

CONFERENCE REPORT: THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOTECHNICS IN BELARUS: SCIENCE AND PRACTICE

From 23rd to 25th, October 2013 in the Belorussian National Technical University (BNTU) was held the First International Scientific and Technical Conference on "Geotechnics in Belarus: Science and Practice" in Minsk of Belarus. This conference was dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the Department of Geotechnics and Ecology in Construction and 90th Anniversary of Memory of Professor Yuri A. Sobolevski. The conference was attended by more than 100 highly qualified specialists in geotechnics from Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Estonia, Poland and Belarus.

The opening ceremony was held on October 23rd in the auditorium of the main academic building of BNTU. The prorector of BNTU for administrative activities and development, Prof. Gennady Zemlyakov, delivered a welcome greeting speech. Also congratulations were expressed by Prof. D. Sobolevski (son of Prof. Yuri A. Sobolevski) who is the President of the Belorussian Geotechnical Society and Head of the Department of Geotechnics and Ecology in Construction who is Prof. M. Nikitenko. Professor M. Nikitenko gave a speech marking the 60th anniversary of the Department of Geotechnics and Ecology in BNTU. The immediate Past Vice President of ISSMGE, Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov, awarded Prof. Dmitry Sobolevski with a medal of Eurasian National University and KGS (Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society).

Keynote lecturers of this conference were:

- Director of Minsk metro project Valery Chekanov on the design and construction experience of the subway in Minsk,
- Head of Department of Civil Engineering Geotechnics of SPBGASU, Prof. Rashid Mangushev on "The construction of the underground part of the 2-stage of the Mariinsky State Academic Theatre in St. Petersburg (design, construction technology, monitoring)", and
- President of the Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society, Director of Geotechnical Institute, Head and Professor of Civil Engineering Department of the Eurasian National University, Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov on "Mega projects in the problematic soils in Kazakhstan."

A very interesting special report was made by M.P. Cerepkovski (City Globokay). This report was devoted to the participation of Y.A. Sobolevski in the partisan movement in Belarus during the Second World War (Globokaya's underground youth organization), its front-line path (1941-1945). Moreover, the audience listened with interest to the report of the Director of the drilling company "Delta" N.V. Chernoschey which was dedicated to pile foundation engineering innovations.

The following oral sessions took place after the keynote lectures.

- **Session №.1:** Engineering researches and geotechnical monitoring, chaired by Professor I.A. Busel.
- **Session №.2:** Soil mechanics as a theoretical basis of modern geotechnics, chaired by Professor D.J. Sobolevski.
- **Session №.3:** Design and technology for installation of foundations in complicated geotechnical conditions, Strengthening and reconstruction of Foundations, chaired by Professor M.I. Nikitenko.
- **Session №.4:** Regulation and technical support for design and construction of the foundations, chaired by Ph.D. G.S. Rodkevich.

Further interesting presentations were made by representatives of the company CONTROLS Ltd. Of Italy which is a manufacturer of modern laboratory equipment for testing various types of soils and is a representative of a Russian company "Geosoft" reporting software for geotechnical calculations. In general, the sessions were very interesting, because supplementary discussions were made in addition to the planned program. After the conference technical excursions in Minsk were organized to visit construction projects.

The Conference ended with a solemn closing ceremony and the participants expressed sincere appreciation to the organizing committee for the interesting technical program as well as the opportunity to communicate with colleagues and the Belorussian hospitality.

CONFERENCE REPORT: (Continued)
THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
GEOTECHNICS IN BELARUS: SCIENCE AND PRACTICE



Welcome opening of the conference: Students Concert at the Stoneworts Chapel



Ceremonial awarding of a medal of the Eurasian National University and KGS (Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society) to Prof. D. Sobolevski

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Conference participants listening to a general report



From the left, Prof. D. Sobolewski, Professor Askar Zhussupbekov and Prorektor BNTU Gennady Zemlyakov



Speech by Professor Michael Nikitenko about the history of the Department of Geotechnics and Ecology in BNTU



Speech by director Minskmetroproject Valery Chekanov



Keynote lecture by Professor Askar Zhussupbekov on Mega projects in the problematic soils in Kazakhstan

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Congratulations from Professor Rashid Mangushev, Professor M. Mets (Estonia), a special lecturer (St. Petersburg, Russia) on the left



Reports, congratulations ... This was an unforgettable moment of the conference

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Speech by M. Cerepkovski (City Globokay)



Speech of the Director of a piling company "Delta" N.V. Chernoschey dedicated to pile foundation engineering innovations in Belarus



Young scientist (Ph.D. Student) from Kazakhstan, Utepov Elbek, addressed the performance of piles in problematical soil ground of Kazakhstan



Representatives from of the company CONTROLS, Ltd (Italy) in Exhibition

CONFERENCE REPORT: (Continued) THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOTECHNICS IN BELARUS: SCIENCE AND PRACTICE



Participants of The First International Scientific and Technical Conference "Geotechnical Belarus: Science and Practice" at the entrance of the main building BNTU

Member News

Professor Deepankar Choudhury, Editorial Board Member of ISSMGE Bulletin and Professor of Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, Mumbai, India has recently been honoured with the prestigious TWAS Visiting Scholar Fellowship Award given by The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Trieste, Italy. TWAS is a world renowned science academy for all branches of 'Sciences' and Prof. Choudhury has received this Fellowship Award of TWAS under the category of 'below 55 years age' and in the area of entire 'Engineering Sciences'. Prof. Choudhury is also an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow of Germany, JSPS Fellow of Japan and BOYSCAST Fellow of India. He is currently Secretary of ISSMGE TC 212 - Deep Foundations, Member of TC



203 - Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering and Executive Committee Member of Indian Geotechnical Society, IGS, New Delhi, India. Heartiest Congratulatorys to Prof. Choudhury for his achievement and ISSMGE wishes him many more awards in future for his research contributions in the field of Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering, Foundation Engineering and Computational Geomechanics.