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## QUAKE SIMULATOR SHAKES UP PALM SPRINGS

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### For Immediate Release

Escondido, CA – (May 6, 2009) – The BIG SHAKER, the world's largest mobile earthquake simulator, is set to debut in the Palm Springs area on Saturday, May 9, 2009.

The simulator can replicate earthquakes up to a magnitude of 8.0. It will be part of earthquake preparedness clinics to be held at the La Quinta Home Depot.

Statewide efforts are being ramped up this year to make Californians more aware of the very real threat of a massive earthquake.

US Geological Survey scientists have predicted a potential magnitude 7.8 earthquake will occur along the southern San Andreas Fault. They say the strongest shaking in such a quake would be felt in the Coachella Valley.

The BIG SHAKER was developed and purpose built by QuakeHOLD!, America's leader in earthquake preparedness. Its purpose is to educate people about what can happen inside their homes during an earthquake when contents are unsecured.

"It's the most extreme, most realistic mobile earthquake simulator ever built," said QuakeHOLD! CEO Dean Reese. "Our main objective is to demonstrate what an earthquake can feel like and show people what can happen to their household possessions if they're not secured.

"When you're in it, you feel like you're being shaken by a real earthquake. The aim of the demonstration is to give you a much better understanding of the need to have your things fastened down.

"We show people how to secure their furniture, appliances and other possessions so that their things won't get broken or damaged beyond repair. The best defense is to be prepared and that's what the BIG SHAKER is all about."

The Home Depot in La Quinta will host a free clinic (Saturday, May 9 at 11am) focusing on earthquake safety by providing useful tips such as securing furniture and appliances, preventing valuables from breaking, assembling an emergency kit and more.

The Home Depot is dedicated to providing homeowners with expert advice and easy, affordable ways to keep their homes and families safe in the event of an earthquake.

For more information about the BIG SHAKER and QuakeHOLD! please visit [www.quakehold.com](http://www.quakehold.com)