

nees@UTexas On-Site Training

nees@UTexas on-site training includes (1) Safety Training, (2) Equipment Trainings, and (3) NEESgrid Systems Trainings. These trainings are discussed as below.

1. Safety Trainings (On-Site Shaker Safety Training)

On-site shaker safety training is designed for non-nees@UTexas personnel who will be working within 100 ft radius of the shakers during the field test. The hydraulic vibrators of nees@UTexas operate with pressures up to 4,000psi, and can output a ground force as high as 60,000 lbs. Additional training is required for people who work around the shaker. On-site shaker safety training will generally take 20 minutes. Details of the “nees@UTexas on-site shaker safety training” can be found in the nees@UTexas Safety Handbook.

2. Equipment Trainings

Under the guidelines of the University of Texas general vehicle safety and driver certification, **NEES vehicles must be operated by UT employees.** Users of the nees@UTexas Site are only allowed to operate the data acquisition systems, handling sensors, and laying out cables. On-site equipment training includes:

- Data acquisition systems,
- Handling low frequency geophone, and
- Handling electrical cables.

Upon completing equipment training (given by nees@UTexas team member), users can request a permission from the Operations Manager for handling certain equipment during the field tests.

3. NEESgrid Systems Trainings

NEES is a network of 15 large-scale, experimental sites that feature such advanced tools as shake tables, centrifuges that simulate earthquake effects, unique laboratories, a tsunami wave basin and field-testing equipment. All are linked to a centralized data pool and earthquake simulation software, bridged together by the high-speed Internet2. The new NEESgrid system, a communications web that uses collaborative tools and tele-presence technologies, allows off-site researchers to interact in real time with any of the networked sites.

NEESgrid is currently operated by NEESit. Detail information about NEESgrid can be found at <http://it.nees.org/>.