



Minutes of TC218 Conference Call - Dec 15, 2020

Date of Meeting

Tuesday December 15, 2020
7:00 AM (UTC)

Venue

Conference Call – Microsoft Teams

ITEMS

Lead by:

1 **Introduction**

Giulia

- Call to order 7:00 AM UTC
- Ask for permission: Meeting is recorded. No objection.
- Attendance – 24 (see the list at the end of minutes)

2 **ICSMGE 2021 Conference in Sidney - updates**

Giulia

Conference is postponed due to Covid-19 and travel restrictions by approximately 6 months, that would be some time between Feb to Apr 2022, dates to be specified.

TC Parallel Session

- TC218 3 parallel sessions accepted (including the honour lecture)
- Title of honour lecture: Limit State Design for MSE
 - Presenter: Dr. Dov Leschinsky, ADAMA Engineering
- Paper Submission to online portal is extended to June 1, 2021. Authors have been notified.
- Member societies have from June 1st to July 30th to complete the review and advise authors for any required updates and upload the final papers.
- We expect to review approximately 17 papers
- Call for volunteers for paper review to follow.
- Since this event would represent our bi-annual meeting, TC218 needs to know if members are considering in person attendance.

Workshops

It was decided not to organize a workshop because of financing issues and other logistical matters.



ITEMS

Lead by:

3 **New subcommittees**

Shahriar

Reinforced Fill Structures as Bridge Abutments:

- Nico Brusa leads the subcommittee
- Members interested in participating in this subcommittee are asked to contact TC218 board or Nico at (nico@tailor-engineering.com)

Use of marginal fill with high plasticity in Reinforced Fill Structures:

- Ratnakar Mahajan, the subcommittee leader, had an introduction and called for members who are interested in participating in this subcommittee. Members can contact Ratnakar (r.mahajan@maccaferri.com) or any TC218 board member.

4 **TC218 Webpage**

Giulia

Final documents from Subcommittee 1 on '*Terminology*' and Subcommittee 3 on '*Best practices*' are published on the website after they were circulated among the members for 30 additional days to comment. The e-meeting document for *Railroad Applications* are also posted on the website.

The news is posted on TC218 webpage in ISSMGE website:

<https://www.issmge.org/committees/technical-committees/applications/reinforced-fill-structures>

The files can be downloaded from TC218 webpage on GEOWORLD website:

<https://www.mygeoworld.com/groups/reinforced-fill-structures-tc218>

5 **E-meeting**

Oliver

E-meeting was found to be a good way to exchange opinions. It is to be continued, but in a slightly different way (a platform other than emails).

- Some platforms were suggested such as Google Forum, MS Teams and miro
- Suitability of the platform will be examined, and one will be selected.
- One topic is needed to start discussion in an e-meeting format (starting tentatively in second quarter of 2021 or earlier, if requested)
 - Nicolas Denies suggested to have an e-meeting on future chapter for reinforced fill in Eurocode 7 and collect ideas from TC218 members. However, the discussion may be redundant since it has been already discussed among European experts.

6 **Webinar**

Giulia

With the purpose of keeping Reinforced Fill Structure community engaged and to share knowledge, the idea of organizing Webinars is considered. This activity can be reoccurring, similar to subcommittees and e-meetings.

- A webinar is suggested to be less than one hour. Nicolas Denies suggested to limit that to 20 minutes to make it more efficient.
- Subjects of the webinar will be decided within the TC and by TC members.
- Speaker will be from TC members, or invited.



ITEMS

Lead by:

- Not commercial presentation. Focused on topics of interest for engineers, students and for novice users who are not very familiar with reinforced fill technology.
- Possibility of advertising on our website news, GeoWorld, and the ISSMGE main platform (to be confirmed).
- TC218 board is open for suggestions. The earliest time is in late 1st quarter or in 2nd quarter of 2021.
- Patricia suggested a topic for webinar: updates on Eurocode 7 and also summary of subcommittees. It can be presented to local IGS chapters of every countries (perhaps a joint webinar).

7 **Conferences 2021 & 2022**

Oliver

You can find the list of international conferences on these 2 websites:

<https://www.geosyntheticssociety.org/calendar/>

<https://www.issmge.org/events>

The status of most conferences is not clear due to the pandemic, and travel restrictions. Two major upcoming conferences are:

EuroGeo 7 – 7th European Geosynthetics Congress in Warsaw

Website: <https://eurogeo7.org/>

Giulia

Postponed: New date is May 16-19, 2021

- Daniele Cazzuffi mentioned that the organizers will decide in February 2021 whether it will be in person or virtual.

This event is potentially considered as our TC218 annual gathering, which would be an in-person meeting with possibility of virtual attendance for whoever cannot make it.

12th International Conference on Geosynthetics in Roma, Italy

Website: [12th ICG Roma 2022, 18-22 September \(12icg-roma.org\)](https://www.12icg-roma.org/)

Scheduled date (Sep 18-22, 2022)

- Call for abstracts is launched in Nov 2020 and ends in the end of Jan 2021

8 **Special Issues for Case Histories - Updates**

Giulia /
Ivan

Call for Papers for Case Histories in Reinforced Fill Structures that will be published in ISSMGE's International Journal of Geoengineering Case Histories. Selected Case Histories will be published in this special issue in November-December 2021.

Fifteen (15) abstracts have been received that if all finalized as papers, it would require two (2) volumes of this special issue. It shows an excellent participation, which is a success. Abstracts are from various fields and different applications. Most of abstracts are on polymeric reinforcements, except 4 studies which are on steel reinforcements.

Authors are encouraged not to abandon the abstracts and submit their full papers. The deadline for the final paper is Feb 15, 2021 with possible extension to March 2021.



ITEMS

Lead by:

9 **Next Meeting & Adjournment**

Giulia

Next conference call will be on **Tuesday Mar. 16th, 2021 – 3 PM (UTC)** capturing mainly the Americas.

Meeting ended in 1 hours.

Recordings of this meeting is available in the link below:

[TC218 Conference Call Recording 15DEC2020](#)

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

Giulia Lugli - TC218 Chairman
Oliver Detert – TC218 Vice Chairman
Shahriar Mirmirani - TC218 Secretary
Antonio Ramirez
Atanu Adhikari
Brett Gibbons
Daniele Cazzuffi
Dave Woods
Diarmuid Moriarty
Dimitri Plantier
Gary Power
Ivan Puig Damians
Jay Lee
Jeremy Plancq
Johnny Oriokot
Keith Brabant
Nicolas Denies
Nicolas Freitag
Patricia Guerra-Escobar
Rajagopal Karpurapu
Ratnakar Mahajan
Riccardo Musella
Robert Lozano
Yuli (Chaido) Doulala-Rigby