FEATURE

IWM 2004: The Transition to ISM Begins

by Donald A. Bruce, Ph.D., C.Eng., L.G., L.E.G. President, Geosystems, L.P. Chairman, ISM

The 6th International Workshop on Micropiles (IWM) was held at the Musashi Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan from August 24-27, 2004. As our readers well know, ADSC has been a major supporter of IWM over the last few years, both in terms of the time and effort put forth by its membership, and also through the generous funding provided by the Micropile Committee and the Industry Advancement Fund. This year's

As our readers well know, ADSC has been a major supporter of IWM over the last few years, both in terms of the time and effort put forth by its membership, and also through the generous funding provided by the Micropile Committee and the Industry Advancement Fund.

IWM was organized locally by the Japanese Group, headed by Professor Hoshiya, Mr. Otani, and Mr. Yamane, all prominent contributors in past IWMs and, in particular, last year's meeting in Seattle. ADSC Technical Affiliate, Mary Ellen Bruce, President of geotechnica, s.a., Inc. was responsible for organizing the technical program and is, as always, undertaking the task of compiling the proceedings on CD, which will be available to all



Attendees at 6th International Workshop on Micropiles.

ADSC members. Family commitments prevented her from participating in Tokyo, a disappointment shared by all IWM members as much as by herself. ADSC Technical Affiliate, Gary Weinstein of the Polytechnic University of Brooklyn, New York, served most efficiently as the Meeting Secretary, and distinguished himself further with several valuable

presentations and contributions during the breakout sessions.

Other ADSC Technical Affiliate and Contractor members who attended and were greatly appreciated by the Japanese engineering community – both professionally and socially – were Nadir Ansari (Isher-

wood Associates), Tom Armour (DBM Contractors, Inc.), Jim Bruce (GeoFoundations), Donald Bruce (Geosystems, L.P.), Allen Cadden (Schnabel Engineering), Gary Kast (Dwyidag Systems, Inc.), Erik Loehr (University of Missouri, Columbia), and John Wolosick (Hayward Baker). Old friends from Europe included François Schlosser and Roger Frank (ENPC-CERMES, France), Mike Turner (Applied Geotechnical Engi-

neering Ltd., U.K.), Norbert Vogt (Technical University of Munich, Germany), Ernst Ischebeck (Friedr. Ischebeck Gmbh, Germany), Paul Woodfield (Branlow Ltd., U.K.), and Jouko Lehtonen (Turku Polytechnic University, Finland). There were many apologies from regular IWM members who were unable, for various reasons, to travel to Japan at this time, including Al DiMillio, Thomas Herbst, James Mason, and Bob Traylor. Their loss was, to some extent, offset by the presence of the families (or parts of families) of Ansari, Armour, Ischebeck, Vogt, and Turner.

The technical program, as requested by the Japanese organizing committee, was similar in structure to the excellent IWM held in Seattle last year:

Day 1: State of Practice (Design, Construction, and Research)

Day 2: Quality Assurance and Monitoring

Day 3: Case Histories, and Strategies for Database Construction

In addition to these plenary sessions, each day featured a moderated breakout session, each focusing on three different, but related topics, as follows:

Day 1: Design Issues (Pile/footing

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Professor Schlosser delivered the Lizzi Lecture, here thanked by Gary Weinstein and Donald Bruce.

connection; Effective stress analyses, Compilation of pile test data)

Day 2: Administrative and Financial Issues (Fund raising, Website, Secretariat functions)

Day 3: Outreach Issues (Education-

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al efforts, International professional society involvement; Reference database)

As a wrap up to each session, the moderators did an excellent job in pulling the various brainstorms together.

Special features of the IWM included:

- An opening greeting by Professor Kiyoshi Horikawa, the President of Musashi Institute of Technology (Japan's version of MIT).
- The second Lizzi Lecture "Research and Practice on Micropile Groups and Networks", brilliantly

delivered by Professor Schlosser.

• The award of the first Lizzi Scholarship to a young Japanese graduate student from the Toyohashi University of Technology (with a great smile), Shingo Morimasa. Due to the

heroic efforts of Mary Ellen Bruce (and Federal Express), this delightful young man was awarded free registration for the work-

shop, and a package containing key micropile references, including:

Dr. Lizzi's book The Static Re-

storation of Monuments, Basic Criteria-Case Histories Strengthening of Buildings Damaged by Earthquakes.

- ADSC: The International Association of Foundation Drilling Deep Foundations Institute, "Guide to Drafting a Specification for Micropiles" (2004) (courtesy of ADSC).
- Federal Highway Administration's "Drilled and Grouted Micropiles: State-of-Practice Review", Volumes I-V, and "Micropile Design and Construction Guidelines"

Implementation Manual.

- "Synthesis of the Results of the National Project on Micropiles" (1993-2001) Operation of the Civil Engineering and Urban Network (2002) (FOREVER Report)
- IWM International Workshop on Micropiles Proceedings (1997-2003) (The 1997 Proceedings were provided courtesy of DFI.)

This 2004 IWM was of particularly crucial importance, being the first without U.S. Government financial support (as always, thanks a million, Al), and the first largely under the "new" ADSC regime and mandate. Therefore, the traditional "Steering Committee" meeting took on special significance from a strategic viewpoint. After very thorough and careful consideration, this Committee agreed to the following:

• The name is now changed to "International Society of Micropiles: ISM", and a logo, stationary, etc. will

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Gary Weinstein feels right at home.

reflect this new name.

- · Mary Ellen Bruce was confirmed as the Society Secretary and will be charged with implementing a well defined Business Plan. First and foremost, she must make the Society - and her position - self-funding by the end of 2005 since ADSC's generosity cannot be expected to extend to provide indefinite funding.
- · The key points of the Business Plan include:
- Identifying new Chairman for ISM. Donald Bruce, Chairman of IWM since its inception in 1997, will step down as Chairman before the next IWM meeting - scheduled for Spring 2006 in Schrobenhausen, near Munich, Germany (following the kind invitation of BAUER Maschinen GmbH). This move is intended to make the respective role, duties, and responsibilities of the Secretary and the new Chairman bet-

ter defined and more amenable to independent and mutual checks and balances, and to put the whole society on a more professional administrative footing.

- Identifying fundraising vehicles to support membership needs and research efforts (e.g., developing pile test database, researching effective stress-based design procedures and pile-footing connection details).
 - Developing educational tools.
 - Developing a website for ISM.
- Developing an active outreach program for new members.
- Organizing structure of ISM as a legal entity.

No description of a visit to Japan can conclude without reference to the social side. Our hosts were wonderful, and beautifully organized. The food was fabulous - especially the dishes that the ADSC contingent



First Lizzi Scholarship Recipient, Shingo Morimasa.

could recognize (or dared to ask what they were). The liquid refreshments spanned the whole spectrum of sources - from rice, through hops

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and barley, to grape, oh, and tea also.

For most of us, the highlight was the closing banquet, held at the Sukkien Garden in Yokohama: a restored oasis of tranquility and antiquity set in over 100 acres of garden, but vet a two-base Ichiro drive from the wharfs of Yokohoma harbor. The group was entertained imperially. Almost surrealistically, the senior Japanese group provided an amateur magician show which was wildly applauded by an enthralled group of incredulous micropile specialists: themselves no strangers to (imperfect) sleight of hand on certain occasions it has been rumored.

Your correspondent was honored by the Japanese with the award of an especially handsome trophy; the "foreigners" in turn were sufficiently good sports to perform an impromptu entertainment for hosts and guests which was (fortunately) not caught on video. Had it been, John Wolosick's impression of a disco DJ,

This group – now a society – has participated in an extraordinary phenomenon: a truly unique international collaboration on a single specific technology.

Mike Turner's Townsendesque airguitar riff, Tom Armour's cabaret, and Gary Weinstein's wardrobe would have (unfortunately) been captured for posterity. Certain photographs survive and will be destroyed.

My personal thanks to all who participated in the funding, organization, and implementation of IWM Tokyo 2004. This group – now a society – has participated in an extraordinary phenomenon: a truly unique international collaboration on a single specific technology. It has established a model which is being studied seriously by professional and trade societies both in North America and overseas. Its success owes everything to its members and its sponsors.

