

Minutes for 6th ISSMGE TC304 Meeting 5-9 March 2012 (email meeting)

Date: 5-9 March 2012

Time: Meeting closes as of 5:00 pm (Singapore, UTC/GMT +8 hours), 9 March 2012

1. Confirmation of minutes (5th GI-RAM/ISSMGE TC304 minutes, 26 June 2011)

- **Minutes confirmed**

2. Updates and matters arising from previous meeting

- (Nov 30-Dec 1, 2011, TUDelft) Safety Concepts and Calibration of Partial Factors in European and North American Codes of Practice - support by TC304

Updates from Timo Schweckendiek, Gordon Fenton & Patrick Arnold:

The workshop held at TUDelft (Nov 30-Dec 1, 2011) on "Safety Concepts and Calibration of Partial Factors in European and North American Codes of Practice" was a great success. Thirty-four participants represented 9 European countries and 2 North American countries. The ten presentations allowed the comparison of how modern geotechnical codes are being implemented in the various countries.

More information including a workshop summary and the presentations (slides) can be found on the workshop website:

http://dutcgeo.ct.tudelft.nl/workshop_delft_homepage/workshop_delft.html

The workshop committee is in the process of developing a publication entitled "Modern Geotechnical Design Codes of Practice - Development, Calibration & Experiences" as an initiative of TC304. More details given under agenda item 3.

- Chinese/Spanish terms for risk/reliability in geotechnics – by TC304 members (Spanish ongoing)

Updates from KK Phoon:

This out-reach initiative to the non-English speaking world was discussed in our 3rd meeting at Munich last year. We have used the "risk" glossary developed by the past TC32 committee led by Farrokh as a starting and expanded the glossary to include more terms in statistics and probability. We intend to post this glossary on the TC304 website for comments once the Spanish version is completed.

I would like to thank Jianye Ching, Hongwei Huang, Hsein Juang, Dianqing Li, Yu Wang, Jie Zhang, Limin Zhang for their hard work in translation these terms to Simplified Chinese and Traditional Chinese (see Appendix I).

I would like to thank Rafael Jimenez and Zenon Medina-Cetina for their willingness to work on the Spanish version, which is still ongoing.

- (Jun 25, 2011, Atlanta) Risk Assessment in Geotechnical Engineering, short course at Georisk 2011 – Vaughan Griffiths & Gordon Fenton

Updates from Vaughan Griffiths and Gordon Fenton:

The short course on Risk Assessment in Geotechnical Engineering offered by Griffiths and Fenton in Atlanta (Jun 26, 2011) had 27 attendees.

- (Feb 24, 2012) Risk Assessment in Geotechnical Engineering, ISSMGE webinar – Zenon Medina-Cetina & Marco Uzielli

Updates from KK Phoon:

I would like to thank Zenon Medina-Cetina and Marco Uzielli for delivering a successful webinar on behalf of TC304. Jean-Louis informed me that the maximum capacity of the webinar was exceeded.

TF1: Interaction with industry and education (Farrokh Nadim)

TF2: Compilation of guidelines and other technical resources (Vaughan Griffiths)

- TC304 Guidelines, Information, and Technical Resources (Vaughan Griffiths & Gordon Fenton)(http://140.112.12.21/issmge/TC304_refs.html)

Updates from Vaughan Griffiths and Gordon Fenton:

As of Mar 7, 2012, the compilation has over 300 references organized into 17 topics ranging from "Introductory Material" to "Inverse Analyses and Bayesian Methods". Where possible, we have been adding links to the actual documents. Further contributions to this list are needed and very welcome.

See above link for the list of topics.

TF3: Coordination with broader risk community (Martin van Staveren)

Updates from Martin van Staveren:

The Dutch development program for reducing geotechnical failure costs, Geolmpuls, in ongoing and relating geotechnical risk management to project risk management. Results of the programme will become available in 2012 - 2014 and can be published and/or presented at conferences.

TF4: Communication/dissemination (Jianye Ching)

- Geoworld website
(<http://www.mygeoworld.info/pg/groups/948/engineering-practice-of-risk-assessment-and-management-tc304/>)

Updates from J Ching:

I encourage all of you to sign up Geoworld and join this group. There are some good features in this Geoworld Group that are not available in our regular TC304 website:

- (a) Blog and discussion forum where you can post your messages there, and all other group members may see them. Note that the Group members are not limited to TC304 members.
- (b) You can upload files and photos to share with the Group members.
- (c) You can also upload your publications to Group publication.

As previously discussed with KK and Gordon, we plan to keep the original TC304 website and run Geoworld website in parallel because they have different functions.

- ETC10 examples - Reliability solutions & interaction with TC205

Updates from J Ching:

This is something that KK and I are trying to communicate with TC205 -- we try to use a simple design example to demonstrate

- (a) how reliability-based design (RBD) works -- to show that the use of RBD is not very different from traditional design methods, also to show the difference between RBD and traditional design methods
- (b) the benefits of RBD.

We have sent such an example to TC205 people (including Brian and Trevor) based on EX2-2 developed by ETC10. This example is attached in this email. We are still expecting for the responses from TC205. Once we get the responses, we will let you know.

TF5: Conference coordination (Ken Ho)

- (May 23-25, 2012, Singapore) The 5th Asian-Pacific Symposium on Structural Reliability and its Applications (APSSRA)

Updates from KK Phoon:

The online registration is available at: http://engpay.nus.edu.sg/events_listing.php

A number of our TC304 members would be attending this event and we may consider to have a TC304 meeting in conjunction with this event.

The organizing committee has initiated the Wilson Tang Best Paper Award for this conference in his honour. The award committee has been constituted and indicated at the conference website.

WILSON TANG BEST PAPER AWARD

In honor of the late Professor Wilson Tang and his lifetime achievements in our community we are proud to announce the establishment of the Wilson Tang Best Paper Award. This award will be given for the first time at APSSRA2012. It is conferred to recognize the outstanding quality of a paper presented at APSSRA2012. The award will be presented during the conference.

Professor A. H-S. Ang has organized a "Special Session – To Honor the Life-Time Contributions of Wilson Tang", which would be held as a 2-hr plenary session on 24 May 2012, 1:15-3:15 pm, Furama Riverfront Hotel, Singapore.

- (Oct 18-20, 2012, Beijing, China) The 2nd National Symposium on Engineering Risk & Insurance Research, special session for TC304 – Hongwei Huang

Updates from Hongwei:

I am the academic chair of this Symposium (<http://www.erib-2nd.com>) . This Symposium is the 2nd China National Symposium on Engineering Risk & Insurance Research, and also is one of the key activities of 100th Anniversary of China Civil Engineering Society. As we discussed in Atlanta last June, one special session for TC 304 would be held in this Symposium. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm invitation to all of you. Do email me directly if you have any queries (huanghw@tongji.edu.cn).

TF6: Risk analysis and software (Lars Olsson)

Updates from Lars Olsson:

The work on the web-based questionnaire is in progress.

3. Future activities in 2012/2013

- Modern Geotechnical Design Codes of Practice - Development, Calibration & Experiences, IOSPress – Patrick Arnold, Gordon Fenton, Michael Hicks, Timo Schweckendiek, Brian Simpson

Updates from Timo Schweckendiek, Gordon Fenton & Patrick Arnold:

The workshop committee (see item 2a) is in the process of developing a Special Geotechnical Publication on the topic: "Modern Geotechnical Design Codes of Practice - Development, Calibration & Experiences" with authors invited from around the world. At the moment, we have 26 papers committed to the publication representing 17 countries: Canada, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The publication should appear in print towards the end of 2012. The publication is intended to provide a "10-years later" follow-up to the workshop proceedings published by Honjo et al. in 2002 entitled "Proc. Int. Workshop on Foundation Design Codes and Soil Investigation in View of International Harmonization and Performance Based Design".

The book is being published by IOSPress, who now publishes most of the ISSGME documents. The co-editors will be listed alphabetically: Patrick Arnold, Gordon Fenton, Michael Hicks, Timo Schweckendiek, and Brian Simpson.

- Drafting of ISO2394 Annex D – KK Phoon, J Ching, Yu Wang, Limin Zhang, Timo Schweckendiek

Updates from KK Phoon:

ISO2394 refers to the international standard on "General principles on reliability for structures". A working group was formed to work on Annex D "Reliability of geotechnical structures" under invitation from Michael Faber. The working group members are: KK Phoon (leader), Johan Retief (co-leader), Jianye Ching, Mahongo Dithinde, Timo Schweckendiek, Yu Wang, Limin Zhang.

The timeline is extremely tight, but we hope to circulate a draft to members of TC304, TC205, and GI-RAM for comments before 2 April 2012.

- (March 25, 2012, Oakland) Reliability analysis and design in Geotechnical Engineering, short course at GeoCongress 2012 – KK Phoon & J Ching
- (March 27, 2012, Oakland) Impact of Spatial Variability in Analysis and Design, special sessions at GeoCongress 2012 – KK Phoon & J Ching

4. Other business

- Georisk Special Issue on Flood Defenses

Updates from Timo Schweckendiek:

A special issue titled "Reliability of Flood Defenses" is planned in the journal Georisk (guest editors: Timo Schweckendiek and Ed Calle). In first instance, authors of suitable

papers from the FLOODrisk 2012 conference (www.floodrisk2012.net) will be asked to contribute. Notwithstanding, additional abstracts on the topic are definitely welcome and will be considered for publication in the special issue. For more information, please contact: timo.schweckendiek@deltares.nl.

- **Email meetings**

Several members noted the usefulness of this email meeting and suggested TC304 to host more email meetings in the future.