



Minutes of TC218 Conference Call – April 12, 2022

Date of Meeting

Tuesday July 8, 2022
7 AM (UTC)

Venue

Conference Call – Microsoft Teams

ITEMS

Lead by:

1 Introduction

Giulia

- Call to order 7 AM (UTC)
- Ask for permission: Meeting is recorded. No objection.
- Attendance – 12 (see the list at the end of minutes)

2 TC218 Membership

Giulia

78 members in total: 44 officially registered,
34 external

44 members officially registered: 25 nominated members from local societies
16 corresponding members
3 Board Members (Chair – Vice-Chair – Secretary)

- Official Members must be members of the ISSMGE
- Each Member Society may nominate up to two (2) members to serve on each TC.
- Other individuals may be added as Corresponding Members but with no voting right.
- Length of members' term of appointment is 8 years. It can be renewed for 4 years.
- The official membership of a TC is that appearing on the ISSMGE website.
- TC218 encourages individuals to contact their local Member Society and request for an official membership for TC218. To do so, navigate the ISSMGE webpage <https://www.issmge.org/the-society/member-societies>
- Individuals who wish to join "unofficially" and participate in TC218 activities, contact the TC218 secretary (Shahriar) at smirmirani@recocanada.com

In September 2022 we will organize a survey to monitor the activity of the membership. As per the ISSMGE rules, in the case of inactive members, the TC Chair shall proceed as follows:

- (1) he/she first contacts the TC member.
- (2) if no response, he/she contacts the MS that verifies the member's status and, if necessary, replaces the member.



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Board members:

- The term of office of the Board is 4 years and can be renewed, normally for just one additional term.
- At the end of their term, a Chair in conjunction with their TC members may nominate to the TOC (Technical Oversight Committee) and the ISSMGE President one or more candidates to assume the post.
- All Chairs need to be approved by the President of the ISSMGE Board
- The Chair nominates the Secretary for the TC. He/she may also nominate a TC Vice-Chair
- The Chair may nominate up to four (4) members from various countries to reflect the international nature of the TC

3 TC218 Webpage

Giulia

TC218 webpage in ISSMGE contains **news and announcements** of TC218.

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

TC218 webpage on GEOWORLD website contains **downloadable documents** and files.

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

4 ICSMGE 2021 Conference in Sydney – Feedback

Giulia

<https://icsmge2022.org/>

- ICSMGE was conducted as a Hybrid conference in May 1-5, 2022 (In-person and virtual)
- Dr Marc Ballouz was elected as the next President of ISSMGE for the period 2022 - 2026.
- 900 participated in-person, 500 virtual
- Next ICSMGE conference will be in June 14-19, 2026 in Vienna, Austria (100th anniversary of Terzahi's book)
- TC218 End of Term Report describing the activities during the term 2017 – 2021 was submitted in due course
- Unfortunately, our ISSMGE Honour Lecture was "rejected" for administrative reason.
- TC218 had 2 dedicated virtual session for a total of 10 papers.
- Sessions were chaired by:
 - Yuli Doulala-Rigby (CRigby@tensar.co.uk) – virtual session 1
 - Jörg Klomp maker (jklompmaker@Naue.com) – virtual session 2



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TC218 Sessions feedback

Virtual Session 1 – feedback from the chair:

- 5 of 5 presenters attended the virtual session
- No audience attended the session (similar feedback also from other virtual chairs)
- No questions other than those prepared by the chair

Virtual Session 2 – feedback from the chair:

- 4 of 5 presenters attended the virtual session
- Max 4 people attending the session but only 1 person followed the full session
- No questions other than those prepared by the chair, 3 people left at the Q&A session

General Feedback:

- No audience attendance/participation is not effective and suitable for presenters who put effort to present their papers live and they were ready to answer questions.
- In-person conferences must be encouraged in order to allow for networking, technical paper presentations, meeting people, and intellectual/scientific exchange
- The option for hybrid conference might discourage travelling.

This topic will be discussed further in the 1st upcoming ISSMGE Council meeting in September in London. Any feedback could be sent to the TC218 Board and brought to ISSMGE attention. Yuli will be a part of this council meeting.

5 Active subcommittees

Shahriar

SC1: Reinforced Fill Structures as Bridge Abutments

Nicolas Freitag was appointed as the chair of this SC. The meetings will resume in coming weeks.

SC2: Use of marginal fill with high plasticity in Reinforced Fill Structures

Ratnakar has resumed the SC meetings in 6/6/2022 with the focus on preparing a booklet on marginal fill for reinforced soil structure.

Live document for different sections will be prepared and shared. The document will cover natural soils. Construction waste or other materials will not be covered in view of the durability aspects of reinforcement require detailed study / investigation. This booklet will provide guidance (consolidated document) on marginal fill and other details will be referred to other norms or documents.



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It was decided to approach the booklet section by section instead of all sections simultaneously. Hence, definition topic will be taken up first. Committee members to send the definition along with the source. The source can be guideline / standard / research paper / book / other document.

Anyone interested in participating in these subcommittees, contact Shahriar or SC chairs.

6 Webinar

It was suggested to have 2 webinars in the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2021.

- Goals
 - Inform about TC218 activities
 - Present result of the Subcommittees
 - Provide a platform for invited speakers
 - Increase number of members
- Organizational
 - About 1 to 1,5 hours
 - Two events in 2021: 3rd and 4th quarter

Ratnakar suggested that Prof Rajagopal deliver of the webinar in December.

7 Conferences in 2022/2023

Giulia

The list of international conferences: (2 websites)

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

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

Major upcoming conferences are:

EuroGeo 7 – 7th European Geosynthetics Congress in Warsaw

<https://eurogeo7.org/>

4-7 September 2022

GEOASIA7: 7th Asian Conference on Geosynthetic in Taipei, Taiwan

<http://www.geoasia7.org/>

Oct 31st to Nov 4th, 2022

GEOAFRICA: 4th African Regional Conference on Geosynthetic in Cairo, Egypt

<https://www.geoafrica2023.org/>

Feb 20-23, 2023

12th International Conference on Geosynthetics in Roma, Italy

<https://www.12icg-roma.org/>

17-21 September 2023

In Rome, the 1st Bathurst lecture will be presented by Yoshi Miyata.

600 abstracts are received



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8 Special Issues for Case Histories

Giulia
[Ivan Puig]

- All papers have been accepted by the Journal Editors and were moved to last Editorial polishings
- 6 papers will be included in this Special Issue on RFS
- Working on the Editorial as a Heading of the papers
- The Special Issue could be launched in Q3-Q4 2022, based upon Main Journal Editors decisions

9 Next Meeting & Adjournment

Giulia

Meeting ended in 1 hours. Recordings of this meeting is available in the link below:

[TC218 Conference Call Recording 08JUL2022](#)

(This video recording will be expired/deleted in 6 months.)

There are two potentials for the Next conference call.

- 1- A virtual meeting on **Tuesday October 12th, 2022 – 12 PM (UTC)** capturing mainly Europe, Africa, East of Americas and Central Asia.
- 2- An in-person meeting at the side of EuroGeo Congress in Warsaw, with the option of virtual meeting for whoever could not attend the congress. The proposed date is **Sep 6th, 2022**.

A questionnaire will be sent out to collect members' opinions.

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

Shahriar MIRMIRANI
Norman LEE
Nicolas FREITAG
Ratnakar Mahajan
Giulia Lugli
Oliver Detert
Yoshi Miyata (Jan) (ゲスト)
Margarida Lopes
Richard Bathurst
Johnny Oriokot
Daniele Antonio Cazzuffi
Zhijie Wang (来宾)