

DISASTER PREVENTION AND ASSISTANCE IN ACTION.

On 18 June 2018, an earthquake measuring 5.5 Mw on the moment magnitude scale struck in Osaka Prefecture, Japan. The human cost was 4 dead & 434 injured. Many still remember the other great earthquake in the area in 1995 which claimed 6,434 & the 2011 East Japan earthquake & tsunami in which 15,896 deaths were confirmed & 2,539 still missing. Japan is constantly re-developing its regulations & infrastructure to mitigate disaster damage both to human life & buildings.

Shaking from the June earthquake was felt strongly in and around metropolitan areas of Osaka and Kyoto, temporarily disrupting electrical & gas service to 170,000 homes & buildings. The natural gas grid in the affected area was managed by Osaka Gas & 111,951 homes were subject to emergency shut-off.

Many installations in buildings & industrial areas as well as some domestic estates were automatically shut down as the quake hit utilizing the ITO earthquake shut off system as required by Japanese law. This system shuts down gas supply lines using no electricity just the pressure in the supply line & a precisely calculated detection system. These thereby secure safety to many areas from secondary disaster.

ITO also supplied the PA Mixer, SNG Generator to at least 21 sites through Osaka Gas (many more already installed in pre-planned emergency centers) These ensured that many mainly important buildings such as central hospitals started their temporary supplies as soon as it the quake hit Osaka & gas supplies cut.

Following the earthquake terrible downpours have hit western Japan & unfortunately, these have killed more people than the earthquake with 225 dead & 13 still missing. ITO have provided a safety system for gas cylinders in case of flooding. The TIH Tensile Trigger hoses cut off automatically if cylinders are swept away or fall over; which prevents large gas leaks from causing further issues.

For more information on this: <http://www.ito-europe.com/products-2/earthquake-shut-off-systems/>

<http://www.ito-europe.com/products-2/pa-system/>

<https://youtu.be/tRKCvprW8qI>