brings up a much greater structural safety margin without increasing structural costs.
5.3. General characteristics of MSTU and MSTL

**Characteristics of a MSTU/MSTL with force limiter:**

- During service conditions the devices are not pre-tensioned and the fluid is under no significant pressure.

- Automatic volume compensation of the fluid caused by temperature changes is achieved without pressure increase inside the devices. Any compensation containers are located inside. On request they can also be located outside.

- No maintenance works necessary. Visual inspection is recommended during the periodic bridge inspections or after an earthquake respectively.

- The devices are not prone to leaking as special high strength hydraulic sealing rings are used like for Caterpillars, automobile industry and similar machineries. On request prove tests can be carried out.

- Very little elasticity of 2-5% depending on request.

- Range of temperature: -40°C to 70°C.

- Small dimensions and simple installation.

- Depending on request spherical hinges are installed at both device ends to accommodate installation tolerances.

**Fig. 27: MSTU integrated into a sliding pot bearing**

MSTU/MSTL’s can also be integrated into sliding bearings like pot bearings (Fig. 27). So the sliding bearings are moveable during service load case and behave like horizontally rigid devices in case of an earthquake or similar impacts.

Normally the devices are installed independently from the bearings like this is shown on the following page.
5.4. Dimensions and anchoring of MSTU and MSL

The above mentioned dimensions can change in final design depending on detailed request to the devices. Also the anchor support sizes are not included yet.

The devices can also be delivered with the entire anchoring system like anchor supports and tension anchors as well. The design of the anchoring will then be individually adapted to the designers wishes.

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![Fig. 28: Sample for installation position of MSTU/ MSL mainly used for abutments](image1)

![Fig. 29: Alternative installation position of MSTU/ MSL mainly used for piers](image2)

### Table: Dimensions and anchoring of MSTU and MSL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Axial Force [kN]</th>
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6. Technical description of seismic dampers (MHD)

6.1. MHD - Seismic damper

MHD - MAURER hydraulic dampers are devices (Fig. 30), which enable displacements (thermal changes, creep, shrinkage, etc.) during service conditions without creating significant response forces, but dissipate huge amounts of energy during sudden occurrence of dynamical seismic energy input, and the energy is been converted into heat.

Very slow displacements e.g. temperature changes, create insignificant response forces $F_T$ within the MHD (see 1 in Fig. 31+32). Identical to the MSTU and MSTL, fluid can flow from one piston side to the other.

When sudden impact accelerations occur between the linked structural sectors due to seismic energies, traffic or wind, inducing displacement velocities in the range of approximately 0.1 mm/ s to 1 mm/ s the MHD blocks and behaves rigidly. The characteristic for this velocity is nearly identical to the shock transmission units MSTU/ MSTL (see 2 in Fig. 32) with a maximum blocking force of $F_N$ (Fig. 32).

After exceeding a defined energy input, the MHD is forced to overstep the maximum defined response force $F_N$, e.g. during load case seismic, a integrated “intelligent” control mechanism enables relative displacements between the connected parts, but with still constant response force $F_I$, which insignificantly bigger than $F_N$. The very special feature is now that $F_N$ is independent from the displacement velocities (see 3 in 31+32). During these displacements the special control mechanism pilots the fluid flow very exactly from one piston side to the other in order to achieve this constant response force.

On one hand the bridge designer can be sure that a maximum of the induced energy into the structure is dissipated and on the other hand the maximum response force of the MHD acting onto the structure is well known independent how strong the seismic event may be. From there the structure can be easily calculated for this constant response force, and high safety margins are realized in a very economical manner.
F = MHD response force
C = Constant value
v = displacement velocities up to 1.4 m/s
α = damping exponent < 0.02 (2%) 

=> due to the low α value the MHD response force is independently acting from the displacement velocity as the term “v^α” runs against “1”

Characteristics of a MHD:

- During service conditions the device is not pretensioned and the fluid is under insignificant pressure.
- Maximum response force is well defined to a certain limit. No structural damages occur even in case the earthquake was more severe than expected, and the design engineer can easily calculate with this constant maximum response force – independent from velocity – but still be sure to gain the maximum possible structural safety factor. This constant response force is resulting from the extra low damping exponent α<0.02 (Fig. 35).
- Extreme great efficiency of up to η = 96% which corresponds with a maximum equivalent damping coefficient of 0.61.
- Maximum response force is given by the MHD with tenths of a second, so structural displacements are minimized.
- For traffic loads due to braking and acceleration, the MHD acts like a shock transmission unit.
- Automatic volume compensation of the fluid caused by temperature changes without pressure increase inside the devices. Any compensation containers are located inside. On request they can also be placed outside.
- No maintenance works necessary. Visual inspection is recommended during the periodic bridge inspections or after an earthquake respectively.
- The devices are not prone to leaking as special high strength hydraulic sealing rings are used like for caterpillars, for automobile industry and similar machineries. On request prove tests can be carried out.
- Very little elasticity of 2-5% depending on request.
- Range of operating temperature: -40°C to 70°C.
- Small dimensions and simple installation.
- Depending on request spherical hinges are installed at both device ends to accommodate installation tolerances.
6.2. Dimensions and anchoring of the MHD

The above mentioned dimensions can change in final design depending on detailed request to the devices. Also the anchor support sizes are not included yet. The devices can also be delivered with the entire anchoring system like anchor supports and tension anchors as well. The design of the anchoring will then be individually adapted to the designers wishes.

Seismic isolation combined with energy dissipation by dampers represent todays most effective tools in the hands of design engineers in seismic areas to limit both relative displacements as well as transmitted forces between adjacent structural elements to desired values. This means being able to control at will the structure’s seismic response and ensure the same the required degree of protection in a still economical way. Finally the stress upon the structure is decreased also, which brings structural cost reduction along in addition.
7. Technical description of seismic isolators (VS)

7.1 VS - seismic isolators (VS)

The VS - MAURER seismic isolator fulfils in general following characteristics:

- Seismic isolation from the excited ground,
- Vertical load transmission,
- Automatic adaptation to displacements and rotations of the superstructure relatively to the substructure,
- Providing re-centering capability to “pull back” the superstructure during and after an seismic attack in mid position in order to avoid dangerous displacement accumulations in one direction only.
- Inner rubber material consists of high quality natural rubber for best possible seismic behaviour. The outer cover surface is made of synthetic chloroprene rubber (marked green in Fig. 38+39) for very good ageing characteristics.

Mainly two types of VS seismic isolators are used:

- V2S: multidirectional deforming (Fig. 38),
- VE2S: laterally deforming – longitudinally sliding (Fig. 39)

Alternatively to the seismic rubber isolators also multidirectional sliding bearings of pot or spherical type (Fig. 40+41) can be used. These bearing types are preferably used for very huge loads (> 21,000 kN) or in countries with temperatures less than -30°C for a longer time span of the year. The sliding bearings do not provide re-centering capabilities. From there a bearing arrangement like shown in Fig. 10 has to be applied and the piers will act like re-centering springs then. For free-sliding bearings see also the MAURER brochures for pot and spherical bearings.

100% seismic isolation is not practicable and the finally induced energy upon the structure causes still displacements of the deck, which values are now easily controlled by the dampers. This structural flexibility ensures significant energy dissipation within the accepted displacements limits. As a result the forces onto the structure are effectively decreased compared to the strengthening concept.
7.2. Dimensions of V2S seismic isolators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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Length dimensions (L) are measured in longitudinal bridge direction and width dimensions (W) are measured in lateral bridge direction. The seismic displacement is assumed to be 1.5 x rubber thickness. Depending on the standard this can deviate.

The above mentioned dimensions can change in final design depending on detailed request to the devices. Also the sizes of the shear anchors are not included yet. Normally these anchor bolts are 25 mm in diameter and 100-150 mm long.

Further information concerning rubber pads can also be found in the brochure „MAURER Elastomeric Bearings“.

On request we are able to deliver any kind of isolator sizes to be individually adapted to the stiffness requirements.

Depending on the rubber compound also special damping characteristics can be realized. The maximum size for the rubber pad is 1200 x 1200 mm in plan view!

Also square and rectangular isolator sizes are available.
### 7.3. Dimensions of VE2S seismic isolators

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Length dimensions (L) are measured in longitudinal bridge direction and width dimensions (W) are measured in lateral bridge direction. The seismic displacement is assumed to be 1.5 x rubber thickness. Depending on the standard this can deviate.

The length dimension L has to be calculated according following equation:

\[
L + \text{total displacement} + 2 \times 35 \text{ mm}
\]

The above mentioned dimensions can change in final design depending on detailed request to the devices.

Also the sizes of the shear anchors are not included yet. Normally these anchor bolts are 25 mm in diameter and 100-150 mm long.

Further information concerning rubber pads can also be found in the brochure „MAURER Elastomeric Bearings“.

On request we are able to deliver any kind of isolator sizes to be individually adapted to the stiffness requirements.

Depending on the rubber compound also special damping characteristics can be realized.
There are two possibilities to design a MAURER expansion joint.

1. The joint is designed for the service displacements and in addition it can accommodate the entire seismic displacements. The swivel-joist joint of type DS suffers no damages due to the nominal seismic event and can be passed immediately after the earthquake.

2. The joint can accommodate the service displacements and the seismic opening displacement. The seismic closing displacement is not entirely accommodated. Therefore MAURER developed the special joint of type DS-F with the so called FUSE-BOX. When all gaps between the single profiles are already closed and the joint is still trying to close further more, some welding seams in the FUSE-BOX will fail in a controlled manner. One joint edge is pushed over a ramp out of the joint gap (Fig. 43). As the support bars are guided by elastomeric bearings the joint behaves flexible enough not to be damaged during this operation. After the earthquake the joint can be passed by emergency vehicles without problems. To get the joint ready for service again, only some minor works at the welding seams of the FUSE-BOX have to be done. The joint of type DS-F has a cost advantage compared to the DS type. In addition, the DS-F type requires also less space than the DS type.

The swivel-joist expansion joint represents in both versions - with or without FUSE-BOX - the best suitable joint for seismic conditions.
Earthquake can create displacements of considerably greater and faster magnitude than under normal service conditions, and with a complex three dimensional behaviour. The optimum adaptation to these dynamical movements is ensured by the MAURER DS and DS-F type.

In general a seismic expansion joint has to fulfil the following requirements:
- Longitudinal and lateral displacement capability (Fig. 46).
- Rotational capability around the vertical bridge axis (Fig. 47).
- Vertical elasticity in the range of at least 0,5° necessary as due to dynamical deck vibrations small vertical misalignments resulting from rotations around the lateral bridge axis in the bearing points will appear.
- Design for very fast seismic displacement velocities of at least 500 mm/ s or on request up to 1600 m/ s.
- Granting for proper traffic ability after the earthquake, at least for emergency vehicles.
- It is often desired that any kind of refurbishment works on a potentially damaged joint after an earthquake is avoided, which means that during a seismic event the joint has to perform as usual without being damaged at all.
- Protection of the structure against impact damages due to too much seismic closing displacements.
- Avoidance of collapse of the joint construction into the gap while seismic opening displacements occur.
- Easy and quick installation (Fig. 45).

The above requirements are all fulfilled by the swivel-joist expansion joint DS and DS-F type.

A patented simple and effective control mechanism (Fig. 48) safeguards the unstrained absorption of movements, simultaneous transmission of traffic loads and prevents the joint from any damages.

For more detailed information about installation, dimensions and further more, please have a look in the MAURER Swivel-Joist Expansion Joint brochure.
On request, MAURER SÖHNE carries out a detailed non-linear time history analysis for any kind of structure and will select the seismic protection system that is best possible to satisfy individual requirements.

For a non-linear analysis, the following input data are necessary:
- Design drawings of the structure,
- Data of significant cross sections of deck, abutment and piers (surface; moment of inertia about the main axis of these sections, torsion constant of these sections, transverse shear stiffness).
- Materials (young modulus, shear modulus, density).
- Foundations (dimensions and soil winkler’s modulus, translation and rotation stiffness of equivalent springs).
- Seismic input: response spectrum and representative site accelerograms.
- Loads (dead loads, maximum live loads, live loads under seismic conditions).
- Admissible actions in most significant locations like pier bottoms, abutments etc. (admissible bending moments, shear+axial forces, and displacements).
- Special requirements of the design engineer.

Advantages of a non-linear time history analysis:
- Exact determination of structural displacements.
- Exact calculation of the seismic response forces acting onto the devices and structure.
- Optimized adaptation of the seismic protection system with respect to efficiency and economical benefits.
- Proof for best possible seismic protection.
- Exact evaluation of real structural safety factors.
- Design engineer is able to compare his own calculations with the analysis in order to get his results confirmed.
- Possible economical benefits due to savings in the design.
10. Testing of seismic protection devices

In respect to their seismic suitability, components used for a MAURER seismic protection system have been extensively tested.

Fig. 50: Tests of damper (MHD) and shock transmitter (MSTU) at the Technical University Munich

Fig. 51: Tests of an elastomeric isolator

Fig. 52: Tests of a seismic swivel-joist expansion joint of Type DS at the Berkeley University - CA

In addition to the shown tests on this page, e.g. sliding tests for the sliding isolators are permanently carried out.

For all used materials corresponding material certificates can be supplied on request.