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# GEOCONGRESS

## Geotechnics of Waste Management and Remediation

PROCEEDINGS OF SELECTED SESSIONS OF GEOCONGRESS 2008

EDITED BY Milind V. Khire Akram N. Alshawabkeh Krishna R. Reddy





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- 71 In Situ Remediation of the Geoenvironment
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- 81 Soil Improvement for Big Digs
- 82 Risk-Based Corrective Action and Brownfields Restorations
- 83 Design and Construction of Earth Retaining Systems
- 84 Effects of Construction on Structures
- 85 Application of Geotechnical Principles in Pavement Engineering
- 86 Big Digs Around the World
- 87 Jacked Tunnel Design and Construction
- 88 Analysis, Design, Construction, and Testing of Deep Foundations
- 89 Recent Advances in the Characterization of Transportation Geo-Materials
- 90 Geo-Engineering for Underground Facilities
- 91 Special Geotechnical Testing: Central Artery/Tunnel Project in Boston, Massachusetts
- 94 Performance Confirmation of Constructed Geotechnical Facilities
- 95 Soil-Cement and Other Construction Practices in Geotechnical Engineering
- 96 Numerical Methods in Geotechnical Engineering: Recent Developments
- 97 Innovations and Applications in Geotechnical Site Characterization
- 98 Pavement Subgrade, Unbound Materials, and Nondestructive Testing
- 99 Advances in Unsaturated Geotechnics
- 100 New Technological and Design Developments in Deep Foundations
- 101 Slope Stability 2000
- **102** Trends in Rock Mechanics
- 103 Advances in Transportation and Geoenvironmental Systems Using Geosynthetics
- 104 Advances in Grouting and Ground Modification
- **105** Environmental Geotechnics
- 106 Geotechnical Measurements: Lab & Field

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- 114 Soils Magic
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- 119 Soil Behavior and Soft Ground Construction
- 120 Grouting and Ground Treatment
- 121 Probabilistic Site Characterization at the National Geotechnical Experimentation Sites
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- 123 Recent Advances in Materials Characterization and Modeling of Pavement Systems
- 124 GeoSupport 2004: Drilled Shafts, Micropiling, Deep Mixing, Remedial and Specialty Foundation Systems
- 125 Current Practices and Future Trends in Deep Foundations
- 126 Geotechnical Engineering for Transportation Projects
- 127 Recycled Materials in Geotechnics
- 128 Soil Constitutive Models: Evaluation, Selection, and Calibration
- 129 Advances in Designing and Testing Deep Foundations
- 130 Advances in Pavement Engineering
- 131 Contemporary Issues in Foundation Engineering
- 132 Advances in Deep Foundations: In Memory of Michael W. O'Neill
- 133 Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics
- 134 Soil Dynamics Symposium in Honor of Professor Richard D. Woods
- 135 Erosion of Soils and Scour of Foundations
- 136 Innovations in Grouting and Soil Improvement

- 137 Legal and Liability Issues in Geotechnical Engineering
- 138 Site Characterization and Modeling
- 139 Calibration of Constitutive Models
- 140 Slopes and Retaining Structures under Seismic and Static Conditions
- 141 International Perspectives on Soil Reinforcement Applications
- 142 Waste Containment and Remediation
- 143 Geomechanics: Testing, Modeling, and Simulation
- 144 Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst
- 145 Seismic Performance and Simulation of Pile Foundations in Liquefied and Laterally Spreading Ground
- 146 Asphalt Concrete: Simulation, Modeling and Experimental Characterization
- 147 Unsaturated Soils 2006
- 148 Advances in Unsaturated Soil, Seepage, and Environmental Geotechnics
- 149 Site and Geomaterial Characterization
- 150 Soil and Rock Behavior and Modeling
- 151 Advances in Earth Structures: Research to Practice
- 152 Ground Modification and Seismic Mitigation
- 153 Foundation Analysis and Design: Innovative Methods
- 154 Pavement Mechanics and Performance
- 155 Underground Construction and Ground Movement
- 156 Geomechanics II: Testing, Modeling, and Simulation
- 157 Computer Applications in Geotechnical Engineering
- 158 Contemporary Issues in Deep Foundations
- 159 Case Studies in Earth Retaining Structures
- 160 Dynamic Response and Soil Properties
- 161 Embankments, Dams, and Slopes: Lessons from the New Orleans Levee Failures and Other Issues
- 162 Problematic Soils and Rocks and In Situ Characterization
- 163 Geoenvironmental Engineering
- 164 Innovative Applications of Geophysics in Civil Engineering
- 165 Geosynthetics in Reinforcement and Hydraulic Applications
- 166 Educational Activities in Geotechnical Engineering
- 167 Geotechnics of Soil Erosion
- 168 Grouting for Ground Improvement: Innovative Concepts and Applications
- 169 Soil and Material Inputs for Mechanistic-Empirical Pavement Design

- 170 Probabilistic Applications in Geotechnical Engineering
- 171 Advances in Shallow Foundations
- **172 Soil Improvement**
- 173 Advances in Measurement and Modeling of Soil Behavior
- 174 Designing Our Underground Space
- 175 Field Measurements in Geomechanics 2007
- 176 Analysis of Asphalt Pavement Materials and Systems: Emerging Methods

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## Preface

Geo-engineers and geo-scientists are increasingly confronted by new challenges in protecting and preserving our environment and infrastructure. Innovative and emerging scientific concepts and technologies are always needed to address a wide range of complex geoenvironmental issues such as groundwater protection and remediation, management of waste disposal, sustainable development and mitigation against natural and man-made geohazards.

In 1995, ASCE organized a conference on "Geoenvironment 2000: Characterization, Containment, Remediation and Performance of Environmental Geotechnics" in New Orleans, Louisiana. This conference highlighted the role of geo-professionals and the wide range of geoenvironmental engineering challenges, such as the design, construction, and monitoring of containment facilities as well as engineering mitigation of environmental geo-hazards. In 1997, ASCE organized another specialty conference on "In Situ Remediation of the Geoenvironment," in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Due to rapid industrialization, increased environmental awareness, and the complexity of tackling past unsafe waste disposal practices; geoenvironmental engineering has continued to evolve as a discipline that bridges between engineering and basic sciences to address geo-specific environmental problems. It was imperative to organize Geocongress2008, March 9 - 12, 2008 in New Orleans, Louisiana to highlight recent advances, new directions and opportunities for sustainable engineering to protect the environment and infrastructure.

The Congress attracted a significant number of papers and more than 400 were accepted. The papers were divided into three Geotechnical Special Publications (GSPs) that capture the multidisciplinary aspects and the challenges of the sustainability of the geoenvironment.

The first GSP, *Geotechnics of Waste Management and Remediation*, tackles the challenges of sustainability in remediation and waste management, and covers topics on new and conventional remediation technologies, design and operational aspects of bioreactor landfills, innovations in design and assessment of covers and liners, management of mining wastes, and recycle and reuse of waste materials.

The second GSP, *Geosustainability and Geohazard Mitigation*, tackles the challenges of sustainability in geotechnics, and covers topics on education, sustainable materials and infrastructure, risk-based analysis and design, and impacts and mitigation of geohazards.

The third GSP, *Characterization, Monitoring and Modeling of GeoSystems*, covers mechanical and chemical soil behavior, testing, and modeling. The GSP presents innovations on subsurface characterization and monitoring, characterization of rocks, problematic Soils and waste materials; and sensor technologies. Recent developments in numerical and computational geotechnics, emerging technologies, fate and transport modeling, uncertainty modeling, and micro- and environmental geomechanics are also covered in this GSP.

The paper review process was managed by the editors and Paper Review Board. The review board had a very active and essential role in reviewing papers, organizing the conference sessions, and making the GSPs possible. The editors sincerely appreciate the help and patience of the Review Board. The editors also appreciate the help of Ms. Sheana Singletary of ASCE for her help in managing paper submissions and dealing with the glitches of the database.

We hope that these GSPs will serve as valuable references to all working in geoengineering.

Editors Milind V. Khire Akram N. Alshawabkeh Krishna R. Reddy

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