



## Fourth European Geosynthetics Conference

Sunday 7th to Wednesday 10th September 2008  
Edinburgh Conference Centre Herriot-Watt University Scotland



### EuroGeo4 Welcome



I am very proud and privileged to be able to welcome you to the Fourth European Geosynthetics Conference in Edinburgh on behalf of the UK Chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society.

The conference promises to be the most successful European Geosynthetics Conference yet, with a record number of papers having been submitted. A key part of the conference is the technical exhibition and I encourage all delegates to make the most of the great opportunity to find out about the products on show. Three one-day Training Courses are also being held with attendees also having the opportunity of visiting the exhibition.

The conference plays host to the Mercer Lecture, one of the most prestigious in the geosynthetics industry calendar. We are very lucky to have Prof Ennio Palmeira presenting on 'Modelled and actual behaviour of geosynthetics in some geotechnical applications'.

The organisation of a major conference like EuroGeo4 takes a great deal of effort and commitment from the organising committee, particularly as the work is carried out on a voluntary basis. My sincere thanks therefore go to the members of the organising committee and also to their employers who have allowed them to devote considerable time to their committee work.

Particular thanks go to the following people and organisations:-

The Council of The International Geosynthetics Society for awarding the conference to the UK Chapter.

Ian Fraser of Tensar International Ltd for his work as Treasurer to the conference, ensuring good financial management, and also for his work on the Local Liaison Committee, working closely with the Edinburgh Conference Venue to ensure a successful event.

Prof. Neil Dixon of Loughborough University for his work as Chairman of the Technical Committee, making sure the papers were all reviewed, the technical sessions organised and the proceedings prepared. Thanks also to the many people who reviewed papers for us.

Peter Langley of Geofabrics Ltd for managing the conference guide and the exhibition and Chris Jenner of Tensar International Ltd for organising the sponsorship.

Dr Russell Jones and Gary Fowmes of Golder Associates (UK) Ltd and John Greenwood of Nottingham Trent University for arranging the publicity and training courses. Special thanks to Golder for producing all the artwork for the abstract book, the conference guide and the proceedings CD.

Dr. Mike Winter of TRL Scotland and the Scottish Geotechnical Group for their on-going support and assistance throughout.

Peter Woodward of Heriot-Watt University for providing our on site link with the venue.

Paul Maliphant of Halcrow and the Engineering Group of the Geological Society for their support of the event.

The British Geotechnical Association and Ground Forum for their support of the event.

Margaret Jenner for providing essential administrative support throughout the organising period and particularly in the last few months leading up to the conference when she has been extremely busy making sure that all delegates enquiries and bookings were dealt with in a timely manner.

Tim Spink of Bedrock for setting up and managing the website, enabling all abstracts, papers and bookings to be undertaken on line, producing the abstract book and proceedings CD and making this difficult job a little easier and less time consuming.

Many other people have contributed to the organisation of the conference and, while I cannot name them all here, my thanks go also to them.

It has been a long road from Munich in 2004 to Edinburgh in 2008. We are here now and looking forward to an informative, exciting and interesting conference. Finally, my thanks go to all the delegates and exhibitors who have come to the conference and will make it a great success. Enjoy it, make new friends, catch up with old friends and contribute to the advancement of the science of geosynthetics.

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