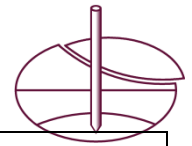




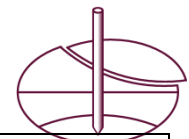
**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Radha J. Gonawala	Your Organization: S V National Institute of Technology, Surat, Gujarat, India	Date of report: 6 th December 2018
Conference Title: GeoMEast 2018 International Congress and Exhibition	Location of Conference: Cairo, Egypt	Dates of Conference: 24-28 November 2018
What you learned: The conference included numerous expert speakers from the different area of geotechnical engineering. The area includes ground improvement technics, reinforced soil, rail infrastructures, pavement engineering, quality control and assurances during construction were informative for me. The different lectures gave an idea about real-time problems and sustainable solutions for it with practical examples of its application. The main focus of the conference was the sustainable and eco-friendly solution for the vast range of geotechnical and civil performance-based design problems and their applications. Speakers discussed evaluation and recent development in their fieldwork. I got to know about the recent studies in ground improvement techniques, sustainable use of waste material in geotechnical and civil infrastructure, model development, laboratory investigation and microstructural analysis of the material. Being a PhD student working in the field of stabilisation and waste utilisation in pavement construction it was useful to meet experts and professors who are working in the same area. Sharing of my research work with them was encouraging, and suggestions from the experts are going to help me in my work.		
People you met: Prof. Anand J. Puppala- University of Texas, Arlington (UTA), USA Prof. Buddhima Indraratna-University of Wollongong, Australia Prof. Deepankar Chaudhury-Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India Prof. Aminaton Marto- Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, Malaysia Prof. William Powrie- University of Southampton, England		
Main features of conference: GeoMEast 2018 is organized under the Soil-Structure Interaction Group in Egypt with the Housing & Building National Research Center (HBRC) in support of the CSCE, ASCE, TRB, IABSE, SIMSG, ISSMGE, ICC, ACI, ISHMII, GClA, IFAI, ARMA, ASTM, Springer Nature, ICR, ISAP, DFI, Geo Institute and IGS. The conference had total forty-one speakers with three bright spark lecture of young researchers and total Six sessions parallel sessions dedicated to different themes. The themes were mainly focused on the Sustainable issue in geotechnical engineering. Sustainable civil infrastructure, soil and rock mechanics, ground engineering, geo-synthetic engineering, expansive and problematic soils, deep foundation, shallow foundation, sustainable pavement engineering, engineering geology, soil structure interaction, structures and bridge engineering, soil and slope stability and numerical methods in geotechnical engineering. In five days conference, different workshops were organised with topics of Civil, structural health monitoring, design of helical piles, geosynthetics engineering, QA/QC methods for the deep foundation, and ISSMGE TC102 and TC 211 joint workshop on ground improvement design, quality control and acceptance testing. The research articles presented in different parallel sessions were peer-reviewed.		



Your comments on the conference:

The conference was excellent having distinguished professionals and academicians. The lectures by professionals and presentations by participants were knowledgeable. Management of the conference and different events was excellent. All sessions and refreshments started as per the schedule. In refreshment time it was possible to interact with various experts and participants. Venue of the conference was at an eye-catching location near the Pyramids of Giza in Cairo, Egypt. I am glad as a part of this great event. It was learning experience and great opportunity to meet different researcher. I like to acknowledge the ISSMGE Foundation for supporting me in attending this conference and give me a chance to meet the expert of geotechnical engineering field.



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

The conference started with a welcome speech delivered by Prof. N. J. Mattei, and Prof. Khalid El-Zahaby with Glenn W. Hewus and Prof. Charles W. W. Ng who explained the objectives of the conference. After the welcoming delegates and participant, the keynote lecture started with R. A. Kemper and G. W. Hewus. The inaugural day spent with the inspiring lectures in the area of pile foundation, earthquake engineering and rock mechanics. It was enlightening and inspiring in the presence of well-known distinguished. After that, for three days six keynote lectures were delivered in pre-lunch session and post-lunch session parallel oral sessions conducted on the different themes. The parallel session focused on the sustainability issues in geotechnical engineering and civil infrastructures, soil and rock mechanics, ground engineering, geosynthetics engineering, sustainable pavement engineering, expansive and problematic soils, deep foundation, shallow foundation, ground improvement, soil structure interaction, structures and bridge engineering, numerical methods in geotechnical engineering, soil testing and slope stability. I attended sustainable issues in geotechnical engineering, Expansive and problematic soils, sustainable pavement engineering, ground improvement, soil testing and slope stability sessions. The lecture by Prof. Buddhima Indraratna on “Application of Geo-inclusion for sustainable rail infrastructure under Increased axle loads and higher speeds” illustrate detail modelling experiments in the laboratory with successful practical application on felid. Prof. William Powrie explains the importance of fibre reinforcement in rail applications. Prof. Helmut F. Schweiger’s explain about numerical models for the study of geotechnical problems. Prof. Anand J. Puppala talked on the ettringite generation when sulfate soil is going to stabilized with lime and cement and the remedial measures for the problems. The Prof. J.P. Giroud explained the canal lining with the help of geomembranes with and without concrete lining. In parallel sessions the topics presented by the different presenter from the different countries were interesting. In the area of stabilisation of expansive soils and sustainable pavement engineering, the researcher presented different solutions with laboratory experimental and their practical use. Microstructural change in soil by using chemical stabilisation got my interest and going to help me in my research work for stabilisation of expansive soils with Corex Slag. The discussion during my presentation in the session of was useful with the participants and as well as with chairperson Prof. Aminaton Marto and Prof. Suzan Saad. The whole conference was a useful, informative and inspiring experience for me. I am grateful to ISSMGE foundation to give me the financial assistance to attain this prestigious conference.

Photographs from Conference:



Inauguration of conference



A glimpse of presentations by keynote speakers



My research presentation