



# Geotechnical Testing Journal

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The *Geotechnical Testing Journal* is published in six issues per year by ASTM International, a nonprofit technical organization that develops and publishes voluntary consensus standards and related information for materials, products, systems, and services. Some issues, in whole or in part, may be Special Issues focused on a topic of interest to our readers. Contributions are peer reviewed prior to publication.

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## PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of the *Geotechnical Testing Journal* is (1) to provide a high-quality publication that informs the profession of new developments in soil and rock testing and related fields; (2) to provide a forum for the exchange of information, particularly that which leads to the development of new test procedures; and (3) to stimulate active participation of the profession in the work of ASTM International Committee D18 on Soil and Rock and related committees.

Contributions include papers, technical notes, letters to the editor, discussions of previously published papers, and book reviews. The editorial scope of this journal covers test methods for soil and rock, sampling, nomenclature, and practices relating to the determination of properties and behavior of soil and rock for engineering purposes, and for soil as a medium for plant growth. Topics of interest include: new testing equipment, apparatus, and procedures for both field and laboratory applications; evaluation of existing ASTM International standards and recommendations for new standards for apparatus or test procedures; and test results that give insights into test procedures, techniques, and data interpretation. Topics must be related to soil and rock, but may include use and testing of geosynthetic materials in conjunction with soil and rock, highway materials testing such as aggregate properties or pavement performance measurement, geophysical exploration, marine sediments, groundwater investigations, testing and stabilization of contaminated soils and soil and rock engineering related to waste management.

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# Editorial

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On behalf of ASTM International and the *Geotechnical Testing Journal* (GTJ), I'm writing to thank L. David Suits for his many years of outstanding service as a GTJ Co-Editor and to welcome Majdi Othman to the role as he transitions in during early 2018.

David has had an extraordinary tenure with ASTM and with GTJ. He has been an active member of ASTM since 1978 and has served as Co-Editor of GTJ since September of 2002. In 1984, David was a founding member of ASTM Committee D35 on Geosynthetics, which now has a membership of approximately 330 members and jurisdiction of over 155 approved standards. He served two 6-year terms as Chair of D35. In 2014, the committee established the L. David Suits Award in his honor and made him the inaugural recipient. David has also served terms on the ASTM Standing Committees on Publications and Technical Committee Operations, and he has received several standards development and service awards from D18 and D35, including the A. Ivan Johnson Outstanding Achievement Award, the Award of Merit, and title of fellow, ASTM's highest organizational recognition for individual contributions to standards activities. He guided GTJ as a Co-Editor for over 15 years and has been a tremendous part of the journal's success. During that time we have seen transition into a new peer review system, dramatic reductions in review turnaround times, and increases in paper count and international exposure. We owe David a debt of gratitude for his outstanding dedication and service to the journal. Thank you, David.

Dr. Majdi Othman will begin his first term as a GTJ Co-Editor in January 2018. Majdi received a BS in Civil Engineering from Kuwait University in 1987 and MS and PhD degrees from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1989 and 1992, respectively. Majdi is a senior principal with Geosyntec Consultants and is a registered professional engineer with extensive experience in geotechnical, environmental, and civil engineering projects. His work focuses on waste disposal facility siting, design, permitting, and construction of bioreactor landfills, hydrogeological investigations and groundwater impact analysis, remediation of contaminated sites, renewable energy projects, and construction management. Majdi has published his work widely, has previously served as editor of *Geotechnical News*, and will bring his extensive practical experience to bear on GTJ. He is an enthusiastic ambassador to geotechnical engineering, and I expect he will bring the same level of enthusiasm and dedication to his role as Co-Editor. I am very much looking forward to working with Majdi and thank him for his time and effort to help continue to make GTJ the premier journal that it is. Welcome, Majdi.

Finally, I'd like to thank ASTM International staff, our outstanding editorial board members, and the numerous peer reviewers for their time, effort, and service to GTJ. There is no better source of information available anywhere in the world for the latest advances in soil, rock, and geosynthetics testing. It's the hard work of our staff, board, and peer reviewers that makes this all possible.

Sincerely,  
William J. Likos, PhD  
Gary Wendt Professor and  
Director of Geological Engineering Program  
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Authors preparing papers for submittal should observe the conventions of style explained in the ASTM Style Manual. Since the journal does not request page charges, the author is expected to conform to these standard conventions for style and the inclusion of complete references and high-quality figures. SI units are to be used throughout; if data were not measured in SI units, a note should appear to that effect and the original units should be included in parentheses after the SI units.

## IN APPRECIATION OF THE REVIEWERS

The high quality of the papers that appear in this publication is a tribute not only to the obvious efforts of the authors represented but to the unheralded, though essential, efforts of their reviewers. It is to the reviewers' dedication to upholding the high standards of their profession that this note pays tribute. On behalf of ASTM International and the authors as well, we acknowledge with appreciation their important contribution to the success of this journal.

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Papers are eligible for the following ASTM International awards:

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The Sanford E. Thompson Award — papers on concrete and concrete aggregates.

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The Geotechnical Testing Journal Award — papers on the practice of geotechnical testing.

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