

FOREWORD

The Second European Geosynthetics Conference (EuroGeo 2), organised by the Italian Geotechnical Society (AGI) - the Italian Chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society (AGI-IGS), was held in Bologna, Italy, from 15 to 18 October, 2000. The venue was particularly significant, as Bologna hosts the oldest University in the Western world (founded in the year 1088) and was also designated as "European City of Culture" for the year 2000.

After EuroGeo 1, held in 1996 in Maastricht, the Netherlands, the European Geosynthetics Conferences are planned every four years, at midway between the International Conferences on Geosynthetics.

EuroGeo 2 was focused on the transfer of scientific and technical knowledges between all the people involved in the geosynthetics field (users, scientists, designers, producers, distributors, contractors), dealing also with geotechnical, environmental and hydraulic engineering.

The conference was opened with the Mercer Lecture, addressed by Professor A. McGown, and the following three days included a Keynote Lecture, respectively presented by Professor H. Brandtl, Dr. K. Pilarczyk and Dr. J.P. Giroud.

The conference works (including both oral and poster presentations) covered all practical fields of applications and were distributed in two series of parallel sessions and one serie of workshops.

In particular, the Sessions A were mainly devoted to geotechnical aspects (slopes and walls; embankments and foundations; creep behaviour; roads, railways and airports; pavement systems; durability properties); the Sessions B were principally focused on environmental and hydraulic applications (landfills; coastal works; dams, reservoirs and tunnels; canals, rivers and inland waterways; erosion control; hydraulic properties). Specific items formed the object of workshops and discussion sessions (education and teaching; innovative products; seismic aspects; certification; installation damage; interface and pull-out behaviour; leak detection).

A total of 214 abstracts were submitted: after reviewing all the abstracts and the final manuscripts, the International Scientific Committee, formed by outstanding international experts, accepted 152 papers for publication in these two volumes.

In the first volume, the Mercer Lecture, the three Keynote Lectures and the papers related to the Sessions A (Geotechnical applications) are included, while in the second volume the papers related to the Sessions B (Environmental and Hydraulic applications) and to the Workshops are reported. For each session (both oral and poster presentations) and for each workshop, the papers are listed according to the first author's alphabetical order.

First of all, the Editors wish to express their thanks to the members of the International Scientific Committee and to all the Authors, representing 32 countries in the world.

Last, but not least, the Editors wish to address their sincere gratitude to the following persons for their precious and relentless assistance for the final editing of these proceedings: Susanna Antonielli, Alberto Carraro, Pamela De Filippis, Andrea Geacata and Marco Torresendi.

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