



**ISSMGE FOUNDATION  
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<b>Your Name:</b> Nguyen Minh Hai	<b>Your Organization:</b> Thu Dau Mot University	<b>Date of report:</b> September 16, 2013										
<b>Conference Title:</b> The 18 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (18ICSMGE)- “Challenges and Innovations in Geotechnics”	<b>Location of Conference:</b> Paris, France	<b>Dates of Conference:</b> September 2-6, 2013										
<p><b>What you learned:</b></p> <p>I was fortunate to participate in the 18ICSMGE on 2 to 6 September 2013 and to attend the ISSMGE Council meeting on 1 September 2013 as a representative of the VSSMGE. Attending the conference has exposed me to much new information presented in lectures and papers by professional leaders and researchers in the international geotechnical engineering field as well as from the process of electing the next ISSMGE President and deciding on the location of the 19<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE.</p> <p>The conference has broadened my knowledge in the areas of my interest, such as Deep Foundation, Laboratory Testing of Geomaterials, Soil-Structure Interaction and Retaining Walls, Numerical Methods in Geomechanics, Safety and Serviceability in Geotechnical Design, Ground Improvement Techniques and Slope Stability.</p> <p>The procedures of electing the next ISSMGE president and the 19<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE location have given me the valuable training and experience in such necessary processes of a professional society. Attending the conference and Council meeting has also taught me the administrative and managerial activities necessary for ensuring the proper functioning of a large international gathering of professionals.</p> <p>My having the opportunity to attend the ICSMGE and be voting for in the election of the next ISSMGE president and the location of the next ICSMGE has been a great honor.</p>												
<p><b>People you met:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1. Prof. Anand J. Puppala (USA)</td> <td style="width: 50%;">6. Prof. Madhira R. Madhav (India)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Prof. Robert Holtz (USA)</td> <td>7. Prof. Roger Frank (France)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Prof. Buddhima Indraratna (Australia)</td> <td>8. Prof. Harry Poulos (Australia)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Prof. Rolf Katzenbach (Germany)</td> <td>9. Prof. Ikuo Towhata (Japan)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Prof. Mounir Bouassida (Tunisia)</td> <td>10. Many other delegates</td> </tr> </table>			1. Prof. Anand J. Puppala (USA)	6. Prof. Madhira R. Madhav (India)	2. Prof. Robert Holtz (USA)	7. Prof. Roger Frank (France)	3. Prof. Buddhima Indraratna (Australia)	8. Prof. Harry Poulos (Australia)	4. Prof. Rolf Katzenbach (Germany)	9. Prof. Ikuo Towhata (Japan)	5. Prof. Mounir Bouassida (Tunisia)	10. Many other delegates
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<p><b>Main features of conference:</b></p> <p>The main features of conference consist of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Terzaghi Oration, Heritage Young Geotechnical Engineers report, Conference Lectures, honour lectures of technical Committees, special lectures of French Society CFMS, forum on the topics of “Challenges and Innovations”, Discussion Sessions and Workshops of technical Committees, a Franco-Chinese workshop, a symposium on pressuremeters-ISP6, 2 sessions of the International Geosynthetics Society, a Technical Exhibition, Cultural Event, and Gala Dinner.</li> </ol>												

2. The announcement of the next president of ISSMGE (2013-2017) and the location of the 19<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE in 2017.

***Your comments on the conference:***

My paper titled "Non-Conventional Pile Loading Tests in Vietnam" has been accepted for poster at TC 212-Deep Foundation. However, it has been omitted by the organizing committee. Moreover, 7 minutes for each presented paper was a quite short time and thus almost speakers were excess of the limited time. See "cleaned file"

**The 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE) in Paris, France.**

**"Challenges and Innovations in Geotechnics"**

September 2 to 6, 2013

The 18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE at Paris on 2 to 6 September 2013 was a special event for geotechnical engineers from every continent. I strongly that this conference's contributions to our profession were very great. It provided a wonderful occasion to learn from colleagues in a pleasant relaxed atmosphere and to exchange views about the past, the present, and the future of geotechnical engineering. The number of conference participants and exhibitors is as follows:

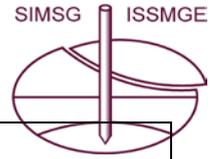
- 2140 delegates including 167 students;
- 176 accompanying persons
- 96 countries represented ;
- 87 exhibitors including 4 partner sponsors, 1 platinum sponsor, and 15 gold sponsors.

The plenary sessions taken place on 2 and 3 September 2013 consisted of the Terzaghi oration by Suzanne Lacasse, the seven honor lectures organized by Technical Committees (Ishihara lecture by G. Gazetas, Ménard lecture by J.-L. Briaud, Bishop lecture by R. Jardine, Kerisel lecture by G. Calabresi, Mc Clelland lecture by M. Randolph, Kerry Rowe lecture by C. Shackelford, Schofield lecture by M. Bolton), the three special lectures organized by the French Society CFMS (A. Sim, F. Schlosser, V. Fluteaux), a report and presentations from the Young Members (Y.-J. Cui) and a discussion forum on innovations and practices by J.-L. Briaud, S. Springman, S. Pathmanandavel, S. Borel.

The concurrent sessions took place on 4 and 5 Sept 2013. In addition to the 28 TC-organized discussion sessions, there were 19 workshops also organized by TCs, a Franco-Chinese workshop, a symposium on pressuremeters-ISP6, 2 sessions organized by the International Geosynthetics Society. A total of 772 papers were submitted and accepted. About 200 were presented orally and 240 through posters.

6 September 2013 was devoted to the technical visits and to a francophone event at the CNAM Museum (where a geotechnical exhibition was staged starting in June 2013). On the social side, the welcome reception was at the night of 2 September 2013, The Awards luncheon was at the noon of 3 September 2013, and the Gala Dinner was at the evening of 3 September 2013. The election of the next ISSMGE president and the 19<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE location on 1 September 2013 was also announced. Professor Roger Frank (France) is President of ISSMGE from 2013 to 2017 and the 19<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE location in 2017 is Seoul, Korea.

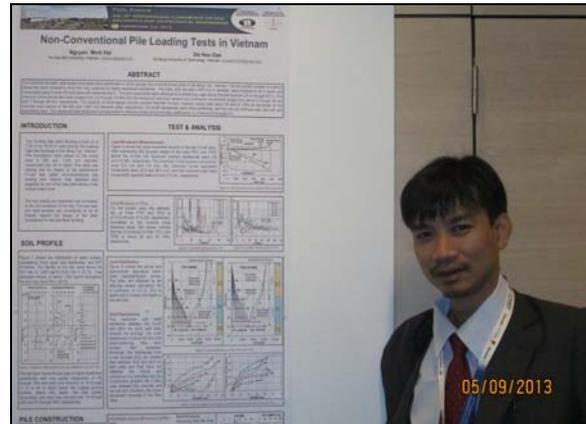
Thank the organizers who have worked so hard for the success of the conference organized.



### My Photographs from Conference:



My Presentation in Symposium on  
Pressuremeters-ISP6



My Poster in TC 212 – Deep Foundation  
(My Poster was omitted by the Organizers)



Nguyen Minh Hai and Friends from  
Technical University Darmstadt



Nguyen Minh Hai and Prof. Robert Holtz