ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

| Your Name: | Jonathan Echavarría Vargas | Your Organization: | MYV Soluciones Geotécnicas | Date of report: | September 20, 2019 |
| Conference Title: | ECSMGE 2019, “Geotechnical Engineering, foundation of the future” | Location of Conference: | Reykjavik, Iceland | Dates of Conference: | September 1 - 6 |

What you learned:

This event helped me to know the different solutions to complex geotechnical problems that have arisen in different parts of the world, which may arise in Costa Rica, in order to be able to implement those solutions. The proposed solutions to the various problems of geotechnical exploration and design of retention structures, as well as the methodologies used in slope stability analysis, complemented with numerical analysis are of great help for the investigation and solution of complex projects. Also, the parameters obtained through innovative soil test methodologies help us solve some of the unknowns that may arise in the development of a geotechnical investigation.

People you met:

Dr. Paul Mayne, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA
Eng. Diego Marchetti, Studio Prof. Marchetti, Italy
Dr. Zili Li, University College Cork, Ireland
Eng. Deryck Chan, University of Cambridge, UK
Eng. Patricia Guerra Escobar, Geosynthetics, UK
Dr. Maziar Partovi, Diana FEA, Netherlands
Eng. Jean Claude Gress, Hydrogeotechnical Technical Advisor, France

Main features of conference:

The conference embraced all aspects of geotechnical engineering: Modelling and experimental assessment of geomaterials, Geotechnical construction and soil improvement, Geohazards, earthquakes and mitigation, Environment, water and energy, Historical heritage preservation and Special and specific Issues (like forensic geotechnical engineering and innovations in geotechnical engineering). All this developed through geotechnical exploration, Physical modelling and large scale tests, Laboratory and In situ tests and more.

At mornings the keynotes and invited papers were held and at the afternoon the technical discussions sessions were held.
Your comments on the conference:

It was very interesting to know different research papers and to be able to discuss the way it was carried out and the methodologies used, as well as all the problems that were presented during the research process. It was very important to share experiences with engineers from different countries and thus know the variety of solutions for the same problem, both technically and culturally. It was very nice to know the different cultures gathered in one place, united by a common theme: Geotechnics.

The conference helped to realize that in Costa Rica we are working and offering solutions according to the magnitude of the problems that arise from the point of view of soils.

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

I am very grateful to ISSMGE foundation for the help provided to assist to the 17th European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ECSMGE) was held on the 1-6 th of September in Reykjavik, Iceland. ECSMGE 2019 was an important gathering of engineers, researchers and experts in the areas of Modelling and experimental assessment of geomaterials, Geotechnical construction and soil improvement, Geohazards, earthquakes and mitigation, Environment, Water and energy, Slope stability, In-Situ and Laboratory testing, and other topics related to geotechnical engineering.

From the first day the different research topics were developed in discussion sessions, in which there was an interaction between the presenters and the audience, in order to provide methodologies and solutions to the various problems that may arise in any construction project.

The conference offered the opportunity to young engineers to publicize their research work, as well as the ingenious solutions to various geotechnical problems present around the world. But also the conference allowed us to continue learning from recognized professionals worldwide and interact with them in order to share knowledge to put into practice in our daily work.

The most important of these types of events is that it promotes the continuous education of all professionals in our area, in order to offer security in each of the proposed solutions for each construction project.

Reported by
Jonathan Echavarria Vargas
MYV Soluciones Geotécnicas
member of the Costa Rican Geotechnical Association

Photographs from Conference:

Below are some of the photographs of the event:
Thank you Iceland!