

Announcements

Thirty-third Rankine Lecture

The 33rd Rankine Lecture of the British Geotechnical Society will be presented by Professor K. Ishihara, University of Tokyo, on 24 March 1993 at 5.30 p.m. in the Sherfield Building, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London. The title of the lecture will be 'Liquefaction and flow failure during earthquakes'.

The observational method in geotechnical engineering: *Géotechnique* symposium in print

The advantages and limitations of the observational method of construction were described by Professor R. B. Peck in his 1969 Rankine Lecture. Field measurements form an integral part of the design and construction process, allowing it to be modified continuously in response to observations. The method permits maximum economy with safety, providing the process can be modified quickly and effectively during construction. It is a recognized method in Eurocode 7 and provides a way of exploiting recent developments in monitoring techniques and the practical management of geotechnical engineering projects.

This symposium in print will be based on the Transport Research Laboratory seminar on the observational method held in December 1992. Additional papers of up to 5000 words are invited, preferably within the following subject areas

- general principles
- embankments

- excavations
- ground treatment
- tunnelling
- contractual arrangements
- case histories

and should highlight

- the best estimate and contingency designs
- the monitoring system and site procedures to enact the contingency plan.

Synopses of approximately 500 words should be sent by 1 May 1993 to Miss Moira Hatherley, Papers and Meetings Department, The Institution of Civil Engineers, 1-7 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AA, UK.

Authors will be advised whether or not their synopses have been accepted by 1 June 1993. Complete papers for refereeing and assessment will be required by 1 December 1993.

Tenth international clay conference

The 10th international clay conference 'Clays control the environment', organized by the Association Internationale pour l'Etude des Argiles, will be held in Adelaide on 18-23 July 1993. Themes of the conference will be: soil mineralogy, clays in industry and the environment, clays in geology, surface and interlayer reactions, and structure, chemistry and nomenclature. For further details contact Ellisservice Convention Management, P.O. Box 753, Norwood, SA 5067, Australia.

Corrigendum

Finite element modelling of vertical drains beneath embankments on soft ground, by C. C. Hird, I. C. Pyrah and D. Russell (1992). *Géotechnique* 42, No. 3, 499-511.

On page 509, equation (29) should read

$$(u)_{x=0} = \frac{2B\gamma_w}{Q_w} \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} \left(lz - \frac{z^2}{2} \right)$$