



ISSMGE NEWS

International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering

Société Internationale de Mécanique des Sols et de la Géotechnique

A Word from the President of ISSMGE

It is a pleasure to welcome the re-launch of the ISSMGE Newsletter on a three-monthly basis and made available to all ISSMGE members in electronic format.

A key ambition of the ISSMGE Board in its term of office 2001-2005 has been to improve the interaction with the individual members and to communicate regularly the developments and discussions in progress. Since September 2001 the Board has been involved with many new initiatives, on which there has been the opportunity to inform you regularly by means of the six-monthly circular letters.

Important initiatives include the promotion of the ISSMGE, the development of [Policy Statements on Professional Practice](#), the implementation of Information Technology in ISSMGE operations as well as the restructuring of ISSMGE sponsored conferences. New interaction with our members will result from the introduction of the membership card and membership number. The membership card is aimed at facilitating conference registration, allowing straightforward application of appropriate reductions in registration fees for ISSMGE members, and will assist in producing lists, for example of potential members for technical committees and individuals who could act as Speakers and Chairmen at major ISSMGE conferences.

Considerable discussion has been directed at the feasibility of establishing a Federation of International Geo-Engineering Societies. For the ISSMGE, which is a key element of the Geo-Engineering group with both a learned and a practicing engineering character, its impact on Society in meeting the

needs of the environment, disaster prevention, education and ethics can surely benefit greatly from such a Federation.

The ISSMGE appreciates greatly the support received from the many companies that sponsor conferences as exhibitors, provide expert members for Technical Committees and act as main sponsors assisting with co-organising touring lectures and workshops. It is felt by the Board that these companies should be encouraged to become more formally associated with the ISSMGE and new initiatives are being explored to achieve this.

I hope that the great potential of the new ISSMGE website has already become obvious to you all. Planned enhancements will allow better interaction with the specific sites of the technical committees and improve intranet communication.

This newsletter will continue to report on the calendar of events, recent publications, industrial liaison developments, touring lectures, comments by member society representatives, messages from corporate sponsors and/or the Vice Presidents for the Region. The newsletter is aimed at serving the membership of ISSMGE and we welcome at any time your suggestions for other articles as well as on more general developments of the ISSMGE.

Prof. Dr ir W.F. VAN IMPE
President ISSMGE



ISSMGE President
Professor William Van Impe

ISSMGE Young Member Award 2005

The deadline for nominations for the [ISSMGE Young Member Award 2005](#) is the 10th January 2005.

The aim of the ISSMGE Young Member Award is to encourage research and development in the field of geotechnical engineering and to acknowledge the contribution of young members of the Society. The award will be given in recognition of achievement during the four-year period preceding the year of the

award. The ISSMGE Award will be presented to one or more individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the development of geotechnical engineering through their scientific and technological work.

For further details and nomination procedures please refer to the ISSMGE website ([ISSMGE Young Member Award 2005](#))

Policy Document No. 1 - Guidelines for Professional Practice

INTRODUCTION

As the peak body for geo-professionals concerned with soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, ISSMGE has a responsibility to set out guidelines by which such geo-professionals should practice.

These guidelines are set out herein in two categories:

- (a) General professional ethics which apply to all engineering professionals
- (b) Specific issues for geotechnical professionals.

(a) GENERAL PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

Geotechnical professionals shall:

1. Place their responsibility for the welfare, health and safety of the community before their responsibility to sectional or private interests.
2. Act with honour, integrity and dignity to merit the trust of the community and the profession at large.
3. Act only within areas of their competence and in a diligent and careful manner.
4. Apply their skills and knowledge in the interest of their employer or client for whom they act, without compromising any other obligations they may have to act in an ethical manner.
5. Take reasonable steps to inform themselves, their clients and employers, of the technical, social, environmental and other possible consequences which may arise from their actions.
6. Express opinions, make statements, or give evidence, with fairness and honesty, and only on the basis of adequate knowledge.
7. Continue to develop relevant knowledge, skill and expertise throughout their careers, and shall actively encourage those with whom they are associated to do likewise.

(b) SPECIFIC ISSUES:

Geotechnical professionals:

1. Shall take steps to be aware of the context (the "larger picture") in which their work is carried out and endeavour to participate in the project from beginning to end.
2. Shall make themselves aware of the geological and hydrogeological context of the project in which they are involved.
3. Shall, when acting as designers, take all reasonable steps to visit the site during construction and satisfy themselves that the construction satisfies the design intent.
4. Shall avoid price competition at the expense of technical quality.
5. Shall endeavour to cooperate with professionals of other disciplines who are involved in the same project.
6. Shall endeavour to explain to their clients and to the community at large the significance of their work.
7. Shall, when asked to review or critique the work of fellow professionals, advise them accordingly.
8. Shall avoid unnecessarily definitive statements in relation to geotechnical and geological issues which are uncertain.

March 2004

Circular letter from the President

The President's recent [circular letter](#), which was sent out in late August 2004, outlined ISSMGE's current activities, such as the development of a membership card, the re-launching of the newsletter, the production of Policy Statements on Professional Practice (mentioned in the President's introductory letter),

IT, Education and the relationship with the Sister Societies. The full text of the President's letter is available on the ISSMGE website.

[\(Circular letter from the President, August 2004\)](#)

Upcoming Conferences

2004

SINERGIA 2004 - XVII Soil Mechanics and Engineering Geotechnical Congress/III Argentine Congress of Dams and Hydroelectric Developments/VIII Symposium of Geology Applied to Engineering and Environment and V Meeting on Preparation and Use of Thematic Maps (18 - 23 October), Cordoba, Argentina, e-mail: sinergia2004@yahoo.com.ar

Geofilters 2004 (19-21 October), Spier Wine Estate , Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa, www.wits.ac.za/geofilters2004

7th Regional Rock Mechanics Symposium (21-22 October 2004), Cumhuriyet University Cultural Center, Campus-Sivas, Türkiye www.kayamek2004.cumhuriyet.edu.tr

GeoQuébec 2004 - 57th Canadian Geotechnical Conference (24-26 October 2004), Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, www.geoquebec2004.org

1st Canadian Young Geotechnical Engineers and Geoscientists Conference (27-30 October 2004) - Quebec City, Quebec, Canada www.ucalgary.ca/~cygegc

XVIII Seminario Venezolano de Geotecnia - Geoinfraestructura: La geotecnia en el desarrollo nacional (9-11 Noviembre) - Caracas, Venezuela www.svdg.org.ve

II International Conference on Scour and Erosion (ICSE-2), (November 14-17) - Meritus Mandarin Hotel, Singapore, www.ICSE2004.org

15th Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference (23-26 November) - Bangkok, Thailand www.eng.chula.ac.th/seagc15

International Workshop on Risk Assessment in Site Characterization and Geotechnical Design (26-17 November) - Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, e-mail: glsc@civil.iisc.ernet.in

International Conference On Geosynthetics and Geoenvironmental Engineering (8-10 December) - Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai, Maharashtra, India, www.civil.iitb.ac.in/~icgge/

2005

GeoFrontiers 2005 (24-26 January), Hilton Austin Convention Ctr , Austin, Texas, United States www.asce.org/conferences/geofrontiers05/index.cfm

LE COMPACTAGE DES SOLS ET DES MATERIAUX GRANULAIRES (25-26 Mars), Hammamet, Tunisia, e-mail: Mongi.benouezdou@enit.rnu.tn ou samia.boussetta@enit.rnu.tn

X Baltic Conference - Geotechnical engineering for harbours, onshore and nearshore structures (11-13 May), Conference Centre, Riga, Latvia, Conference Centre , Riga, Latvia, www.balticgeotechnics.lv

Geoline 2005 - Geology and linear infrastructures (23-25 May), Lyon Convention Centre, Lyon, France, geoline2005.brgm.fr

International Conference on Deep Mixing. Best Practice and Recent Advances (23 - 25 May), Stockholm, Sweden, www.deepmixing05.se

16ICSMGE - Sixteenth International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (12-16 September), Osaka, Japan www.icsmge2005.org/

News from Member Societies

Nepal Geotechnical Society:

The NGS is pleased to announce the recent publication of Vol. 3, No. 1 of "GeoHimal", a geotechnical journal for the society covering geo-issues in Himalayan regions. The journal has separate ISSNs for the web version CD-ROM and hard copy and may accessed at its temporary site at www.geotechis.com/GeoHimal_3_1

Albanian Geotechnical Society:

The AGS is pleased to report the success of the "Seismic Geotechnical" seminar held in Tirana (9-10 September), organised with the great support of ERTC12-Evaluation of EC8. The theme of the seminar

was the analysis and understanding of seismic geotechnical problems and their relation with EC-8. The seminar was well attended, with over 60 civil engineers and geologists. Further information may be obtained from Professor Bozo at luljeta_bozo@yahoo.com

Romanian Geotechnical Society:

In June 2004, the first issue of the new biannual geotechnical journal edited by the Romanian Geotechnical Society, the "Revista Română de Geotehnică și Fundații" was published in Bucharest . Contact Prof. Iacint Manoliu, President of the Romanian Geotechnical Society, (e-mail: manoliu@hidro.utcb.ro) for further information.

International Conference on Site Characterization, 19-22 September, Oporto, Portugal



Mike Jamiolkowski at ISC

The Second International Conference on Site Characterization (ISC-2) was held in Porto, Portugal from 19 to 22 September 2004 (www.fe.up.pt/isc-2). The concept of ISC-2 was initiated by ISSMGE Technical Committee TC 16 on In-Situ Testing (www.geoforum.com/tc16) led by Prof. P.W. Mayne, in collaboration with TC 10 on Geophysics. The Faculty of Engineering of University of Porto (FEUP) and the Portuguese Geotechnical Society (SPG) organised this very successful event, with the endorsement of the ASCE Geo-Institute, Portuguese Association of Engineers (OE), International Society of Rock Mechanics (ISRM) and International Association of Engineering Geology and Environmental (IAEGE).

With 530 participants from all around the world, it provided an opportunity for several technical committees to meet, and to gather a large number of companies in the Technical Exhibition. A very special event was the delivery of the first J. K. Mitchell Lecture. The 2-volume proceedings entitled

Geotechnical & Geophysical Site Characterization in both hard copy & searchable CD by Millpress/Rotterdam (www.millpress.com) contain 11 state-of-the-art keynote lectures and another 208 technical papers, including thematic reports on field & lab geotechnical & geophysical means for site exploration in soils and rocks.

Thanks to Prof. Antonio Viana da Fonseca from FEUP, and the SPG, the lovely historic venue was packed with technical and social events, including a Welcome Reception at the Palacio, Casa da Musica, boat cruise on the Douro River, Seated Banquet with Fado & jazz, and a final program of "GeoMusic". Special guests in attendance included ISSMGE Pres. Prof. William Van Impe, Prof. James K. Mitchell, Prof. Mike Jamiolkowski, Dr. Michel Gambin, and Prof. Rainer Massarsch.



Geomusic:
Paul Mayne - bass
James Mitchell - sax
Martin Fahey - mandolin
Jean Nuyens - grand piano
Nuno Cruz - guitar

Touring Lecture: 17-19 June 2004, St Petersburg, Russia

The first ISSMGE touring lecture was of great interest to Russian geotechnical engineers. It was attended by 163 specialists from 14 cities of Russia. The audience consisted of practitioners (contractors, consultants, designers), academicians, and researchers. Many highly positive post-lecture comments from the attendants have been received.

The topics of the lectures were discussed and chosen previously with ISSMGE President Prof. W. Van Impe. The chosen themes were of much importance for the members of Russian Geotechnical Society. The lectures were at a very high scientific level, both from the point of view of contents as well as the presentation of the material.

The lecturers and their topics were: R. Frank on Eurocode 7; W. Van Impe on Deep foundation design - general introduction; M. Van Den Broeck on Specific interaction of SPT/CPT/vanetests/borings

in very soft soils (in harbours or in reclamation areas); M. Bottiau on Case histories on deep foundation problems I; and Ed Revoort on Case histories on deep foundation problems II.

The lectures will be translated into Russian and published in the volume No 9 of our journal "Reconstruction of cities and geotechnical engineering" which will be sent out to all participants of the touring lecture.

The organisers would also like to express their gratitude to all their sponsoring companies for their support: DEME – Dredging International-Belgium; FRANKI – Belgium, FUNDEX – Belgium and ENPC CERMES-France.

The full report on the [Touring lecture](#) can be found on the ISSMGE website.



Sitting: ISSMGE President Prof. W. Van Impe and RSSMGFE President Prof. V. Ilichev
Standing: North-West branch of RSSMGFE Chairman Prof. V. Ulitsky (in the centre), Dr. M. Lisyuk (left), Dr A. Shashkin (right).

Conferences: Important Dates

2005

LE COMPACTAGE DES SOLS ET DES MATERIAUX GRANULAIRES (25-26 Mars), Hammamet, Tunisia, e-mail: Mongi.benouezdou@enit.mu.tn ou samia.boussetta@enit.mu.tn

Date limite de réception des résumés: 15 septembre 2004
Notification d'acceptation des résumés: 15 octobre 2004

X Baltic Conference - Geotechnical engineering for harbours, onshore and nearshore structures (11-13 May), Conference Centre, Riga, Latvia, Conference Centre, Riga, Latvia, www.balticgeotechnics.lv

Oct 1 2004 - Reception of abstracts
Nov 1 2004 - Acceptance of revised abstracts

Geoline 2005 - Geology and linear infrastructures (23-25 May), Lyon Convention Centre, Lyon, France, geoline2005.brgm.fr

Acceptance of abstracts: 1st October 2004
Deadline for papers: 1st January 2005
Acceptance for posters: 15th February 2005

International Geotechnical Conference "Soil-Structure Interaction: calculation methods and engineering practice" (24-27 May), The House of Architects, Saint Petersburg, Russia, www.georec.spb.ru/ssi.htm

Paper Submissions – 15 November 2004.
Notification of acceptance on the part of the Organizing Committee – 31 January 2005.

GEOPROB 2005 - International Conference on Problematic Soils (25-27 May), Eastern Mediterranean Univ, Famagusta, Cyprus, www.geoprob2005.org

Paper submission 31 January 2005
Early registration 3 May 2005

2005 International Conference on Landslide Risk Management - 18th Annual Vancouver Geotechnical Society Symposium (31 May - 4 June), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada www.cgs.ca/2005ICLRM

Submission of Abstracts: until September 30th, 2004
Notification of acceptance of abstracts: progressively through October 15th, 2004
Submission of papers (MS Word format): January 10th, 2004
Notification of acceptance of papers: February 1st, 2005
Submission of full papers (Camera-ready format): February 15th, 2005

V International Symposium - Geotechnical Aspects of Underground Construction in Soft Ground (15-17 June), Amsterdam, The Netherlands, www.tc28-amsterdam.org

Camera ready manuscripts will be required by the 1st of November, 2004 for refereeing by the Scientific Committee.

11th International Conference of IACMAG, the International Association of Computer Methods and Advances in Geomechanics, June 2005, Turin, Italy www.iacmag2005.it

Completed papers must be submitted by 15th November 2004.

ADVANCED EXPERIMENTAL UNSATURATED SOIL MECHANICS,

Trento, Italy, 27-29 June 2005, www.experus2005.ing.unitn.it/
Submission of full papers: 30 November 2004
Acceptance of full papers: 31 January 2005

International Symposium for the 50th Anniversary of the pressuremeter (22-24 August), Marne-la-Vallée, France pfe.enpc.fr/web2003/dyn/html/45001.htm

Deadline for abstracts: January 31, 2005
Acceptance of abstracts: February 15, 2005
Deadline for the papers: April 15, 2005

16ICSMGE - Sixteenth International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (12-16 September), Osaka, Japan www.icsmge2005.org/

Final submission of full papers: January 10, 2005

IABSE Symposium Lisbon, Portugal September 14-16

www.iabse.org/conferences/lisbon2005/index.php

November 15, 2004: Notification of acceptance of contributions
March 15, 2005: Deadline for receipt of papers
March 15, 2005: Mailing of the Final Invitation
June 30, 2005: Notification of acceptance of papers and type of presentation (orally or by poster)

International Symposium on Frontiers in Offshore Geotechnics ISFOG-05 (19-21 September), Perth, Western Australia, Australia, www.isfog.com

Manuscript due 15th December 2004
Receipt of camera-ready script 1st April 2005

2006

XIII Danube-European Conference on Geotechnical Engineering (7-9 June) Active Geotechnical Design in Infrastructure Development, Ljubljana, Slovenia, www.danube-conference2006.si

30 January, 2005: submission of extended abstracts
30 April, 2005: notification on acceptance of abstracts
30 October, 2005: submission of full papers
30 November, 2005: 2nd bulletin distributed by e-mail
10 January, 2006: 2nd bulletin distributed by regular mail
31 January, 2006: the last dead-line for receiving re-submitted papers after eventual corrections

V International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics (26-30 June), Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom, www.grc.cf.ac.uk/5iceg

Abstracts should be submitted to the conference secretariat no later than 1st December 2004 (e-submission welcome)

X IAEG Conference 2006 (06-10 September), Nottingham, United Kingdom, www.iaeg2006.com

End December 2004	Abstracts deadline
March 2005	Successful authors advised
September 2005	Booking commences
December 2005	Deadline for completed papers and posters

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