Your Name: Heba Kamal El Dine Moustafa
Your Organization: Housing & Building National Research Centre (HBRC)
Date of report: 6 November 2013

Conference Title: 18th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (18th ICSMGE), Paris
Location of Conference: Paris – France
Dates of Conference: 2-6 September 2013

What you learned:

Attending the 18th ICSMGE conference at Paris provided an excellent opportunity for increasing my knowledge in various topics of geotechnical engineering. Especially topics that were discussed in keynote lectures such as slope stability from Terzaghi Orientation by Prof. Suzane Lacasse, soil dynamics from Ishihara Lecture by Prof. George Gazetas, Pressuremeter and its application from Menard Lecture by Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud, laboratory testing from Bishop Lecture by Richard Jardine, and all the others plenary sessions.

People you met:

Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud (Texas A&M University, USA)
Prof. Suzanne Lacasse (Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Norway)
Dr. Bruno Simon (Scientific Director, Terrasol, France)
Prof. Hesham El Naggar (University of Western Ontario, Canada)
Prof. John Burland (Imperial College, London)
Prof. Malcolm Bolton (University of Cambridge, UK)
Prof. Richard Jardine (Imperial College, London)
Prof. Sherif Wissa (Dar El Handasah, Egypt)
Prof. Moustafa El Gamarawy (Al Azhar University, Egypt)
Prof. Fatma Baligh (Helwan University, Egypt)
Prof. Hesham Abdel Mohesen (Alexandria University, Egypt)
Prof. Mohamed Saker (Tanta University, Egypt)
Main features of conference:

The conference format was very well with keynotes lectures rendered by experts on various interesting topics scheduled on the first two days of the conference. The other days were allocated for workshops and technical sessions organized by the different technical committees covering all aspect of geotechnical engineering.

The quality of the work presented in the discussion sessions was excellent, especially TC 203 on geotechnical earthquake engineering.

Your comments on the conference:

The conference was well organized and the technical content was excellent. Many thanks for the organizing committee of ICSMGE 2013 for organizing such a great event.
Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:

18th ICSMGE was jointly organized by the French Society for soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering and ISSMGE this year. The main topic of the conference was “Challenges and Innovations in Geotechnics” and the keynote lectures, workshops and discussion sessions were concentrated on this topic. The conference started on the 2nd until 6th of September with an opening ceremony with more than 1500 participants. The program included two days of plenary sessions given by leader professors and professionals in the field of geotechnical engineering. The other days were allocated for workshops and technical sessions organized by the different technical committees covering all aspect of geotechnical engineering, and the fifth day is for field visit in Paris. The participation in the conference has enabled me learn from the leaders of the profession. I would like to express my sincere thanks to ISSMGE foundation for providing financial support for participating the 18th ICSMGE conference.

Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email