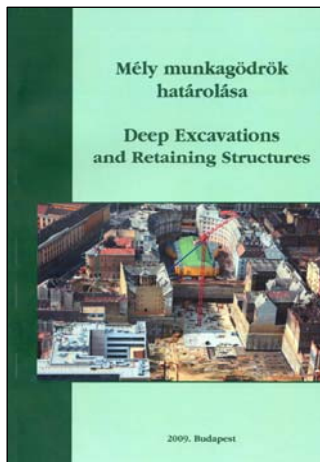# News

ISSMGE International Seminar on Deep Excavations and Retaining Structures

The ISSMGE International Seminar on Deep Excavations and Retaining Structures organised by the Hungarian National Committee of ISSMGE was held at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics in Budapest from 4 to 5 February 2009. The Seminar attracted more than 120 participants from 8 countries.

Invited lecturers presented eleven 40-50-minute lectures. Of these, seven were given by foreign experts: Prof. Roger Frank, the European vice-president of ISSMGE (ENPC, France), Prof. Richard P. Ray (University of South Carolina, USA), Prof. Helmut F. Schweiger (Graz University of Technology, Austria), Dr. Lidija Zdravkovic and Prof. David M. Potts (Imperial College London, UK).

Four lectures were given by Hungarian professionals: Dr. Róbert Szepesházi (Széchenyi István University), Prof. József Farkas and Zoltán Czap (Budapest University of Technology and Economics), Tamás Kaltenbacher (HBM Kft.), and Csaba Pető (UVATERV ZRt.).
Apart from the lectures, the participants and the lecturers had the chance to exchange their views on issues and problems related to the topics at several discussion sessions.

Subject matters of the lectures included the requirements of EUROCODE 7 as well as the relevant parts of design possibilities, the design practices and design possibilities of retaining structures and the experiences and the role of monitoring in construction of deep excavations.
The possibilities of finite element modelling and possible solutions to issues arising with regard to calculations were dealt with in detail.

Based on the questionnaires submitted following the event, the participants were of the view that the event was of very high professional quality.

A 200-page proceedings entitled "Deep Excavations and Retaining Structures" has been edited by Dr. A. Mahler and Dr. L. Nagy on the lectures given at the seminar.

Reported by Dr. András Mahler, Secretary of ISSMGE Hungarian National Committee