

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOSYNTHETICS SOCIETY

Dedicated to the scientific and engineering development of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies

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The Seventh International Conference on Geosynthetics

Event of 2002!

is a great pleasure to provide you with a synopsis of the tremendously successful *Seventh International Conference on Geosynthetics (7ICG)*, which was held 22 to 27 September 2002 in Nice, France on the French Riviera. The Conference was organised by the French Chapter of the IGS under the auspices of the IGS.

Participation

Figure 1 is clear evidence that the Conference was very successful with regard to participation; there were more than 1,600 participants! A large number of non-IGS Members attended (60% of the total participants and more than 45% of the delegates); there was a significant number of non-IGS member visitors at the exhibition (25%); and a strong representation from Japan, China, and Brazil.

This global participation in the Conference is more than satisfying. The presence of numerous countries (67), of

which more than 50% are new to the geosynthetics world and those non-IGS Member participants, constitutes real success.



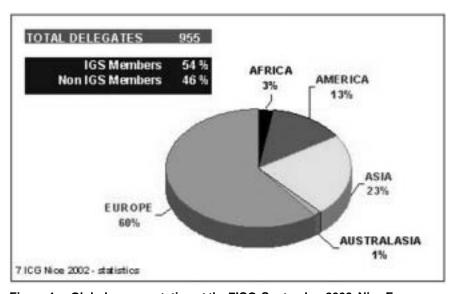


Figure 1. Global representation at the 7ICG, September 2002, Nice France.

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The objective of the international geosynthetics conferences is, first and foremost, that they are *technical* conferences, promoting further exchange between the different participants in the field of geosynthetics. From this point of view, due to the great number of researchers, specifiers, technicians, producers, and users, the *7ICG* fully fulfilled its objectives.

Exhibition

128 booths were filled, exceeding expectations by 18 to 28 booths. The exhibition saw a great number of non-IGS Members participants (44% out of exhibitors) with a relatively strong participation from Asian industries.

According to an opinion poll of participants, the quality of the exhibition was very good. The exhibition was open for a longer duration than past international geosynthetics conferences (four full days), and 435 external visitors in addition to 1,244 participants (delegates and exhibitors) attended the exhibition. Thus, there was a constant stream of visitors, even during the technical sessions.

Innovative Conference Activities

- Keynote Lectures by "young experts" was a risky challenge and the outcome was very positive!
- The Chair of each Special Session was directly involved in the session preparation, which resulted in the opportunity to invite new speakers and lively discussions.
- Sister companies were invited, which attracted participants from related fields. These companies acted as copatrons of Special Sessions and Keynote Lectures.
- Extensive use of the *Internet* proved to be invaluable for time management and efficiency with regard to:
 - receiving and sending abstracts, evaluations, and papers, which was all performed automatically;
 - on-line registration through the Conference website.
- A Scientific Secretariat was created using specific data processing networking equipment that permitted: the consultation of the presentation of parallel sessions by all the partici-

pants and the pre-registration of presentations on the basis of one CD-Rom by session: thanks to the students in the preparation room and in sessions room.

- A keyword searchable CD-ROM
 "Geosynthetics Professional Directory" was distributed that contained information on each company/organisation, its products/services, and links to websites and e-mails.
- The very large number of *oral presentations* was a "first time" for the international IGS conferences; there were *four* parallel sessions with large audiences for each.
- The function of the *International Selection Committee* was expanded compared to traditional Scientific Committees, e.g., involvement in Conference planning and exchange of opinions on the technical content via the designated website.
- An International Advisory Board was established for the first time for an international geosynthetics conference. The Board was Chaired by Dr. J.P. Giroud and co-Chaired by Wim Voskamp.
- Sponsored Sessions were organised for the first time, following the proposal of the Advisory Board.

Second Giroud Lecture

The Opening Session was well attended. Dr. R. Kerry Rowe of Queen's University, Canada, presented the Second Giroud Lecture, which was



Dr. R. Kerry Rowe presenting the Second Giroud Lecture.

titled "Geosynthetic-Reinforced Embankments Over Soft Foundations".

Conference Proceedings

Quality was the main preoccupation of the Scientific Committee, which was achieved by having each paper reviewed twice. A total of 95 worldwide experts participated in the review process.

Papers were presented in a proceedings totalling 1,720 pages provided to all Conference attendees on CD and is also available in hard copy from the publishers Balkema.

The papers are catagorised into the following four themes, for a total of four volumes of approximately equal size: Geotechnical Engineering and Reinforced Structures, Environmental Engineering, Transportation and Hydraulic Engineering, and Geosynthetic Properties.

Special Events

Mini-Marathon

The mini-marathon (approximately 5 km) was created in the spirit of the ITU Long Distance World Championships and the 21st International Triathlon of Nice being held the same day.

Football Match

Despite a hail storm the match took place! The "Latin countries" team won, but most importantly, fun was had by all of those who participated.

Gala Dinner

According to the guests, this was an unforgettable evening. The weather was wonderful and warm, making it a perfect evening for fireworks and celebration of a successful week.

A Word of Thanks

Thank you to all of the following Members of the Organising and Scientific Committees: Bernard Breul, Christian Langlois, Daniel Fayoux, François Caquel, Hugues Girard, Jean-Luc Gautier, Jean-Pierre Gourc, Jean Renard, Marie-Odile Cavailles, Philippe Delmas, Philippe Mailler, Pierre-Marie Spillemaecker, Séverine Arnaud, Thierry Gisbert. A special thank you is in order for the General Secretariat, Guilène Bajard and Marie-Noëlle



The traditional football match.



Philippe Delmas and Jean-Pierre Gourc during the closing ceremony.



Fireworks display during the gala dinner evening.

Renard, and the CFG (French Chapter) for its priceless support.

Our sincere thanks to all of the Conference participants for their active presence at this successful and unfor-

gettable event!.

Best wishes for success to those organising and participating in the *Eighth International Geosynthetics Conference (8ICG)* in Yokohama, Japan, in September 2006.

For More Information Contact

Secretariat of the French IGS Chapter: E-mail: secretariat.cfg@wanadoo.fr Tel: 33 1 41 96 90 93

reported by Philippe Delmas, Chair of the Organising Committee, and Jean Pierre Gourc, Chair of the Scientific Committee for the 7ICG

Call for Candidates for the IGS Council: Term 2004 to 2008

IGS Council Member Election

The IGS bylaws prescribe that up to half of the Council be elected every two years. Therefore, a postal ballot election will be held in May 2004 to elect eight Members to the IGS Council for a four-year term, starting in July 2004.

The eight IGS Council Members, whose term of office expires in June 2004, are:

- J.W. Cowland (Hong Kong-China)
- D.R. Fettig (USA)
- M. Kamon (Japan)
- J. Lafleur (Canada)
- E.-S. Lee (South Korea)
- M.-L. da Costa Lopes (Portugal)
- B. Myles (United Kingdom)
- J. Paul (United Kingdom)

The IGS bylaws stipulate that a Council Member may serve two consecutive terms; hence, D.R. Fettig, M. Kamon, E.-S. Lee, M.-L. da Costa Lopes, and B. Myles are eligible for reelection. They will have completed one, four-year term as Council Members by June 2004.

The IGS encourages any IGS Member, who is able to attend all IGS Council meetings, to consider standing for one of the Council positions. It is important that all geographical regions are represented on the Council and that its Members reflect the scope of the geosynthetics discipline.

Information/Instructions for All Candidates

Under the bylaws of the IGS, only IGS Members are eligible for these positions. Candidates must be able to travel to and attend the IGS Council meetings, which are held once a year. Meetings of the IGS Council are generally held in conjunction with international and regional conferences.

A signed letter of application together with a biographical note (not exceeding 12 lines) and a photograph should reach the IGS Secretary no later than 31 January 2004. Candidates must strictly adhere to the 12 line limit to ensure equal presentation space for all candidates. In their letter to the IGS Secretary, candidates must clearly identify their country of residence and position for which they are seeking election. IGS Members may run for more than one position, in which case a separate statement for each position is required.

Biographical notes, which do not exceed 12 lines, will be published in the March 2004 issue of *IGS News* (with photo), on the IGS World Wide Web home page, and in the postal-ballot package sent to each IGS Member.

The newly formed IGS Council will

meet four times (typically in Asia, North America, or Europe) and, when possible, in conjunction with a major industry event. At least three additional meetings will be held for those Members whose terms expire in 2006. Typically, these meetings are held in Asia, Europe, and North America.

Should you need further information, please contact the IGS Secretary, Mr. P. Stevenson, or the IGS President, Ing. Daniele A. Cazzuffi (see contact information on p. 15).

reported by Karina Labinaz IGS News Editor

IGS Awards: Call for Nominations 2000 to 2003

Nominations due 30 July 2004

GS Awards will be granted in 2004 to individuals or groups of individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the development and use of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, or associated technologies through their scientific and technological achievements.

The Awards recognise the achievements completed and/or the validity of which has been demonstrated during a four-year period preceding the year of the Award (i.e., 2000 through 2003 inclusive).

The winning entries will also be featured at the IGS booth at any conference held under the auspices of the IGS and will be publicised in IGS News, in a special press release on the IGS World Wide Web home page, and in other publications.

Nominations must be received by the Secretary of the IGS no later than 30 July 2003.

The Two IGS Awards

The Young IGS Member Award

This Award is for IGS Members who are less than 36 years of age on 31 December 2003.

The IGS Award

A maximum of five IGS Awards will be granted. Each award will consist of a specially commissioned medal and a diploma.

Candidates

At least one candidate must be a Member of the IGS. Each entry is restricted

to a maximum of four persons. All IGS Members are eligible with the exception of the President of the IGS and the Members of the Awards Committee.

In the case of a group submission to the Young IGS Member Achievement Award all members of the group must satisfy the age requirement. Any individual or group that is a candidate for the Young IGS Member Achievement Award is automatically considered for both award categories (unless requested otherwise by the candidate). However, a candidate may only receive one award for the 1998 to 2001 period.

Nominations

Candidate nominations must be typed in English on plain paper (i.e., not letterhead paper) and submitted to the IGS Secretariat (see address on page 15). The nomination should include:

- a clear statement of the contribution
 of the candidate that is to be considered (e.g., if the contribution is a
 product, provide a clear definition of
 the product; if it is a paper(s) or book,
 provide a full reference for the
 paper(s)/book; if it is a report, provide a full reference for the report; if
 it is a construction method, provide a
 clear description of the method and
 any references, etc.) and;
- a statement indicating the originality and significance of the candidate's contribution to the discipline (i.e., in the field of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products and/or associated technologies).

Nominations may be made by any

IGS Member except for Members of the Awards Committee. Under the IGS Awards rules any IGS Member can nominate himself/herself for any award. The Publications Committee, Education Committee, Corporate Members Committee, and IGS Chapters will be invited to make nominations.

Candidates who have been nominated will be contacted by the IGS
 Secretary. Candidates will be asked to agree to stand for an award and will be required to submit materials as directed by the Awards Committee. All nominations and award entries will be carried out in the strictest confidence by the IGS Secretary and the Awards Committee.

IGS Awards Committee

The Awards Committee will comprise five regular members including the Chair (all Members will be appointed by the IGS Officers). The Members will be selected so as to represent a broad cross section of geosynthetic-related technologies and experience. The IGS Secretary will attend all meetings of the Awards Committee as an observer and coordinator.

Additional Information

The full text of the IGS Awards rules can be obtained by contacting the IGS Secretary, Mr. Peter Stevenson, at the address given on p. 15 of this issue of *IGS News*.

reported by Karina Labinaz IGS News Editor

IGS Student Awards: 2003 to 2004

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he IGS Student Awards will continue its successful inaugu-

ration with the third Award period of 2003 to 2004. The Awards will be

assigned in the year 2004, and all successful candidates will attend IGS

regional conferences in 2004.

The IGS Student Award was established to disseminate knowledge and to improve communication and understanding of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies among young geotechnical and geoenvironmental student engineers around the world.

An IGS Student Award will consist of a cheque of US\$1,000 for each winner. This award amount must be used to cover conference participation costs (i.e., registration fee, travel, accommodation, etc.).

An IGS Student Award will be assigned to only one student per Chap-

ter; the selected student should be a M.Sc. or Ph.D. student. Students must be no older than 35 in the year the award is granted.

To ensure student representatives from each chapter participate in the program to the fullest extent possible the chapters must accomplish the following:

- Chapters must hold a contest or conduct a nomination process to select the student candidate to represent them.
- Chapters must notify the IGS of the name of the student selected by 31 January 2004. The IGS will transfer funds to the student immediately upon receipt of chapter notification.

To insure the maximum benefit to the student, the organisers of the conferences must:

- Provide a copy of the proceedings to the student.
- Provide admission to the sessions for the student.
- Organise a recognition event for the students

Conference organisers are not required to provide the students with admission to social events.

reported by Karina Labinaz IGS News Editor

2002 IGS Korea Chapter Activity Report

During the year 2002, the IGS Korea Chapter (IGS-KC) put a great deal of effort into expanding the organization in terms of its membership, as well as Member services and benefits. The IGS-KC organized two 2002 national conferences in Seoul Korea: one in the Spring (3 May 2002) and the other in the Fall (31 November 2002).

Prof. Leshchinsky from the University of Delaware, USA, delivered a keynote lecture at the Spring conference titled "Stability of Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Structures" and a total of nine technical papers were presented by other conference participants. During the Fall conference, two keynote lectures were delivered, one by Mr. Bernard Myles of MICE and the other by Dr. Shi-Chieh J. Cheng of Drexel University, Pennsulvania, USA, and a total of 23 technical papers were presented by other conference participants. The focus of these two conferences was to increase awareness and to provide demonstrated innovations and cost-saving information on geosynthetics as construction alternatives.

Among other key activities, the IGS-KC formed the Organizing Committee for GeoAsia 2004, which will be held in Seoul, Korea, in June 2004. The Organizing Committee is being chaired by the President of IGS-KC, Prof. J.B. Shim, and includes seven subcommittees. Prof. Chungsik Yoo, Secretary of IGS-KC, is working as Secretary General of the Organizing Committee. The Organizing Committee has published its First Bulletin and has distributed to the IGS Chapters. In

addition, delegates from the Organizing Committee officially announced the event during the *Seventh International Conference on Geosynthetics* (7ICG), which was held in Nice,

France in September 2002.

Detailed information on the Organizing Committee and important Conference dates can be found at the website



Prof. J.B. Shim awards plaque of thanks to Mr. Bernard Myles.

www.kgss.or.kr/geoasia2004 and on page 9 of this issue of IGS News.

reported by Chungsik Yoo Secretary of the Korea IGS Chapter

A Report from the UK Chapter

The UK has experienced the typical British winter climatic challenges of floods followed by freezing weather and snow. At least the benefits of Geosynthetics are more appreciated by the construction industry as they contribute to the remedial and preventative works that

are put into place to repair damage and resist the effects of the extreme weather.

The IGS UK Chapter is looking forward to supporting the continuing growth in Geosynthetic products and applications over the next year. The Committee is particularly keen to dem-

onstrate the professional approach to geosynthetic designs and applications alongside established geotechnical and civil engineering procedures. Our activities focus on the series of evening meetings and we are pleased to continue our joint meetings and links with the British Geotechnical Association (BGA) and other regional engineering and geological societies.

The Special IGS Invitational Lecture presented last year by Robert Koerner on the subject of 10 large land-fill failures was much appreciated by the audience for the manner in which the geosynthetic and geotechnical problems were kept in perspective – a valuable lesson to us all. We look forward to a presentation from Kerry Rowe at the next Invitational lecture in London on 22 October 2003.

The BGA Members Compact Disc, included with the January issue of the Ground Engineering Journal, has provided opportunity for the IGS UK Chapter to highlight their activities and responsibilities to a wider audience.

Participation of the IGS in the UK Ground Forum is also seen as an important link with a body which is now acting as a focused voice of the construction industry on ground-related matters. The Ground Forum and BGA are already pursuing concerns about the current low levels of research activity and the need for further investment to help maintain our highly regarded position in Geotechnical and Geosynthetic technology-related fields.

Education continues as one of our high-priority areas, and we are having more regular meetings and liaison with Jim Paul as Chair of the European IGS Activity Committee to encourage appropriate activities. The UK Chapter, and the winner of the IGS Student Award, Catriona Miller, appreciated the contribution made by the IGS toward the cost of her attending the 7ICG in Nice, France, in September 2002. An occasion much enjoyed by all individuals who attended.

The IGS UK Chapter is considering ways to enhance research and innovation activity. The first UK symposium entitled "Geosynthetics – Protecting the Environment" will be held at Nottingham Trent University on 17 June 2003. We hope to see many Members and guests at this one-day event. It is being

held at the new conference facilities of the Clifton Campus where parking will be easier than in Nottingham City. The Conference will act as a step toward our bid for the European Geosynthetics Conference, *EuroGeo4*, to be held in the UK in 2008. *EuroGeo3* is being hosted by Germany in March 2004.

I would particularly like to thank the IGS UK Committee for the time and energy they have given over the last year in support of the Chapter's activities. Following re-election at the Annual General Meeting last December, the same Committee will continue into 2003. We hope to co-opt one or two new committee members as the year progresses.

The UK Chapter sends its good wishes for the year ahead – there will no doubt be many opportunities for ongoing international liaison.

reported by John Greenwood UK IGS Chapter Chair

North American Geosynthetics Society Chapter Report

Recent postal ballot elections resulted in the following North American Geosynthetics (NAGS) Board for the term 2003 to 2005:

- L. David Suits, President (elected President-Elect 2001)
- Professor Y. Grace Hsuan, President-Elect (elected 2003)
- Professor Jonathan Fannin, Vice President (co-opted 2001)
- Professor Mark Meyers, Treasurer, (re-elected 2003)
- Mr. Sam Allen (elected 2003)
- Professor David Elton (elected 2003)
- Mr. Dean Sandri, Vice President (elected 2001)
- Mr. Mark Sieracke, Vice President (elected 2001)
- · Dr. Karen Henry, Past President

Recent NAGS Activities

Past President's Seminar, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, in May 2002, on "Geofoam"

Past President's Seminar, Univer-

sity of Texas-Austin, Austin, Texas, November 2002, on "Geosynthetics in Roadways"

Geosynthetics 2003, 11 to 14 February 2003, Atlanta, Georgia: NAGS was a cooperating organization for this meeting and hosted a Past President's seminar entitled "Lightening the Load" on 11 February. Assistant Managing Director, Sarah Watson manned a NAGS exhibit at the Conference.

NAGS held their biennial
General Assembly on 11 February 2003. The outgoing President, Dr. Karen Henry, gave an update of recent NAGS activities and changes. Karen pointed out that NAGS membership in 2002 was 335 members, and the current membership for 2003 is greater than in 2002 at the same date.

The newly elected Board of Directors met briefly afterward and broke into three committees—one on Conferences, led by Sam Allen, one of Mem-

bership, led by Grace Hsuan, and one on Past President's seminars, led by Karen Henry.



Dr. Karen Henry honoured for her years of service to NAGS (pictured with David Suits).

NAGS has held three Past President's seminars in one year (Syracuse, New York; Austin, Texas; Atlanta, Georgia) and is partnering with the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS) for their biennial conference to be held 28 September to 1 October 2003, in

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Future Activities

During the CGS Annual Meeting, 28 September to 1 October 2003, NAGS will hold a parallel technical paper session, hold a student paper competition, host a workshop on erosion control, and hold a special afternoon session for women professionals attending the Conference, featuring a panel that will include Suzanne LaCasse, current President of CGS and Director of the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute. Discussions are underway for NAGS to be a participant in the *Geo-Institute GeoFrontiers Conference* in Austin, Texas, in January 2005.

reported by Karen Henry NAGS Past President

2002 IGS Peru Chapter Report

Geosynthetics Courses

On 18 May 2002, the Peru IGS Chapter held our first Course on Geosynthetics for Teachers of Construction Materials, which was sponsored by Maccaferri de Perú SAC. Fifteen teachers from Lima and universities in Peru were invited to participate in this two-day course. The expositor was Mr. Jaime Durán of Maccaferri-Brasil. As a result of this course, one university in Lima has developed an undergraduate degree course on Geosynthetics.

In November 2002, the First Course of Specialization on Geosynthetics was held. This course was open to all interested individuals. Authorisation was obtained from the publisher Prentice Hall to translate Chapter One of the book "Designing with Geosynthetics" by Dr. Robert Koerner. Presentations

by Mr. Mauricio Ossa from SL (Chile), Mr. Néstor Sifuentes fom PAVCO (Colombia), Mr. Augusto Alza from TDM (Perú), and Mr. Enrique Alvarez from Tenax (México) were distributed to all participants on a CD-ROM.

Geosynthetics Standards

Fifteen pre-standards were presented to INDECOPI (normalization group in Perú), related to testing of geotextiles. Our Geomembranes Committee developed a Guide for Geomembranes that is currently being revised by our Executive Committee.

Election

At the General Meeting on 20 December 2002, the following Officers of the Peru IGS Chapter were elected:

• President: Germán Vivar

- First Vice-President: Alfredo Mansen
- Second Vice-President: Pier Giacchetti
- Secretary: Tania Castañeda
- Treasurer: Virgilio De la Piedra

The first task of the new Executive Committee is to finalise all of the following Technical Committees: Geomembranes, Geotextiles, Geogrids, Geocomposites, Educational, and Bulletin.

Website

We have developed Peru IGS Chapter website, www.igsperu.org.

reported by Germán Vivar President, Peru IGS Chapter

South African IGS Chapter Report

Membership records reveal a healthy situation for the South African Chapter of the IGS (Geosynthetics Interest Group of South Africa, GIGSA). GIGSA has never before had so many members, nor such a strong bank balance. Because of this, GIGSA was able to sponsor a young engineer to travel overseas to attend the 7ICG in Nice. France to receive an IGS Award for young geotechnical engineers - welldone and congratulations to John Pavlakis! John's paper on the electroosmotic dewatering of mine tailings using geosynthetics may herald a new market for a number of new geosynthetic products.

The GIGSA awards made at the Annual General Meeting on 6 November 2002 reflect a dynamic industry on the move, despite the trying economic times and other challenges.

General Election

For the first time in the history of GIGSA, a general election by postal ballot was held in September 2002 and enthusiastically supported. Judging by the number of nominations received for the GIGSA Committee (17 for 10 positions) and the enthusiastic response to the submission of ballots (63 out of 109 members), GIGSA is alive and well, and is certainly fulfilling its purpose as a Technical "interest group".

New GIGSA Committee for the period November 2002 to November 2004 is as follows:

- Anton Bain (Jones & Wagener)
- Peter Davies (Noel P Hunt)
- Rod Drayton (Aquatan)
- Liza du Preez (Jones & Wagener)
- Falk Hedrich (Engineered Linings)

- James Garth (Kaytech)
- Stan Jewaskiewitz (Knight Piesold)
- Peter Legg (Jarrod Ball & Assoc.)
- Kelvin Legge (DWAF)
- Pieter Oosthuizen (ARQ)

In terms of the IGS/GIGSA constitution, these 10 elected members then elected the Officers, assigned committee portfolios, and co-opted further Committee Members, as follows:

Officers

• President: Peter Legg

• Vice President: Peter Davies

• Secretary: Rod Drayton

• Treasurer: Falk Hedrich

Committee Portfolios

- Standards & Specifications: Anton Bain
- Newsletter: Peter Davies

- Events, Education, Liaison with Geotechnical Division of SAICE: Liza du Preez
- Regional Subcommittees: Garth James
- Standards & Specifications: Stan Jewaskiewitz
- Immediate Past President & Sponsorships: Kelvin Legge
- Membership: Pieter Oosthuizen

Co-opted Committee Members

- Darryn Meisel (Jones & Wagener), as assistant to Falk Hedrich
- Kim Barnard (Geotextiles Africa), as assistant to Liza du Preez.

The New GIGSA President, Peter Andrew Legg, is filling the shoes of Kelvin Legge, who was the GIGSA President for 2001 to 2002. Peter is currently a Director of Jarrod Ball & Associates, consultants in waste management, and specialises in all aspects of civil and geotechnical engineering associated with solid waste management.

Peter Legg's vision and goals for his term of office focus on three key issues:

- Work for greater unity and common purpose amongst GIGSA Members.
- Support the current processes and working groups involved in revising the SABS Specification for Geomembrane linings and in developing the Code of Practice for the Selection Criteria and Installation of Geomembranes.
- Strive for greater professionalism in the geosynthetics industry and adherence to the GIGSA Code of Ethics.

As the use of geosynthetics increases with growing confidence in the long-term durability of the materials, it is important for the geosynthetics

industry to develop a more professional approach to the design, specification, and installation of geosynthetics. The revision to SABS 1526 is therefore long overdue, and the development of the aforementioned Code of Practice is a definitive move in drafting a set of "rules" for the geomembrane industry. It is hoped that similar Codes will follow for other geosynthetics.

Another exciting development in the industry is the appointment of independent third party CQA consultants. This has opened up a new field of opportunity for suitably qualified consultants to expand their range of services, and already we have South African consultants performing these functions in foreign countries.

reported by Peter Davies GIGSA Vice President

Thailand Chapter Report

Short Course, Designing with Geosynthetics, December 2002

The Thailand IGS Chapter and the Asian Center for Soil Improvement and Geosynthetics (ACSIG) of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), in cooperation with the AIT Alumni Association (AITAA), successfully held their first Short Course titled "Designing with Geosynthetics" in the Department of Civil Engineering, King Mongkut's University of Technology (KMUT), Bangmod, Ratburana, Bangkok, Thailand through the kind consideration of Prof. Kasem Petchgate, Dean of the College of Engineering, 11 December 2002. An exhibition of geosynthetic products involving local and international suppliers and producers was concurrently held.

The Short Course focused on providing practicing engineers and academics the basic, established concepts, as well as new developments and advancements of geosynthetic use and their applications. A total of 31 participants were registered.

Immediately after the Opening Ceremony, a lecture on Composition, Properties and Functions of Geosynthetics

was given by Prof. Dennes T. Bergado, who is a Professor in the Geotechnical Engineering Program, School of Civil Engineering at AIT. He is also the Director of ACSIG and Secretary-Treasurer of Thailand IGS Chapter. This was followed by the lecture on Designing for Separation, Filtration and Drainage by Ir. Chris Lawson. These two lectures completed the morning session. After the lunch break, the lecture on Designing for Reinforcement by Dr. Anupong Kajornsakbampen and Dr. Kanop Ketchart commenced the afternoon session. It was followed by a lecture on Designing for Roadway Applications of Dr. Montri Dechasakulsom and Ir. Predhidheep Anujorn. Finally, a lecture on Designing for Landfill Liners by Dr. Greg You concluded the afternoon session.

Immediately after the last lecture, a brief ceremony was conducted wherein the lecturers were given a token of appreciation for their efforts and willingness to share their knowledge and expertise.

It should be noted that this is

the first technology transfer event organized by the Thailand IGS Chapter since its official formation July 2002. The Thailand IGS Chapter will continue to organise such mutually beneficial activities in the future for its Members and Sponsors.

Elected Officers

The election was held on 18 July 2002 at AIT Conference Center.

- *President:* Dr. Anupong Kajornsakbampen
- Vice President Academic: Dr. Panich Vootipruex
- Vice President Industry: Mr. Chalermsak Phungwigrai



- Secretary-Treasurer: Prof. Dennes T. Bergado
- Newsletter Editor: Dr. Ulrich Glawe

ACSIG Manager in Training

Under the sponsorship of Polyfelt Geosynthetics (Thailand) Ltd., the Manager of the ACSIG, Mr. Sonny Montalbo, went to Malaysia on 5 to 8 November 2002 for geosynthetic test method proficiency training. The training was performed in the geosynthetic testing laboratory of Polyfelt Asia Sdn Bhd with Mr. Ronald K. Frobel, P.E. as the trainer. The training included the preparation and cutting of specimens, proper

conditioning of specimens, test procedures, data acquisition, and proper reporting.

reported by Dennes T. Bergado

Secretary-Treasurer, Thailand IGS Chapter

Asian Regional Conference on Geosynthetics – GeoAsia 2004 "Now and Future of Geosynthetics in Civil Engineering"

21 to 23 June 2004, Seoul, Korea

he International Geosynthetics Society-Korean Chapter (IGS-KC) is honored to be the organizer of the 2004 Asian Regional Conference on Geosynthetics (GeoAsia 2004) to be held on 21 to 23 June 2004, in Seoul, Korea.

Korea has one of the most rapidly growing geosynthetics industries due to an increasing demand for infrastructure development. *GeoAsia 2004* will provide an invaluable opportunity for Asian, as well as other geosynthetics industries around the world, to share their technical experience and views on challenges in the field of geosynthetics in the 21st Century.

The program will comprise special lectures, paper presentations and discussions, and exhibitions. Internationally renowned colleagues will be invited to present keynote lectures and to chair sessions. The Mercer Lecture, by Dr. Richard J. Bathurst, will be held during the Conference.

Conference Topics

The Conference topics include:

- · Hydraulic applications
- Wall structures, slopes, and foundations: design and applications
- Roads and railways: design and applications
- Landfill and environmental applications
- Hydraulic functions: materials, tests, standardization, and quality
- Mechanical functions: materials, test, standardization, and quality
- Watertightness functions: materials, test, standardization, and quality

- Durability
- Micro-reinforcement

Call for Papers

The Organizing Committee welcomes high-quality technical papers from practitioners and academics in various geosynthetics-related fields. Contributions from outside Asia are encouraged.

Prospective authors are invited to submit a one-page summary of no more than 300 words outlining the scope of their paper and the principal points that they consider would benefit from discussion. The name and affiliation of the author(s) as well as the contact address, fax, and e-mail of the corresponding author should be provided.

Author(s) should submit their abstract(s) to:

Publications Committee Chair Prof. Han-Yong Jeon Faculty of Applied Chemical Eng. Chonnam National University 300 Yongbong-dong, Pukku Gwangju, Korea 500-757 Tel: 82/62-530-1775 Fax: 82/62-530-1779 E-mail: hyjeon@chonnam.ac.kr

Official Language

The official language is English.

Technical and Social Programs

The Organizing Committee, in cooperation with the Korean National Tourism Organization, will develop and offer Conference technical tours and accompanying person's programs that includes various geosynthetics-related construction sites, a Korean folk village, a pottery village, historical pal-

aces, performances of traditional folk dancing, and national park tours. Cultural programs will offer rare opportunities to experience Korea culture.

Technical Exhibition

A technical exhibition will be held in conjunction with the Conference. Organizations interested in participating in the exhibition are encouraged to confirm their bookings by mid 2003.

Organising Committee

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Important Deadlines

Abstract deadline: 31 March 2003
Acceptance of abstracts: 31 May 2003
Submission of full papers:
30 September 2003
Notification to authors:
31 December 2003
Final submittal of paper:

28 February 2004

Geosynthetics International

eosynthetics International is an official journal of the IGS and has established itself as a premier peer-reviewed journal on geosynthetics. The Journal publishes technical papers, technical notes, discussions, and book reviews on all topics relating to geosynthetic materials (including natural fiber products), research, behaviour, performance analysis, testing, design, construction methods, case histories, and field experience.

Geosynthetics International is dedicated to the mission of the IGS, which is to promote the scientific and engineering development of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies.

Papers should be work not published in full elsewhere and should be sent to any of the following individuals:

Dr. T.S. Ingold, Editor Geosynthetics International Mulberry Lodge, St. Peters Close St. Albans, AL1 3ES United Kingdom

Tel: 44/1727-842433 Fax: 44/1727-845266 Professor R.J. Bathurst, Co-Editor *Geosynthetics International*Department of Civil Engineering Royal Military College of Canada P.O. Box 17000, STN Forces Kingston, Ontario K7K 7B4, Canada Tel: 1/613 541 6000, Ext. 6479

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J.P. Giroud, INC.

5837 North Ocean Boulevard Ocean Ridge, Florida 33435, USA

Tel: 1/561-737-1642 Fax: 1/561-733-2809

Geotextiles and Geomembranes

eotextiles and Geomembranes is an official journal of the IGS and provides a forum for the dissemination of information on geosynthetics amongst research workers, designers, users, and manufacturers. The Journal increases general awareness, prompts further research, and assists in the establishment of international codes and regulations.

The following are welcome contributions: refereed technical papers covering research, design, construction, applications, and case studies; technical notes, book reviews, reports of conferences, and meetings; and letters to the Editor. All technical papers are open to written discussion. No limit to length is set and short notes are acceptable. Review articles may also be published at intervals, but the subject and contents of these should be discussed first with the Editor.

The Editorial Board Members and reviewers have worked very hard over the past year to provide detailed, constructive reviews in a very timely manner. The average review period is less than three months. Papers come from a wide range of countries with approximately one third of the papers coming from the Americas, Europe, and the rest of the world. The rejection rate is 59%. The Journal's Editor and Board Members are extremely appreciative of the authors' hard work in addressing the reviewers' comments and the quick return of revised papers.

Authors should submit four copies of their paper, which will subsequently be reviewed by at least two individuals. No original figures should initially be included.

All technical contributions and inquiries should be directed to:

Professor R. Kerry Rowe, Editor *Geotextiles and Geomembranes* Department of Civil Engineering Ellis Hall, Queen's University Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6 Canada

Fax: 1/613 533 2128

E-mail: kerry@civil.queensu.ca

IGS Trivia (March 2003): Do you know ...

What special anniversary this year represents?

The answer to the November 2002 IGS Trivia question is

The winner of the November 2002 IGS trivia question is Prof. James Blatz (University of Manitoba, Canada) Question: "Who was the first IGS News Editor?"

Answer: Dr. Peter Jarrett (Prof. at the Royal Military College of Canada, retired)

Congratulations James!

Please e-mail your response to Karina Labinaz at labinaz-k@rmc.ca. The name of the individual who provides the first correct response will be published in the March 2003 issue of *IGS News*. This individual must be an IGS Member, cannot be a past Editor of *IGS News*, and cannot be a current or past IGS Officer or Council Member (but you can help others provide the answer!).

CORPORATE PROFILE

Corporate Members of the IGS are encouraged to publish a Corporate Profile in IGS News. A maximum of three profiles can be published in each issue of IGS News. The criteria for the preparation and submission of Corporate Profiles are available from the Editor. There is no charge for having a Corporate Profile published; it is a benefit of corporate membership.



www.werkos.com

WERKOS-Croatia is a specialized engineering company that was established more than 15 years ago and has a leading position as a Croatian producer, distributor, and designer of geosynthetic materials and road equipment.

Werkos has extensive experience in the following latest solutions and trends in geosynthetics and civil engineering:

- SLOPE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION SYSTEMS
- WATERPROOFING LINERS IN LANDFILLS, DAMS, AND LAGOONS
- WEAK SOIL STABILISATION SYSTEMS
- RETAINING WALLS AND SOIL REINFORCEMENT SYSTEMS
- PAVEMENT REHABILITATION SYSTEMS
- INSTALLATION AND MAINTANCE OF EQUIPMENT FOR SAFETY IN TRAFFIC
- PERFORMANCE OF SPECIALISED WORKS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING AND URGENT RESPONSE ACTIVITIES IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS



Lošana Dam in Macedonia

The Werkos business strategy is based on the ISO 9001 quality system and awareness, and its responsible attitude toward the environment is certified by ISO 14001.

In co-operation with number of respectable domestic and foreign institutions, companies, and prominent persons, Werkos has shown interest and ambition for constant contributions, through its development activities, for locating and applying higher quality, technical, and economically acceptable solutions in construction. The Werkos business attitudes and policies has resulted in its membership in the IGS and the Technical Board for Geosynthetics at the Croatian State Institute for Measurement and Standardisation (Werkos is one of its cofounders).

Also, Werkos is one among the few in the construction business that has gained recognition for their "environmentally friendly" geosynthetic production and use practices. This is a result of their geosynthetic design solutions that result in large savings of natural resources, which is often not possible with conventional construction materials. Thus, Werkos geosynthetics differ from many other materials because of the designation of "ENVIRONMENTAL FRIENDLY".



WERKOS d.o.o.

Croatia, 31000 Osijek, Gunduliceva 30 Tel: 385/(0)31 202 700, 202 702

Fax: 385/(0)31 202 701 E-mail: werkos@werkos.com



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Werkos has been a Corporate Member of the IGS since 1999.

CORPORATE PROFILE

Corporate Members of the IGS are encouraged to publish a Corporate Profile in IGS News. A maximum of three profiles can be published in each issue of IGS News. The criteria for the preparation and submission of Corporate Profiles are available from the Editor. There is no charge for having a Corporate Profile published; it is a benefit of corporate membership.

ATARFIL, S.L., www.atarfil.com

ATARFIL, S.L. was established in 1995 in Granada, Spain and production activities started in 1997. Since then, the company has shown a continuous growth. The production capacity of ATARFIL has increased from 5,000 to 30,000 tons/year (one of the highest capacities in the European market).

ATARFIL's range of products meets the needs of:

- Waterproofing solutions for the storage and management of water, e.g., reservoirs, lagoons, ponds, tanks, canals, etc.
- Environmental protection solutions, e.g., landfills, cappings, mining leach pads, etc.
- General waterproofing solutions in construction or industry, e.g., tunnels, roofing, corrosion protection, floating covers, roads, ornamental.

Factory and Offices

The factory is located in Atarfe (Granada), Spain, at the same location as the ATARFIL headquarters. Sales offices are situated in Madrid and Berlin.

To meet the need of markets outside of Europe, the opening of at least two additional offices in the following regions are planned: Latin America, North Africa, the Middle and Far East.

Technology

Highly committed to innovation, the R&D Department of ATARFIL is responsible for creating new products/applications as well as the improvement of manufacturing processes.

In 2002, a new production line (M5) was put into operation. The M5 production line has been totally designed, developed, and built by ATARFIL's own R&D team.

Atarfil, S.L. has been a Corporate Member of the IGS since 1999.

Products

ATARFIL carefully selects its raw materials considering the needs of the customer in terms of specifications, weldability, flexibility, thermal stability, and other factors.

ATARFIL's product line includes:

- Smooth HDPE, LLDPE, and VLDPE
- Smooth PP, Nonreinforced (UPP) and Reinforced (PPR)
- Textured single/double sided. Color.
- Colored/translucent geomembranes
- Coextruded geomembranes
- · Geomembranes for tunnels
- ATARFIL Lock Liner for protection against corrosion
- Special profiles in HDPE, LLDPE, VLDPE, and PP.

Services

Added to our high-quality manufacturing process, ATARFIL also offers several complementary products and customer support services:

- Quality control laboratory
- Follow-up contract to address geomembrane ageing
- Supply of any complete system of geosynthetics, which includes other products apart from those manufactured at ATARFIL

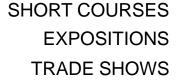


- Technical assistance in the design and calculation of any waterproofing solution based on geosynthetics
- Sale and repair of any type of welding machinery and equipment
- Assistance/supervision/training in the installation of geosynthetics, as well as a complete installation service, if required
- Production of special customized liners, parts, boots, chests, junction pieces, slotting, and threading of pipes, etc.
- Pre-welding of panels at the factory
- Co-lamination of the liner with other geosynthetics
- New developments and special devices for welding
- Leak detection systems



CONFERENCES **SYMPOSIA WORKSHOPS**







Fast Slope Movements - Prediction and Prevention for Risk Mitigation

Naples, Italy 11-13 May 2003

Contact: Dr. Giuseppe Sorbino, Secretary

Tel: 39/089 964329 Fax: 39/089 964045 E-mail: fsm2003@unisa.it) http://www.unina2.it/fsm2003

Occurence and Mechanisms of Flows in Natural Slopes and Earthfills (IW-Flows2003) - Workshop

Sorrento, Italy 14-16 May 2003

Contact: Dr. Lucio Olivares, Secretary

Tel: 39/081 5010214 Fax: 39/081 5037370

E-mail: lucio.olivares@unina2.itAGI http://www.unina2.it/flows2003

3rd Canadian Conference on Geotechnique and Natural Hazards Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

8-10 June 2003 Contact: Corey Froese Tel: 1/780 436 2152 Fax: 1/780 435 8425

E-mail: corey.froese@amec.com http://www.geohazards2003.eba.ca

21st Congress of the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD)

Montreal, Quebec, Canada 16-20 June 2003

Contact: Christine Martin Tel: 1/514 289 2289

E-mail: martin.christine@hydro.gc.ca

http://www.cigb-icold.org

12th Panamerican Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical

Engineering

Cambridge, Massashusettes, USA

22-26 June 2003

Contact: Professor Herbert Einstein

Tel: 1/617 253 3598 Fax: 1/617 253 6044 E-mail: einstein@mit.edu http://soilrock.mit.edu

12th Asian Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics & Geotechnical Engineering

Singapore 4-8 August 2003 Contact: Dr. C.F. Leung

Tel: 65/8742281

Fax: 65/7791635

E-mail: 12ARC@nus.edu.sg

http://www.eng.nus.edu.sg/civil/conf/12ARC

13th European Conference on Soil Mechanics & Geotechnical Eng. Prague, The Czech Republic

25-28 August 2003

Contact: Prof. Ivan Vanicek

Tel: 42/2 24354540 Fax: 42/2 3114206

E-mail: vaniceki@fsv.cvut.cz http://www.ecsmge2003.cz

North American Geosynthetics Society (NAGS) Conference

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada 28 September-1 October 2003

Contact: Dr. James Blatz E-mail: blatzj@cc.umanitoba.ca http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~cgsman/cgs2003

Sardinia 2003

S. Margherita di Pula, Cagliari, Italy

6-10 October 2003 Contact: Eurowaste srl via Beato Pellegrino, 23 I-35135 Padova, Italy Tel: 39/049 8726986 Fax: 39/049 8726987 E-mail: eurowaste@tin.it

http://www.sardiniasymposium.it

13th African Regional Conference

Marrakech, Morocco 8-11 December 2003 Contact: Professor R. Khalid Tel: 1/212 2 248 87 50

Fax: 1/212 2 223 41 88 E-mail: diremi@emi.ac.ma

9th ANZ Regional Conference Auckland, New Zealand 9-11 February 2004 Contact: Stephen Crawford

Tel: 64/9 355 6054 Fax: 64/9 307 0265

E-mail: scrawford@tonkin.co.nz

EuroGeo3 Munich, Germany 1-4 March 2004

Contact: Technische Universitaet

Muenchen

Tel: 49/89 289 27139 Fax: 49/89 289 27189 E-mail: eurogeo3@bv.tum.de http://www.gb.bv.tum.de/eurogeo3

Fifth RILEM International Conference

Cracking in Pavements

Limoges, France 5-8 May 2004

Contact: Chantal Iannarelli Tel: 33/1 47 71 90 04 Fax: 33/1 47 71 90 05 E-mail: c2s@club-internet.fr

http://www.congres-scientifiques.com/

GeoAsia 2004 Seoul, Korea 21-23 June 2004

Contact: Prof. Chungsik Yoo Tel: 82/31 290 7518

Fax: 82/31 290 7549

E-mail: asyoo@yurim.skku.sc.kr http://www.kgss.or.kr/geoasia2004

9th International Symposium on

Landslides

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 28 June -2 July 2004

Contact: Secretariat 9 ISL - Rio 2004

Tel: 55/21 562 7200

Fax: 55/21 280 9545 or 55/21 290 6626 E-mail: 9isl@geotec.coppe.ufrj.br http://www.quattri.com.br/isl/

15th South-East Asian Geotechnical

Conference (SEAGC) Bangkok, Thailand 22-26 November 2004

Contact: Dr. Wanchai Teparaksa Tel: 66/2 218 6460-2, 218 6575

Fax: 66/2 251 7304

E-mail: seagc15@eng.chula.ac.th http://www.eng.chula.ac.th/seagc15

16th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering

Osaka, Japan

12-16 September 2005 Contact: Prof. Masashi Kamon

Tel: 81/3 3251 7661 Fax: 81/3 3251 6688

E-mail: 16ICSMGE@jiban.or.jp

http://www.jiban.or.jp/

8th International Conference on Geosynthetics (8ICG) Yokohama, Japan 18-22 September 2006

Contact: 8ICG Conference Secretary

Tel: 81/3 3837 2503 Fax: 81/3 3837 5818

E-mail: info@8icg-yokohama.org http://www.8icg-yokohama.org

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IGS News is published three times per year. Material for publication should be submitted to the Editor or the Associate Editor by 31 January, 31 May, and 30 September, for possible publication in the March, July, and November issues, respectively.

The International Geosynthetics Society

OBJECTIVES OF THE IGS



The International Geosynthetics Society was formed with the following objectives:

- to collect, evaluate, and disseminate knowledge on all matters relevant to geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies;
- to improve communication and understanding regarding geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies, as well as their applications;
- · to promote advancement of the state of the art of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies; and
- to encourage, through its Members, the harmonization of test methods, and equipment and criteria for geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies.

WHY BECOME A MEMBER OF THE IGS?

First, to contribute to the development of our profession.

By becoming an IGS Member you can:

- help support the aims of the IGS, especially the development of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies;
- contribute to the advancement of the art and science of geotextiles, geomembranes, related products, and associated technologies; and
- participate in a forum for designers, manufacturers, and users, where new ideas can be exchanged and contacts improved.

Second, to enjoy the benefits.

The following benefits are now available to all IGS Members:

- a directory of Members, the IGS Directory, published every year, with addresses, telephone, e-mail, and fax numbers;
- the newsletter, IGS News, published three times a year;
- · a reduced purchase price on all documents published by the IGS;
- a reduced registration fee and preferential treatment at all conferences organized under the auspices of the IGS;
- · a reduced subscription fee for IGS-endorsed journals; and
- · the possibility of being granted an IGS award.

IGS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership of the International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) is open to individuals or corporations "... engaged in, or associated with, the research, development, teaching, design, manufacture or use of geotextiles, geomembranes, and related products or systems and their applications, or otherwise interested in such matters.". The annual fee for membership is US\$45 for individuals and US\$1000 for Corporate Members. Individuals of, or not of, corporations who voluntarily contribute a minimum of US\$200 annually to the IGS, in excess of their membership dues, will be mentioned in the IGS Directory in a separate list as benefactors.

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