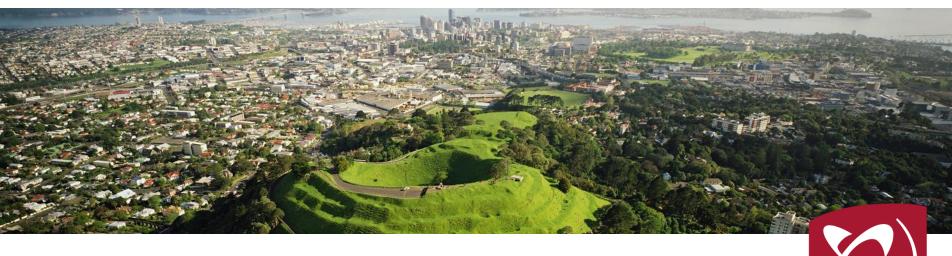


Volcanic Impact Study Group (VISG*) update



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* VISG is a subcommittee of the Auckland Lifeline Group







VISG Objectives

- To collate and advocate existing knowledge about the impacts of volcanic hazards (e.g., volcanic ash) on, and mitigation measures for, lifeline infrastructure.
- To facilitate and support research on the impacts of volcanic hazards on lifeline infrastructure and the development of appropriate mitigation measures.
- To provide a vehicle for two-way exchange of relevant research information between the research and lifeline infrastructure community.
- To facilitate reconnaissance investigations, and/or advocate lifeline representation on reconnaissance investigations, to active volcanic areas where this would add to our knowledge about volcanic impacts on infrastructure.
- To provide a national focal point for volcanic impacts work on lifeline infrastructure.



VISG activities since November 2015

- Reviewed and revised VISG charter
 - Updated to reflect current practices
 - Section added to specify what is out of scope
 - Does not have an operational role during a crises
 - Does not consider health or agricultural impacts
 - Available on ALG website
- 2015 annual seminar focused on lessons from overseas reconnaissance trips and laboratory experiments designed to understand impacts
- Published quarterly newsletters
- Volcanic ash impact posters translated to web format, hosted on GNS webpage
 - http://gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/Eruption-What-to-do/Ash-Impact-Posters

VISG newsletter feature stories



November 2015

Ash impacts on roads: lessons from Kagoshima, Japan (Daniel Blake, UC)

March 2016

"Mt Ruaumoko": Exploring consequences of an Auckland Volcanic Field eruption (Natalia Deligne and Daniel Blake)

June 2016

Clean-up of the urban environment after volcanic eruptions (Josh Hayes, UC)

September 2016

New volcanic ashfall advice for the public (Carol Stewart, JCDR)



Jacobacci, Argentina following the 2011 Cordón-Caulle eruption



Select VISG achievements of past year

- Ash impact posters used in Cape Verde volcanic crises in August 2016
 - Posters have now been used in New Zealand, Alaska, South America & Africa
- Numerous studies published in leading scientific journals, over half a dozen in the works
 - Tephra fall clean-up in urban environments (Josh Hayes)
 - Road marking coverage by volcanic ash: an experimental approach (Daniel Blake)
- Presentations nationally and internationally
 - NZTA Skid-Resistance Technical Advisory Group (Daniel Blake)
 - Presentations in UK, Italy, Belgium, and elsewhere
- Contributors to international projects
 - Updated Volcanic Ash Impacts & Mitigation website hosted by USGS
 - Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery "ThinkHazard!" online tool
 - International Atomic Energy Agency report Volcanic Hazard Assessments for Nuclear Installations: Methods and Examples in Site Evaluation

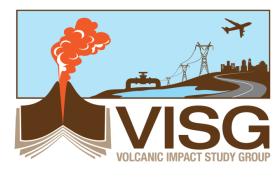


Ongoing/upcoming projects

- Laboratory work understanding generator vulnerability to volcanic ash
 - Seed funding from ALG, co-funding from EDF
- 2 week impact assessment trip to Chile & Argentina
 - Recent eruptions & longitudinal studies
- Auckland Volcanic Field scenario development
 - Builds on ARC work in 1990s and DEVORA findings
 - Several eruption sites across AVF
- Exploring volcanic eruption debris clean-up
- Understanding lava flow impacts to built environment



Final thoughts



- A lot happening in VISG space
 - Exciting time for NZ volcanic impacts research, despite the lack of recent mainland eruptions
- World-class team involved in numerous international projects

Encourage you to:

- Subscribe to our quarterly newsletter (only 4 emails a year!)
- Contact VISG with research questions / ideas
- > Annual seminar this Friday, ask me for details

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