

TESTING FORUM

Committee D-18 News

Awards

Michael Wayne O'Neill, professor of Civil Engineering, University of Houston, Houston, TX, has won the 1984 State-of-the-Art Award of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). O'Neill is a member of ASTM Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock. The professor was honored 3 Oct. 1984 at ASCE's Annual Convention in San Francisco, CA.

ASCE presents the State-of-the-Art Award for a paper that reviews and interprets scientific and technical information for the benefit of the profession in an outstanding manner. O'Neill was cited for his paper, "Group Action in Offshore Piles," which was part of the Proceedings of the Specialty Conference on Geotechnical Practice in Offshore Engineering, sponsored by ASCE in Austin, TX, in April 1983.

In the paper, O'Neill discussed phenomena relating to the creation and dissipation of water pressure in soil near groups of piles. The effect of soil and rock behavior on loads and deformations in pile foundations is important economically because it bears directly on the number and size of piles needed to support heavy structures, such as bridges, high-rise buildings, and offshore drilling platforms.

O'Neill's paper presents the findings of many years research on pile group action that influences the design of entire foundations

David E. Daniel and *Roy E. Olson* of the University of Texas, Houston, TX, have won the 1984 James R. Croes Medal of the American Society of Civil Engineers. The two were honored during ASCE's Annual Convention in San Francisco, CA.

The Croes Medal is presented to the author of an engineering paper that makes a contribution to engineering science. Daniel and Olson's award-winning paper analyzed the long-term causes of failure of the steel sheet-pile retaining wall located adjacent to the Ship Channel south of Houston, TX. The paper also examined how future bulkheads can be designed to avoid failures of this type.

Daniel is a member of ASTM Committees D-18 and D-34. He is an assistant professor, Department of Civil Engineering, and holds a Ph.D. from the school. He received ASCE's 1975 Norman Medal for another paper contributing to engineering science.

D-18 Seminar Leads to Automation Activity.

A seminar held during the June meetings of Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock in Denver, CO, showed that a key concern of geotechnical laboratories using data automation is the accuracy of software written to reduce measured data to engineering units. The program, sponsored by Subcommittee D18.95 on Information Retrieval and Data Automation, included presentations on current uses of computers to collect measurements and control testing equipment. One highlight was a review of efforts by the United States Bureau of Reclamation to bury computers inside dams to monitor their safety and to telemeter the results to a central location, a talk given by Lynn Carpenter. Also featured was a summary, by W. Allen Marr, of a D-18

member survey regarding experiences with automated data acquisition systems, which represents a wide variety of hardware and software. Most of the survey respondents found their systems cost effective and highly reliable. The data automation task force is seeking ways to obtain quality assurance in automated data acquisition systems. The task force is also in the process of preparing sets of raw data and correctly reduced results by which users can check the accuracy of their system's software. For more information about the activity, contact W. Allen Marr, GEOCOMP Corp., 342 Sudbury Rd., Concord, MA 01742 (617/369-8304). or Robert Morgan, ASTM (215/299-5505).

West Virginia University Offers Course

The Department of Mining and Engineering at West Virginia University is offering the following short courses:

Spontaneous Combustion of Coal	10 May 1985
Mining Exploration and Reserve Calculations	13-14 May 1985
Mine Blasting Engineering	15-17 May 1985
Mine Ventilation	20-22 May 1985
Excavating and Bulk Handling Equipment	29-31 May 1985
7th Annual Coal Mine Ground Control	3-6 June 1985
Use of Microcomputers in Mining Engineering I	3-5 June 1985
Use of Microcomputers in Mining Engineering II	10-12 June 1985
4th Longwall Mining	5-7 Aug. 1985
3rd Surface Subsidence Engineering	8-9 Aug. 1985
Professional Engineer Examination Review	16-20 Sept. 1985
4th Conference on Ground Control in Mining	29-31 July 1985

For additional information please contact Alice Kerns, Department of Mining Engineering, West Virginia University, P.O. Box 6070, Morgantown, WV 26506-6070. Phone: 304-293-5695.

Call for Papers

ASTM seeks papers for the Symposium on the Pressuremeter and Its Marine Applications, which will occur on 2-3 May 1986 at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX. Understanding the pressuremeter and its offshore potential, and developing an ASTM standard for offshore pressuremeter tests, are the goals of this second international symposium. The symposium, to be held just prior

TESTING FORUM

to the **Offshore Technology Conference**, is co-sponsored by ASTM Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock and the Minerals Management Service/Technology Assessment and Research Program.

Papers are sought on a variety of topics, including:

- offshore pressuremeter equipment and insertion technique
- offshore pressuremeter test procedures
- pressuremeter test: theoretical analysis
- obtaining soil mechanics parameters from pressuremeter test results
- foundation design based on pressuremeter results
- use of pressuremeter results for gravity platform
- use of pressuremeter results for pile foundation platforms
- other uses of pressuremeter results in marine geotechnical engineering

Authors are requested to submit a title, a 300 to 500 word abstract, and the ASTM Paper Submittal Form below by *1 April 1985* to Kathy Greene, ASTM Publications Division, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103, 215/299-5414. Additional Paper Submittal Forms are available from Greene.

Authors will be notified of abstract acceptance by *1 May 1985*. Authors must then submit camera-ready papers for peer review by *1 Aug. 1985* and revised, final camera-ready papers by *15 Jan. 1986*. ASTM plans a Special Technical Publication (STP) based on the symposium for on-site distribution.

For additional information, contact the symposium cochairmen: Jean-Louis Briaud, Civil Engineering Department, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843, (409) 845-3795 and Jean M.E. Audibert, Earth Technology Corporation, 3535 Briarpark Drive, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77042, (713) 974-1555.

ASTM Committee D-18 on Soil and Rock

Scope

The promotion of knowledge; stimulation of research; the development of specifications and methods for sampling and testing; and the development of nomenclature, definitions, and practices relating to the properties and behavior of soil, rock, and the fluids contained therein. Excluded are the uses of rock for building stone and for constituent materials in portland cement and bituminous paving and structures coming under the jurisdiction of other committees. Included are the properties and behavior of: (1) soil-like materials such as peats and related organic materials, (2) geotextiles, and (3) fluids occupying the pore spaces, fissures, and other voids in soil and rock insofar as such fluids may influence the properties, behavior, and uses of the soil and rock materials.

Officers

Chairman: Adrian Pelzner, U.S. Agricultural Forest Service, Engineering Div., P.O. Box 2417, Washington, DC 20013.

First Vice-Chairman: Robert C. Deen, University of Kentucky, Kentucky Transportation Research Program, Transportation Research Bldg., Lexington, KY 40506.

Second Vice-Chairman: R. E. Gray, GAI Consultants, 570 Beatty Rd., Monroeville, PA 15146.

Third Vice-Chairman: W. G. Shockley, 326 Lake Hill Dr., Vicksburg, MS 39180.

Secretary: R. J. Stephenson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division Lab., 611 So. Cobb Dr., Marietta, GA 30060.

Membership Secretary: R. S. Ladd, Woodward-Clyde Consultants, 1425 Broad St., Clifton, NJ 07012.

Subcommittees and Their Chairmen

TECHNICAL

D18.01 Surface and Subsurface Reconnaissance

C. P. Fisher, Jr.

D 18.02 Sampling and Related Field Testing for Soil Investigations

R. E. Brown

D18.03 Texture, Plasticity, and Density Characteristics of Soils

R. C. Horz

D18.04 Hydrologic Properties of Soil and Rock

R. S. Ladd

D18.05 Structural Properties of Soils

R. T. Donaghe

D18.06 Physico-Chemical Properties of Soils and Rocks

G. R. Olhoeft

D18.07 Identification and Classification of Soils

C. H. McElroy

D18.08 Special and Construction Control Tests

J. R. Talbot

D18.09 Dynamic Properties of Soils

M. L. Silver

D18.10 Bearing Tests of Soils in Place

G. Y. Balardi

D18.11 Deep Foundations

E. T. Mosley

D18.12 Rock Mechanics

H. J. Pincus

D18.13 Marine Geotechnics

R. C. Chaney

D18.14 Geotechnics of Waste Management

D. E. Clark

D18.15 Stabilization by Additives

M. C. Anday

D18.16 Chemical Grouting

R. H. Karol

D18.17 Rock for Erosion Control

K. L. Saucier

D18.18 Peats and Organic Soils

P. M. Jarrett

D18.19 Geotextiles and Their Applications

B. R. Christopher

D18.20 Impermeable Barriers

A. I. Johnson

ADMINISTRATIVE

D18.91 Editorial

R. C. Deen

D18.92 Papers

E. T. Selig

D18.93 Nomenclature for Soil and Rock Mechanics

A. I. Johnson

D18.94 Education and Training

N. O. Schmidt

D18.95 Information Retrieval and Data Automation

Carl D. Tockstein

D18.96 Research Steering and Standards Development

W. G. Shockley

D18.97 Special Awards

R. G. Packard

D18.98 Hogentogler Award

R. E. Gray

D18.99 Quality Control

J. R. Forbes