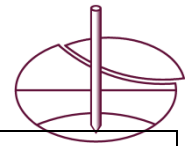


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Cagdas Bilici	Your Organization: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Date of report: 24th of June
Conference Title: 4th International Symposium on Cone Penetration Testing	Location of Conference: in Delft, Netherlands.	Dates of Conference: 21 and 22 nd of June, 2018
What you learned: I had a chance to attend several sessions related to cone penetration testing and geotechnical engineering in general. Each session helped me to broaden my understanding in my profession and my ambition to be a successful academician. While the keynote lectures draw a general overview of penetrometer equipment and geotechnical testing techniques for on- and offshore engineering, the paper presentations helped me to follow up the recent developments in geotechnical engineering and inspired me to develop my own research ideas for my future career. In summary, participating this conference helped me to improve my comprehension in the field of geotechnical engineering by sharing and following the contemporary/state of art research and practices.		
People you met: I met world's expert professionals in geotechnical engineering such as academics, researchers, consultants, practitioners. I had a chance to network and learn from the distinguished members of the geotechnical engineering community such as the keynote speakers; Mark Randolph, Ross Boulanger and Kenneth Gavin. Some other examples of the expert professionals. whom I had met, were Shiao Huey Chow, Joek Peuchen, D. Baltoukas, P. J. Vardon, Robert Roskoden, J. DeJong etc.		
Main features of conference: CPT'18 is a 2-day long conference focussing on the solution of geotechnical challenges using the cone penetration test CPT, CPT add-on measurements and companion in-situ penetration tools (such as full flow and free fall penetrometers), with particular emphasis on practical experience and application of research findings. As CPTs play a major role in geotechnical engineering, CPT'18 brought together the world's experts who are working to improve the quality and reduce the difficulties involved. The symposium was attended by academics, researchers, consultants, practitioners, hardware/software suppliers, certifiers and students. It was one of the premiere events in geotechnical engineering profession and a unique opportunity for meeting people and sharing high-level knowledge.		



Your comments on the conference:

The conference was organized in a very meticulous way having informative keynote lectures, carefully chosen paper and poster presentation. The programme was scheduled in a way that an attendant can attend all the sessions and have chance to discuss with the presenters. I personally thanked and want to acknowledge the organizing committee one again here in this report.

Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:

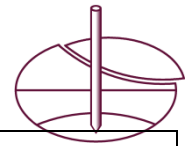
The CPT'18- International Symposium on Cone Penetration Testing was announced and organized by Technical Committee TC102 of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and hosted by Delft University of Technology. The previous symposiums were successfully organized in Sweden (1995), and USA (2010, 2014).

The conference started with the distinguished keynote lecture by Mark Randolph which was about the penetrometer equipment and testing techniques for offshore designs. Professor Randolph is a well-known figure in industry and academia and it was a unique opportunity to attend one of his lectures. The keynote lecture was followed by three sessions chaired by the experts in their area. The discussion breaks in between sessions were more than educational and allowed attendees to participate. The poster presentations were made at the end of the first day, in which I had also chance to present my work and take advices on the follow-up future research ideas. The second day of conference started with the keynote lecture of Ross Boulanger which was about the inverse filtering procedure to correct cone penetration data for thin layers. Another keynote lecture was by Kenneth Gavin which was about the use of CPT for the design of shallow and deep foundations on sand. The whole day consisted of eight different sessions hosting paper presentations.

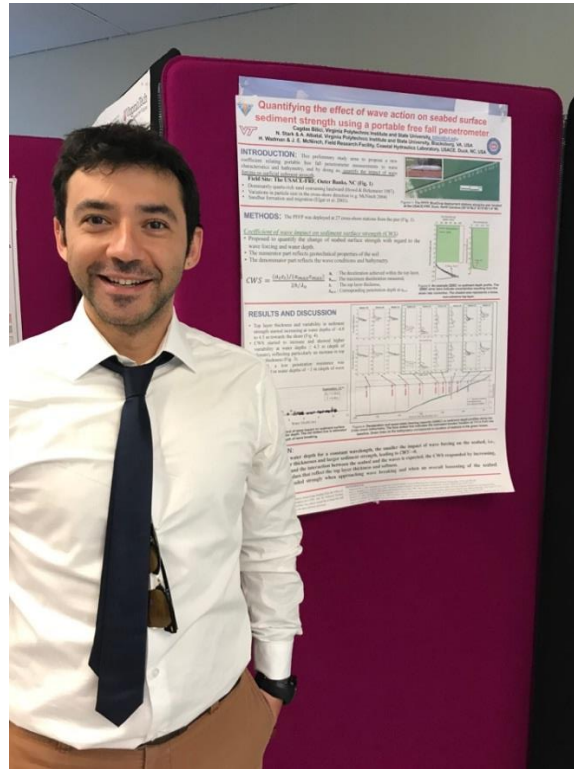
In general attending one of the premiere events in geotechnical engineering, CPT'18 allowed me to meet, network and learn from the world's expert professional academics, researchers, consultants, practitioners etc. I also believe that participating this conference broadened my horizons in the field of geotechnical engineering by sharing and following the contemporary/ state of art research and practices.

Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email

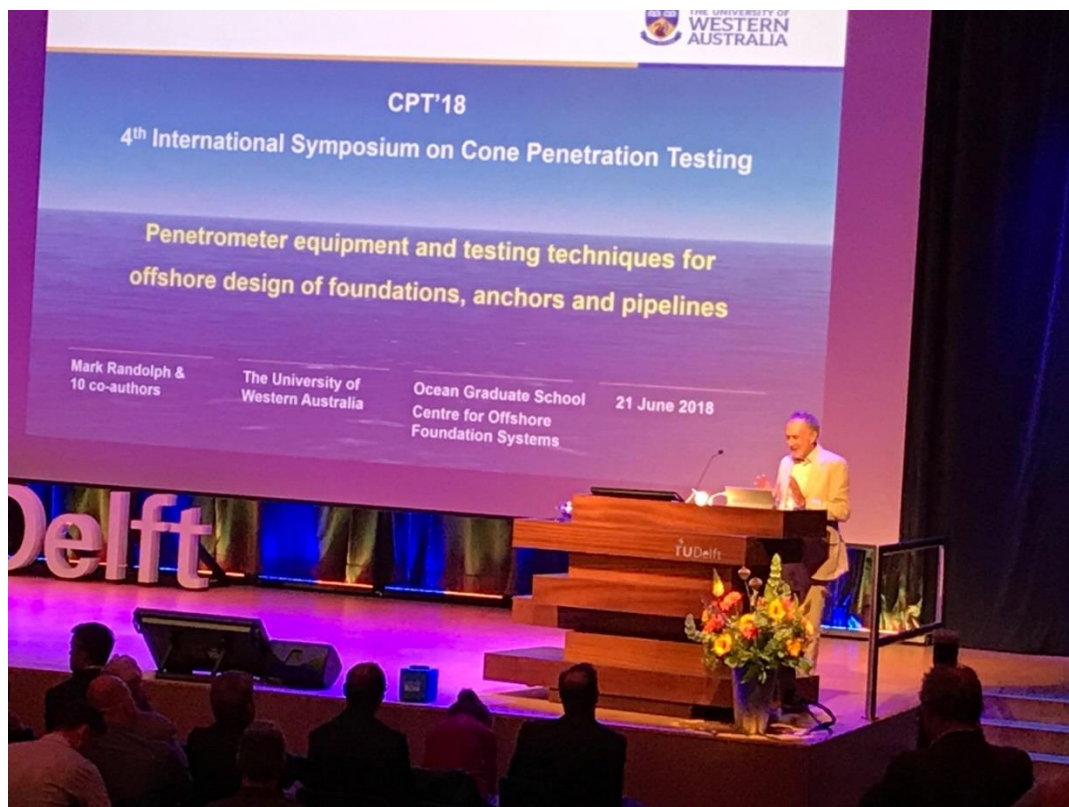
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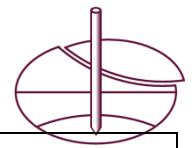


With my poster in the CPT'18.



Randolph during his keynote lecture:





Dr. Nina Stark, Dr. Cagdas Bilici and Mohammed Bilal Mumtaz MSc (my previous research group members from VT):



Me and Joek Peuchen who is a member of Fugro, the Netherlands:

