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Baltic Piling Days 2012

Important dates

1. Acceptance of abstracts: November 1, 2011
2. Responses to abstracts: December 1, 2011
3. Deadline for full papers: May 20, 2012
4. Conference: September 3-5, 2012
***Second bulleting in 2012 May**

In Baltic States problems concerning pile foundations are being discussed since 1967. These meetings were called “Baltic Piling Days”.

Last similar meeting took place in 1999 and it was attended by representatives from 7 different countries.

In May 2010 managing boards of Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Finnish Geotechnical Societies decided to re-establish before mentioned event in interaction with ISSMGE. As a result conference concerning pile foundations will be held in Tallinn. “Baltic Piling Days” is scheduled to take place on 3-5th September 2012.

A supposed agenda of the conference stands as follows:

1.Day. Loaded piles behaviour in soil and bearing capacity of piles

a) vertically loaded pile and its behaviour
b) laterally loaded pile
c) load test and bearing capacity of piles (assessment, evaluation)
d) dynamic method, integrity testing
e) CPTU, DPT, SPT (application)
f) calculations based on soil properties
g) settlements of pile foundations and interaction of grillage and piles
h) reception.

2.Day. Reinforcement of deep pit and slopes

a) assessment of soil properties for calculations of pits and slopes
b) main calculation schemes and accordance with parameters of calculations
c) methods of reinforcements of pit – sheet-pile wall, secant wall, slurry wall
d) anchors, types and bearing capacity
e) bearing capacity of laterally loaded piles
f) case histories
g) interaction between pit, grillage, piles and building
h) banquette.

3.Day. Technologies of piles. Appliance, materials, manufacturing

a) driven piles
b) bored piles
c) micropiles
d) slurry wall
e) new pile technologies.

Technical visit in Tallinn/Pärnu

Even though archaeological evidence indicates that Tallinn was inhabited already in the Stone Age, the story of Tallinn as an internationally significant city starts in the 13th century in the midst of the northern crusades. Danes claimed the local stronghold in 1221 and thus gave Tallinn it's current name ("taani linn" - Danish fort/castle). Having become a part of the Hanseatic League in 1248 the town rapidly grew from a fortified settlement into one of the busiest medieval ports of Northern Europe, with many churches, beautiful dwelling houses and a well-planned fortification system of high stone walls and 66 towers. The wars, famines and power struggles of the subsequent centuries may have halted the progress of the area for short periods of time, but only briefly, allowing the town to blossom into this urban gem of the Baltic Sea it is now with the best coffee, most delicious cakes, wonderful art scene and a rare combination of well-preserved medieval architecture with the most modern 21st century construction design.

Medieval geotechnicians in Tallinn were knowledgeable to establish stronghold and the Old-Town in area where geotechnical conditions were good. Most buildings were founded on sand- or limestone. The surrounding area of Old-Tallinn is predominantly represented by weak clayey soils and with sands which are rich in organic material.
In area of weak soils Estonian geotechnicians have successfully put into practice bold and special projects with excellent outcome. Due to these projects Tallinn has become a geotechnical museum.

Pärnu, the official summer capital of Estonia is built onto weak varved clays, which open under marine sands. Different buildings have received settlements up to 1 meter. There are very good geotechnical solutions used in Pärnu. There are people living in house which has a 0,5 meter wide crack and also apartments are being bought there. Fascinating land slides take place in Pärnu region.

Weather conditions in Tallinn in September are quite mild and sunny. Temperatures are between +21º ...+12º C. But be sure to bring umbrella with you, there may be occasional rain showers.

Tallinn Airport is located 3 km from the city and has flight connections with many major cities in Europe and Scandinavia. It is also possible to travel to Tallinn using ferry from Helsinki or Stockholm.