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6th International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering August 2008

Conference Report

by

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**UTC
ETT150**

**A University Transportation Center Program
at Missouri University of Science and Technology**

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Technical Report Documentation Page

1. Report No. UTC ETT150	2. Government Accession No.	3. Recipient's Catalog No.	
4. Title and Subtitle 6 th International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering August 2008 Conference Report		5. Report Date January 2009	
		6. Performing Organization Code	
7. Author/s Shamsher Prakash		8. Performing Organization Report No. 00008650	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Center for Infrastructure Engineering Studies/UTC program Missouri University of Science and Technology 220 Engineering Research Lab Rolla, MO 65409		10. Work Unit No. (TRAIS)	
		11. Contract or Grant No. DTRS98-G-0021	
12. Sponsoring Organization Name and Address U.S. Department of Transportation Research and Innovative Technology Administration 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590		13. Type of Report and Period Covered Final	
		14. Sponsoring Agency Code	
15. Supplementary Notes			
16. Abstract Due to uncertainty in the nature of soils, a systematic study of the performance of geotechnical structures and its match with predictions is extremely important. Therefore, considerable research effort is being devoted to geotechnical engineering through the world.			
17. Key Words Case histories, bridge foundations, soil structure interaction, deep foundations	18. Distribution Statement No restrictions. This document is available to the public through the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161.		
19. Security Classification (of this report) unclassified	20. Security Classification (of this page) unclassified	21. No. Of Pages 1	22. Price

**SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
CASE HISTORIES IN GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING AND
SYMPOSIUM IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR JAMES K. MITCHELL**

Arlington, VA (USA)-August 11-16, 2008

<http://www.6icchge2008.org>

CONFERENCE REPORT

Missouri University of Science and Technology successfully presented the Sixth International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering in August 2008 in Arlington, VA, USA. This conference not only provided a common platform for all geotechnical engineers and engineers who collaborate with geotechnical engineers for discussing and learning from failure and successes from completed projects but also has revolutionized the way case histories in geotechnical engineering are used to perform safer and more cost-effective projects and train geotechnical engineers ready to face the challenges of 21st century projects.

The opening session of the conference highlighted dedication of conference proceedings to the memory of the late Ralph Peck who transformed the practice of geotechnical engineering by suggesting the “observational method.” The conference also recognized the pioneering work of one of the most respected geotechnical engineers in the world, Prof. James K. Mitchell, by organizing a special session and a symposium in his honor.

A total of 318 participants from 43 countries attended the conference. There were 11 State of the Art and Practice lectures presented by world renowned engineers. The Keynote Lecture was delivered by Professor Liam Finn. Other state of the art and practice lectures were delivered by Clyde N. Baker, Jr., Des Hartford, Kjell Karlsrud, Ed Kavazanjian, Yoshiaki Kikuchi, Ronaldo Luna and J. David Rogers, K. Rainer Massarsch and Bengt Fellenius, Pedro Seco e Pinto, Raymond B. Seed, J.P. Singh and William Van Impe.

One of the unique features of the sixth conference was the addition of a session on “Application of Case Histories to Geotechnical Practice and Education,” for the first time. The distinguished lecture for this session by David Rogers provided a historical perspective on the use of geotechnical case histories in education, beginning from a course developed and taught by Prof. Ralph Peck around 1956.

A set of conference proceedings which include 11 state of the art and practice papers, 336 papers authored by leading geotechnical engineers, 10 general reports and an abstract volume, edited by Prof. Shamsheer Prakash, Conference Chairman, has been produced.