TOURING LECTURES T.C. GROUND IMPROVEMENT AUSTRALIA

Perth, Adel aïde, Mel bourne, Hobart, Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane

Concept and Parameters related to Ground Improvement illustrated by Case Histories

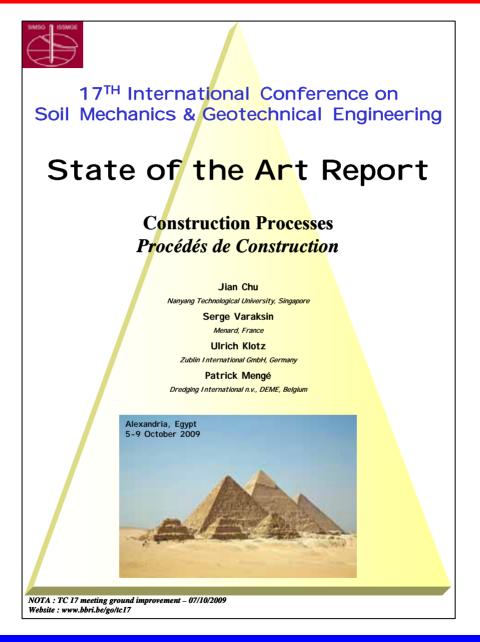
Presented by Serge VARAKSIN

Chairman of T.C.G.I.





State of the Art Report



Category	Method	Principle		
A. Ground improvement without admixtures in non-cohesive soils or fill materials	A1. Dynamic compaction	Densification of granular soil by dropping a heavy weight from air onto ground.		
	A2. Vibrocompaction	Densification of granular soil using a vibratory probe inserted into ground.		
	A3. Explosive compaction	Shock waves and vibrations are generated by blasting to cause granular soil ground to settle through liquefaction or compaction.		
	A4. Electric pulse compaction	Densification of granular soil using the shock waves and energy generated by electric pulse under ultra-high voltage.		
	A5. Surface compaction (including rapid impact compaction).	Compaction of fill or ground at the surface or shallow depth using a variety of compaction machines.		
	B1. Replacement/displacement (including	Remove bad soil by excavation or displacement and replace it by good soil or rocks.		
	load reduction using light weight materials)	Some light weight materials may be used as backfill to reduce the load or earth		
		pressure.		
B. Ground improvement	B2. Preloading using fill (including the use of vertical drains)	Fill is applied and removed to pre-consolidate compressible soil so that its compressibility will be much reduced when future loads are applied.		
without admixtures in cohesive soils	B3. Preloading using vacuum (including combined fill and vacuum)	Vacuum pressure of up to 90 kPa is used to pre-consolidate compressible soil so that its compressibility will be much reduced when future loads are applied.		
	B4. Dynamic consolidation with enhanced drainage (including the use of vacuum)	Similar to dynamic compaction except vertical or horizontal drains (or together with vacuum) are used to dissipate pore pressures generated in soil during compaction.		
	B5. Electro-osmosis or electro-kinetic consolidation	DC current causes water in soil or solutions to flow from anodes to cathodes which are installed in soil.		
	B6. Thermal stabilisation using heating or freezing	Change the physical or mechanical properties of soil permanently or temporarily by heating or freezing the soil.		
	B7. Hydro-blasting compaction	Collapsible soil (loess) is compacted by a combined wetting and deep explosion action along a borehole.		

C. Ground improvement with admixtures or inclusions	C1. Vibro replacement or stone columns	Hole jetted into soft, fine-grained soil and back filled with densely compacted gravel or sand to form columns.			
	C2. Dynamic replacement	Aggregates are driven into soil by high energy dynamic impact to form columns. The backfill can be either sand, gravel, stones or demolition debris.			
	C3. Sand compaction piles	Sand is fed into ground through a casing pipe and compacted by either vibration, dynamic impact, or static excitation to form columns.			
	C4. Geotextile confined columns	Sand is fed into a closed bottom geotextile lined cylindrical hole to form a column.			
	C5. Rigid inclusions (or composite	Use of piles, rigid or semi-rigid bodies or columns which are either premade or formed			
	foundation, also see Table 5)	in-situ to strengthen soft ground.			
	C6. Geosynthetic reinforced column or pile	Use of piles, rigid or semi-rigid columns/inclusions and geosynthetic girds to enhance			
	supported embankment	the stability and reduce the settlement of embankments.			
	C7. Microbial methods	Use of microbial materials to modify soil to increase its strength or reduce its			
		permeability.			
	C8 Other methods	Unconventional methods, such as formation of sand piles using blasting and the use			
		of bamboo, timber and other natural products.			

D. Ground	D2 Ob analysis and annually an				
	D2. Chemical grouting	Solutions of two or more chemicals react in soil pores to form a gel or a solid			
improvement		precipitate to either increase the strength or reduce the permeability of soil or ground.			
with grouting	D3. Mixing methods (including premixing or	Treat the weak soil by mixing it with cement, lime, or other binders in-situ using a			
type admixtures	deep mixing)	mixing machine or before placement			
	D4. Jet grouting	High speed jets at depth erode the soil and inject grout to form columns or panels			
	D5. Compaction grouting	Very stiff, mortar-like grout is injected into discrete soil zones and remains in a			
		homogenous mass so as to densify loose soil or lift settled ground.			
	D6. Compensation grouting	Medium to high viscosity particulate suspensions is injected into the ground between			
		a subsurface excavation and a structure in order to negate or reduce settlement of			
		the structure due to ongoing excavation.			
	E1. Geosynthetics or mechanically stabilised	Use of the tensile strength of various steel or geosynthetic materials to enhance the			
E. Earth	earth (MSE)	shear strength of soil and stability of roads, foundations, embankments, slopes, or			
reinforcement		retaining walls.			
	E2. Ground anchors or soil nails	Use of the tensile strength of embedded nails or anchors to enhance the stability of			
		slopes or retaining walls.			
	E3. Biological methods using vegetation	Use of the roots of vegetation for stability of slopes.			

Why Soil improvement?

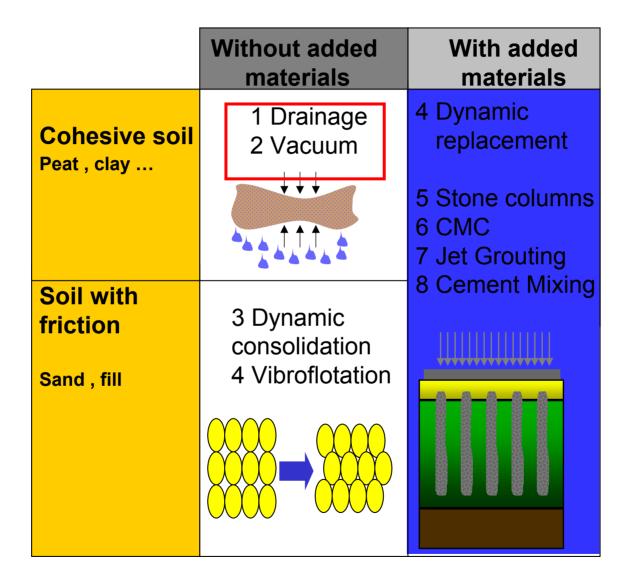
- •To increase bearing capacity and stability (avoid failure)
- To reduce post construction settlements
- To reduce liquefaction risk (seismic area)



Advantages / classical solutions

- avoid deep foundation (price reduction also on structure work like slab on pile)
- avoid soil replacement
- save time
- Avoid to change site
- •Save money!

Soil Improvement Techniques



Parameters For Concept

- -Soil characteristics
 - -cohesive or non cohesive
 - blocks?

Water content, water table position

- Organic materials
- -Soil thickness
- -Structure to support
 - -Isolated or uniform load
 - -Deformability

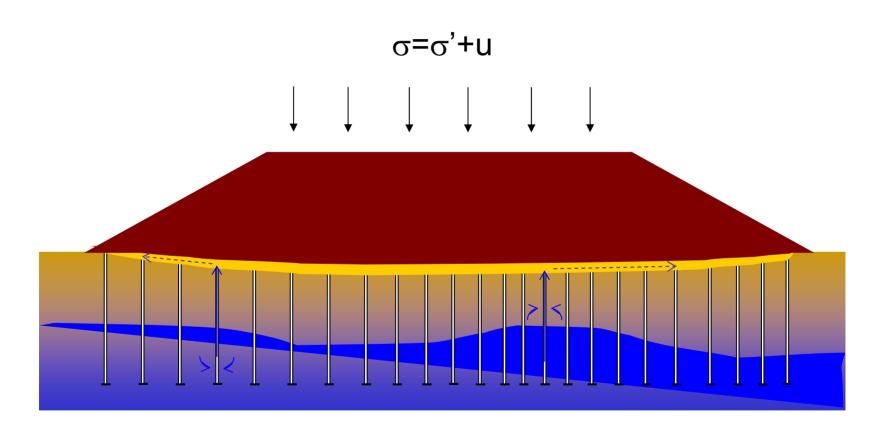
-Site environment

- -Close to existing structure
- -Height constraints

-Time available to build

Preloading with vertical drains

high fines contents soils



Vertical drains

CONCEPT

- -Stable subsoil for surcharge
- -Soil can be penetrated
- -Time available is short
- -Some residual settlement is allowed

PARAMETERS

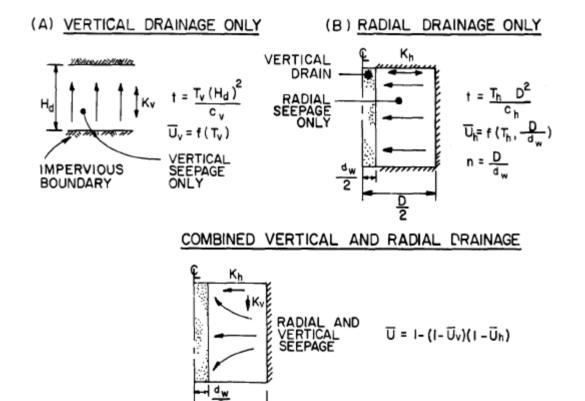
- 1 Depth
- 2 Drainage path
- 3 Cohesion
- 4 Consolidation parameters

(oedometer, CPT)

 e_O , C_C , C_V , C_R , C_α , t,

CPT dissipation test

Radial & Vertical Consolidation



Vertical drains: material

High fines contents soils



5 cm, PVC

Flat drain

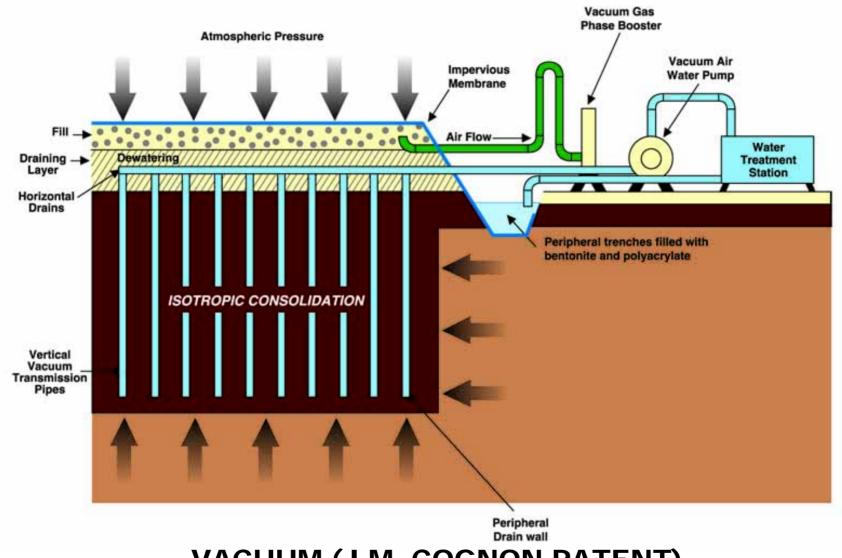
circular drain

vertical drain + geotextile

Vertical Drians



Vacuum Consolidation (high fines contents soils)



VACUUM (J.M. COGNON PATENT)

Vacuum Consolidation

CONCEPT

- -Soil is too soft for surcharge
- -Time does not allow for step loading
- -Surcharge soil not available
- -Available area does not allow for bems

PARAMETERS

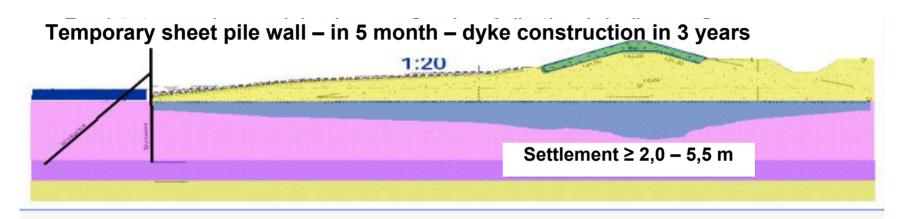
- 1 Depth
- 2 Drainage path
- 3 Condition of impervious soil
- 4 Wate rtable near surface
- 5 Absence of pervious continuous layer
- 6 Cohesion
- 7 Consolidation parameters
 (oedometer, CPT)
 e_O, C_C, C_V, C_R, C_α, t,
 - CPT dissipation test
- 8 Theoretical depression value
- 9 Field coefficient vacuum
- 10 Reach consolidation to effective pressure in every layer
- 11 Target approach

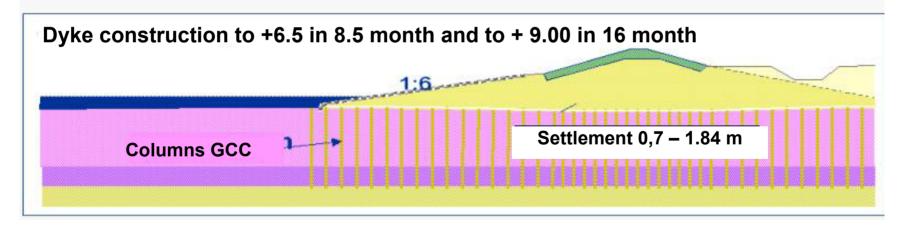


General overview of Airbus site



Basic design and alternate concept of Moebius-Menard





Subsoil characteristics

Soil type	Water content	Density	Shear strength		Deformation Modulus (under σ _z = 100 kN/m²)	Coefficient of consolidation	Coefficient of secondary consolidation
	W (%)	γ/γ' — kN/m³	δ'(°)/c' (kN/m²)	C _u (k N /m²)	E _S (MN/m²)	C _V (m²/year)	Cα (-)
Mud	142	13/3	20/0	0.5-5	0.8	0.35	0.03
Young clay	119	14/4	20/0	2-10	0.9	0.35	0.03
Clay	70	15/5	17.5/10	5-20	1.5	0.5	0.02
Peaty clay	139	14/4	20/5	5-20	0.9	0.4	0.03
Peat	240	11/1	20/0	5-15	0.5	≥ 0.4	0.04

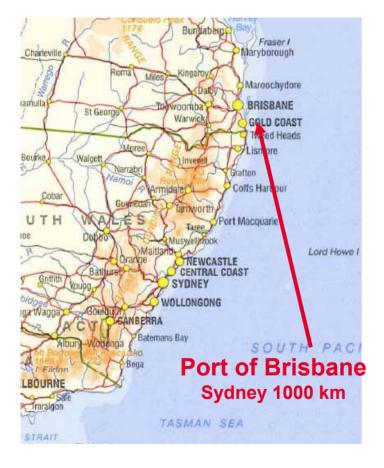








PROJECT OVERVIEW

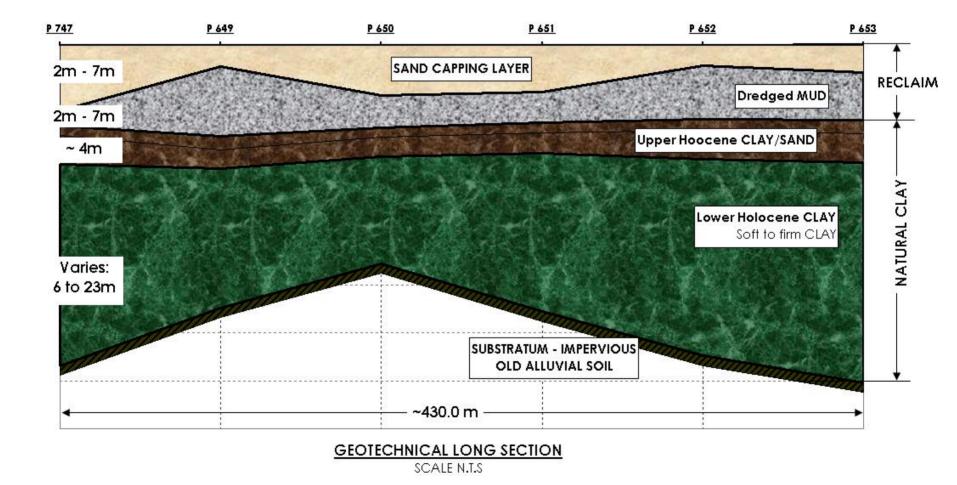




- Located at the mouth of the Brisbane river;
- New reclamation area: 234 ha enclosed in the Port Expansion Seawall;
- Part of the new reclaimed area to be ready in 5years;
- Seawall construction completed in 2005;



GEOTECHNICAL LONG SECTION





GEOLOGICAL PARAMETERS

Parameter	Unit	Dredged Material	Upper Holocene Sand	Upper Holocene Clay	Lower Holocene Clay
$C_c/(1+e_0)$	[-]	0,235	0,01	0,18	0,235
$C_{\alpha}/(1+e_0)$	[-]	0,0059	0,001	0,008	0,0076
γ	$[kN/m^3]$	14	19	16	16
C_{v}	$[m^2/y]$	1	10	10	0.9
C_h	$[m^2/y]$	1	10	10	1.8
S_{u}	[kPa]	4	-	20	28
S_u / σ'_v	[-]	0,25	0,3	0,3	0,2

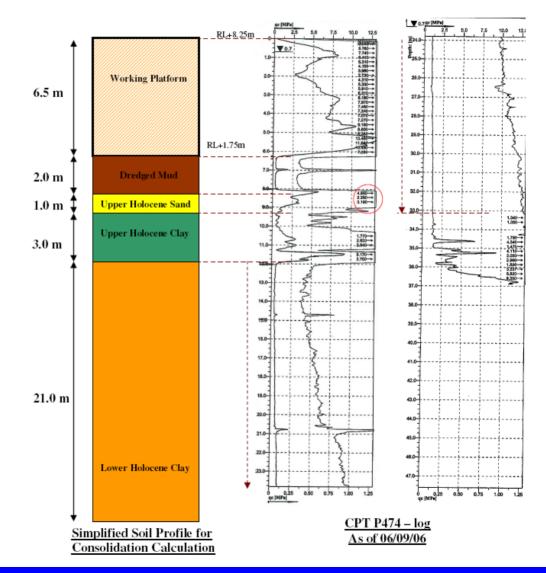


GEOLOGICAL SOIL PROFILE

AREA 2a

P474 location

- Water level during construction: RL+7.1m and RL+8.3m at vacuum start
- Working platform at RL+8.6m (thickness=6.8m) as of 22/12/08





DESIGN CRITERIA & ASSUMPTIONS

Service Load:

Zone 1: 36kPa

Zone 2: 25kPa

Zone 3: 15kPa

Zone 4: 5kPa

Residual Settlement (20y):

Zone 1 to 3: 150mm

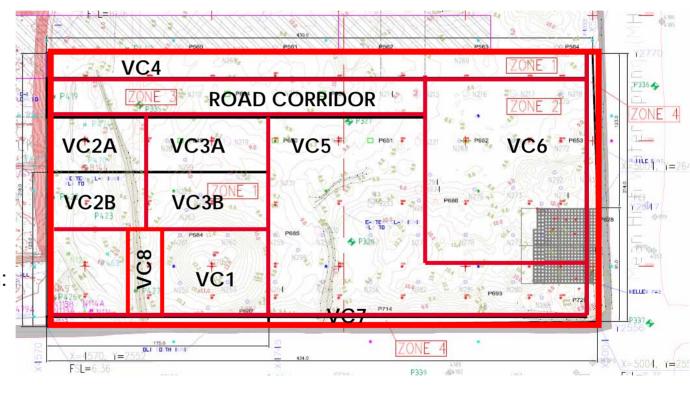
Zone 4: 300mm

Vacuum pumping operation:

18 months

Vacuum depressure:

75.0 kPa



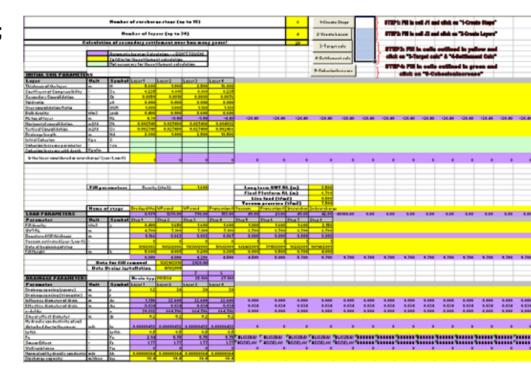




DESK STUDY - NUMERICAL ANALYSIS USING EXCEL SPREADSHEET SETTLEMENT CALC.XLC

Calculation of primary and secondary settlement;

- Secondary settlement to commence after primary settlement;
- Change in vertical stress is constant over the depth of the stratum;
- Buoyancy effect on the fill below the groundwater level due to settlement
- •Fill to be removed instantaneous at the end of preloading period;
- Design load immediately applied at end of preloading period;

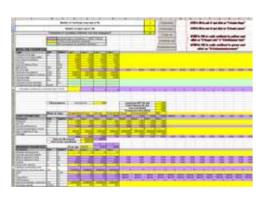


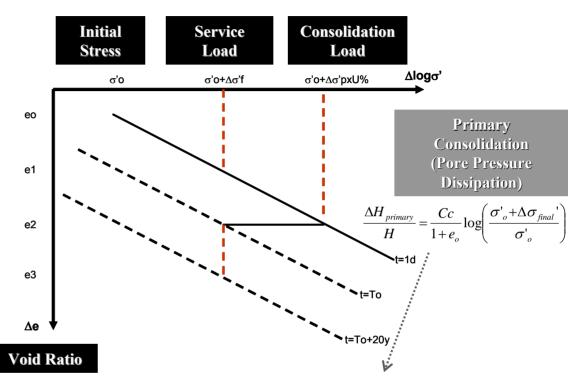




ANALYSIS METHOD

•Secondary Settlement
Program uses a method based on Bjerrum's concept to calculate instantaneous and delayed consolidation (Bjerrum, 1967).





Secondary Consolidation (Long term Creep)

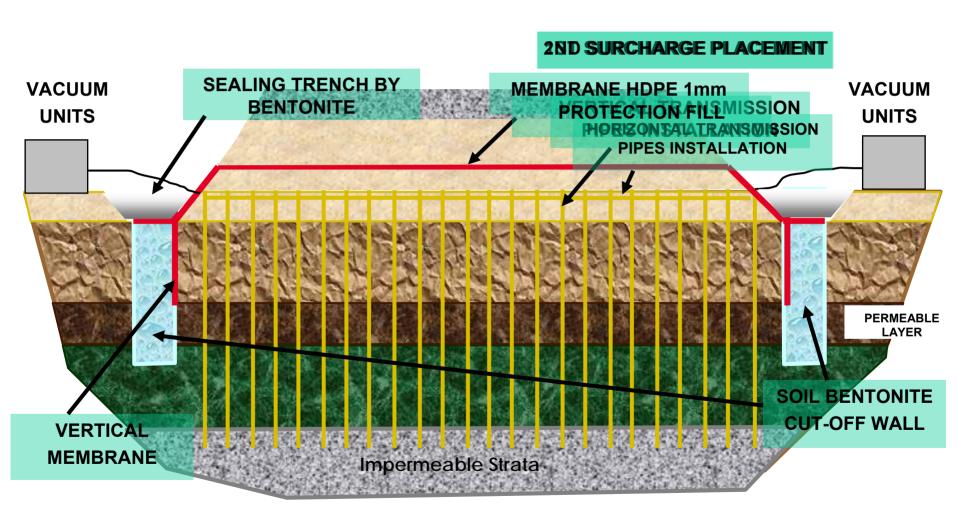
$$\Delta e = C_{\alpha e} \log \left(\frac{20 \, years}{T_p} \right)$$

**

PORT OF BRISBANE - PADDOCK S3B

CONSTRUCTION SEQUENCE























Project: Vacuum Consolidation of Paddock S3B

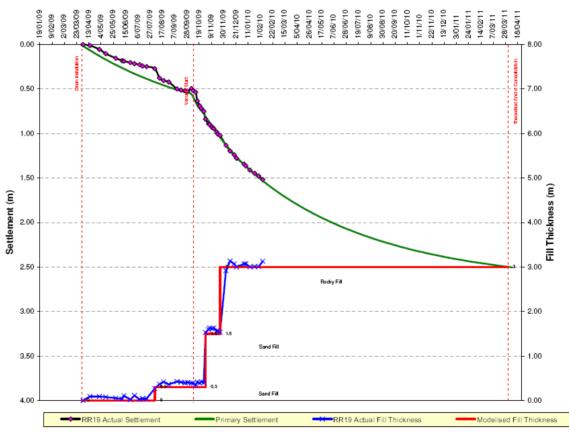
Proj. No.: 5040101 Section: RR19

SIMPLIFIELD SOIL PROFILE

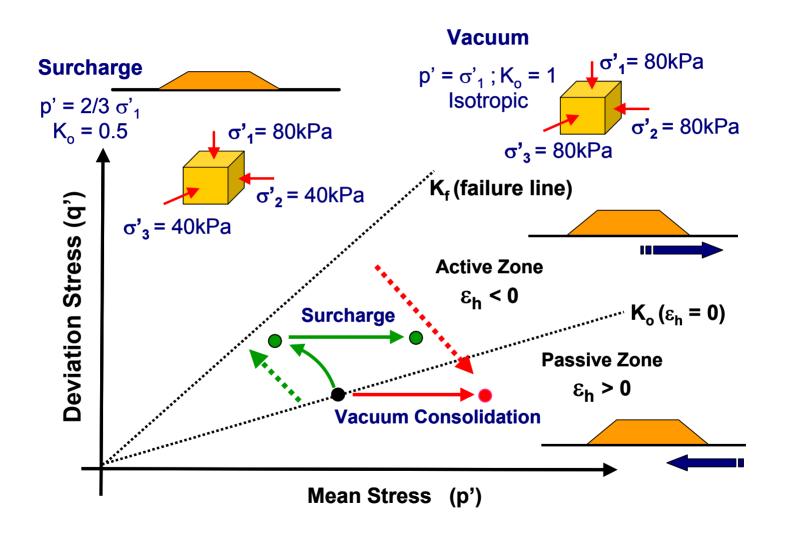
2.40 m 2.50 m 5.0 m 1.0 m 2.20 m 16.0 n

WATER LEVEL: R.L. +7.10 DURING PUMPING: R.L. +8.80 WORKING PLATFORM: R.L. +9.00 SOIL PROFILE: CPT: P651

SETTLEMENT / FILL THICKNESS



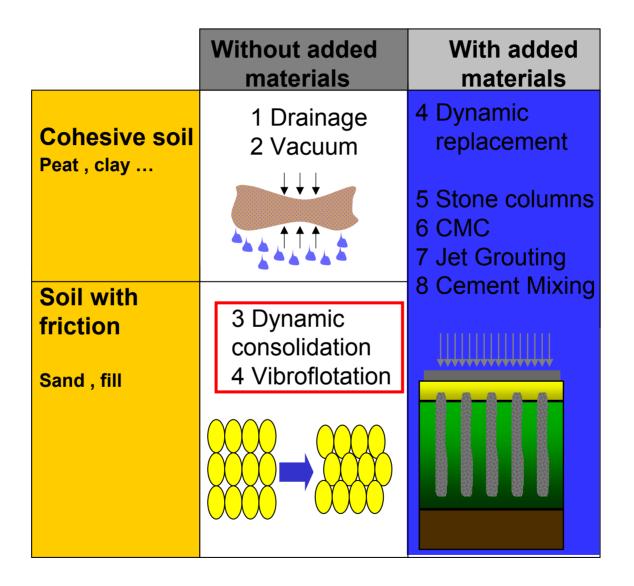
Stress path for Vacuum Process



Case history: Kimhae (Korea) - 1998

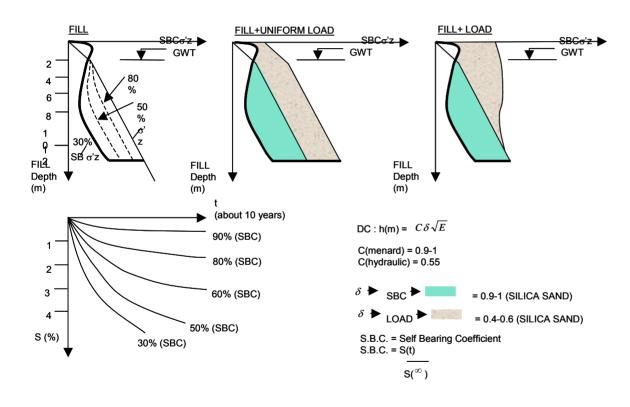


Soil Improvement Techniques



Paramaters for Concept

CONCEPT



PARAMETERS

- Age if fill saturated or not
- $-P_{L}$
- -Selfbearing level
- -Ø
- $-E_P$ or E_M
- $-Q_C, F_R,$
- -N
- -R.D. (???)
- -Shear wave velocity
- -Seismic parameters
- -Grain size

Case History

Nice Airport runway consolidation Granular soil



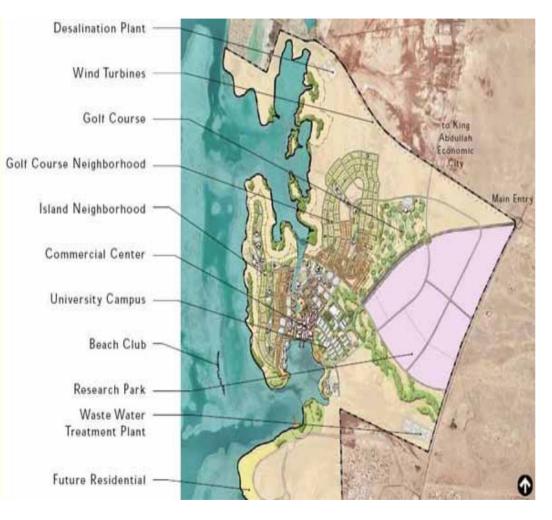
Very high energy (170 t, 23 m)

KAUST PROJECT

Concept and application of ground improvement for a 2,600,000 m²

FUTURE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

Typical Master Plan





Discovering the Habitants









Areas to be treated



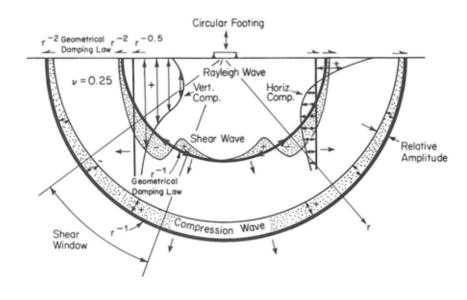
Areas to be treated

- •Al Khodari 1,800,000 m²
- •Saudi Bin Ladin 720,000 m²

Schedule

•8 months

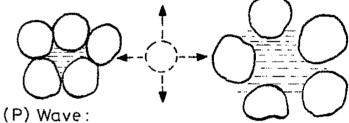
Dynamic Consolidation



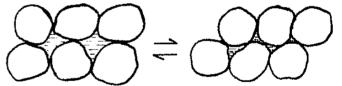
Wave Type Percent of Total Energy

Rayleigh	67
Shear	26
Compression	7

After R.D. Woods (1968)



- Increases pore water pressure
- Distocates soil matrix

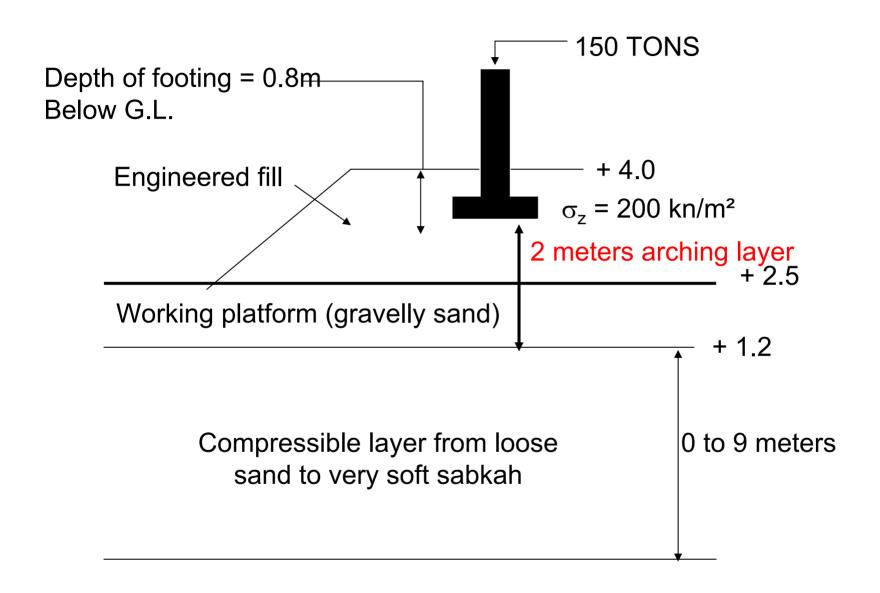


- (S) And rayleigh waves:
- Shear soil grains
- •Rearrange structure towards denser state

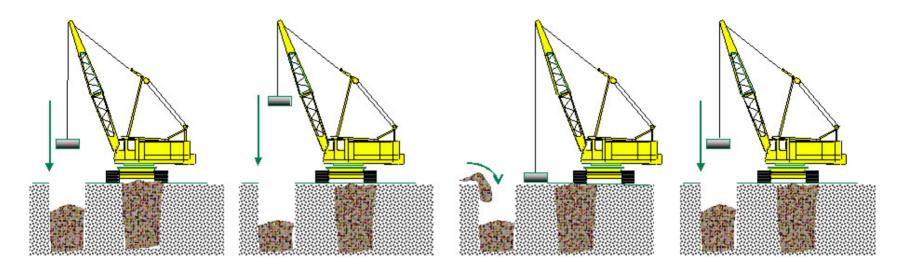
Specifications

- Isolated footings up to 150 tons
 - Bearing capacity 200 kPa
 - Maximum footing settlement 25 mm
 - Maximum differential settlement 1/500
 - Footing location unknown during soil improvement phase

Concept

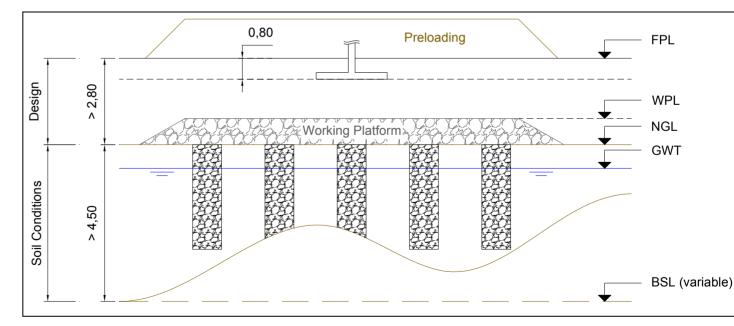


Selection of technique

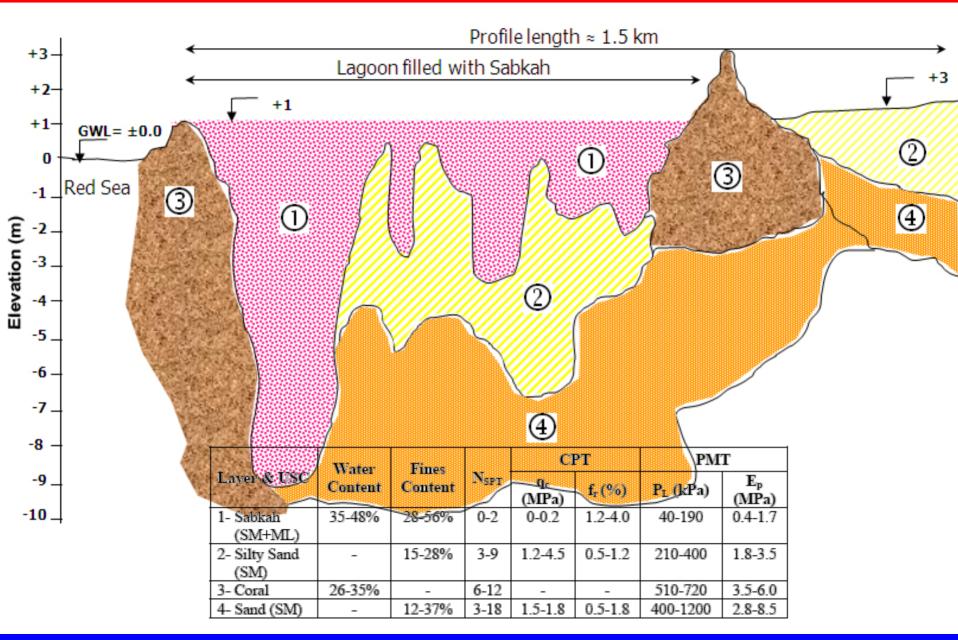


DR (Dynamic Replacement)

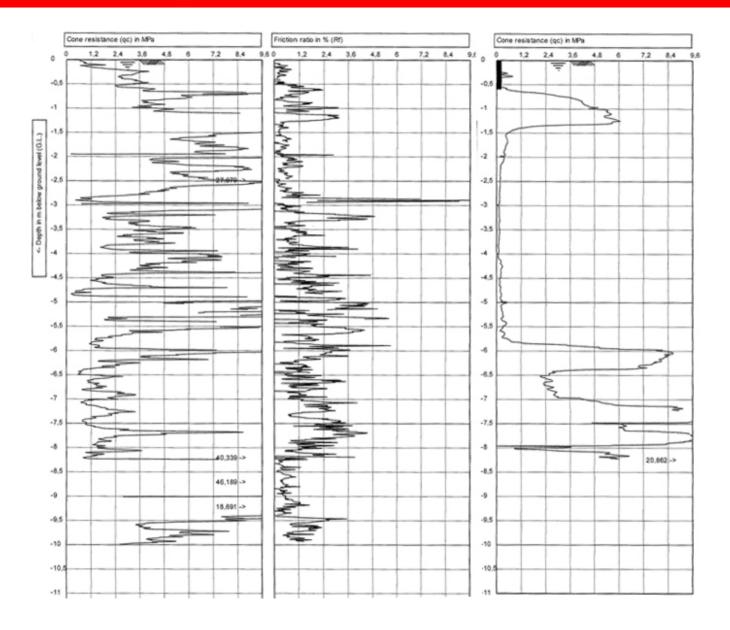
HDR (High Energy Dynamic Replacement) + Surcharge



Typical Site Cross Section of Upper Deposit



Variation in soil profile over 30 meters



Typical surface conditions







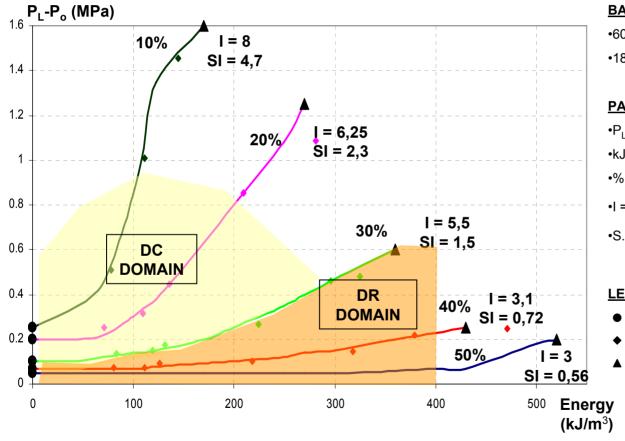




Analysis of improvement

ANALYSIS OF (P₁-P₀) IMPROVEMENT AS FUNCTION OF ENERGY AND FINES





BASIS

- •60 grainsize tests
- •180 PMT tests

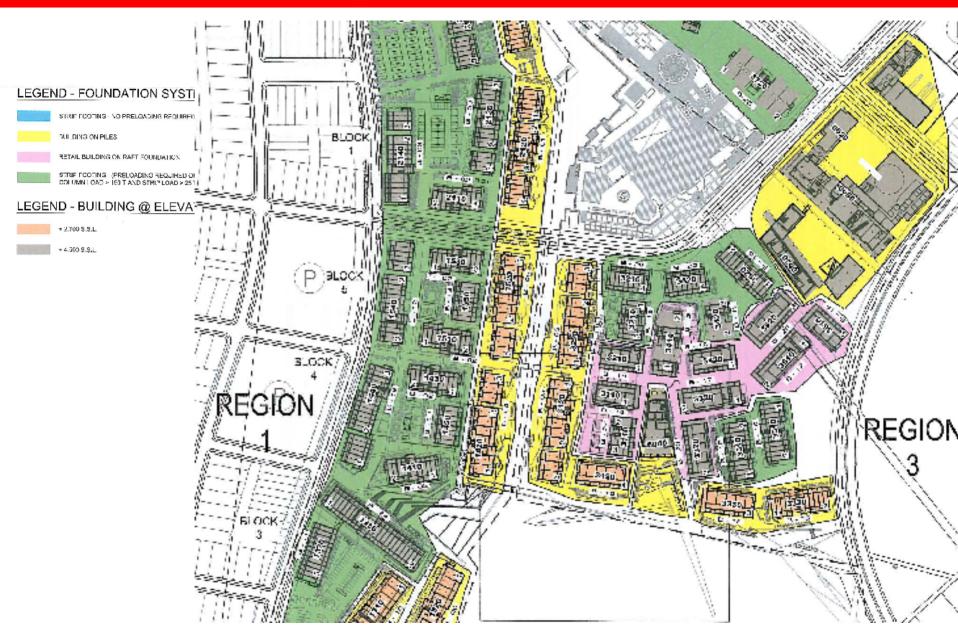
PARAMETERS

- $\cdot P_1 P_0 =$ pressuremeter limit pressure
- •kJ/m³ = Energy per m³ (E)
- •% = % passing n°200 sieve
- •I = improvement factor $\frac{P_{LF}}{P_{CL}}$
- •S.I : energy specific improvement factor $\frac{I \times 100}{E}$

LEGEND

- Average pre-treatment values
- Average values between phases
- Average post-treatment values

Provisionnal master plan



It can be assumed that those impacts du generate a pore pressure at least equal to the pore pressure generated by the embankement load.

This new consolidation process with the final at a time t'_f, where

$$T_{V} = 0.848 = \frac{C'_{v}(t'_{1}-t_{1})}{H^{2}} + \frac{C_{v}T_{1}}{H^{2}}$$

With

$$C'_{V} = C_{V} \left[1 + \frac{du}{\Delta \sigma (1 - U_{1)}} \right]$$

The following equation allows to compare the respective times of consolidation being:

> t'_f with impact t_f without impact

$$t'f = \frac{du}{du + \Delta\sigma(1 - U_1)}t_1 + \frac{\Delta\sigma(1 - U_1)}{du + \Delta\sigma(1 - U_1)}t_f$$

For the considered case,

$$du = U\Delta\sigma$$

and thus
$$t_f' = U_1 t_1 + (1 - U_1) t_f$$

The Table allows to compare the gain in consolidation time, at different degrees of consolidation.

U _l	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%
t₁/t _f	0009	0.037	0.083	0.148	0231	0337	0474	0.669	1.00
ť _l /t _f	0901	0.807	0725	0.659	0.615	0602	0.632	0735	1.00

Supposing primary consolidation completed

$$U = 0.9$$
 or $T = 0.848$ if $du=U_1 \Delta \sigma$,
then $t_f' = U_1 t_1 + (1-U_1) t_f$

The optimal effectiveness occurs around $U_1 = 60\%$.

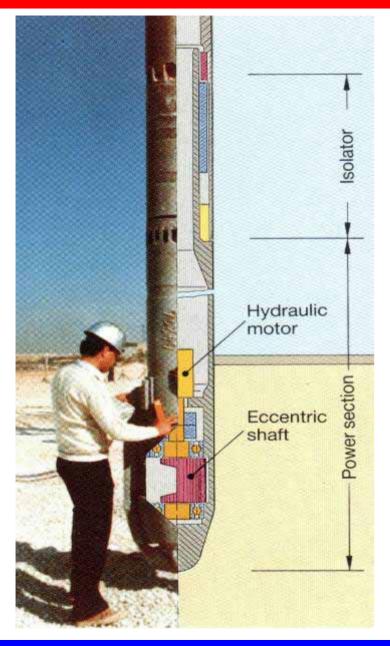
One can thus conclude that, theoretically the consolidation time is reduced by 20% to 50%, what is for practical purpose insufficient.

Dynamic surcharge





VIBROFLOTS

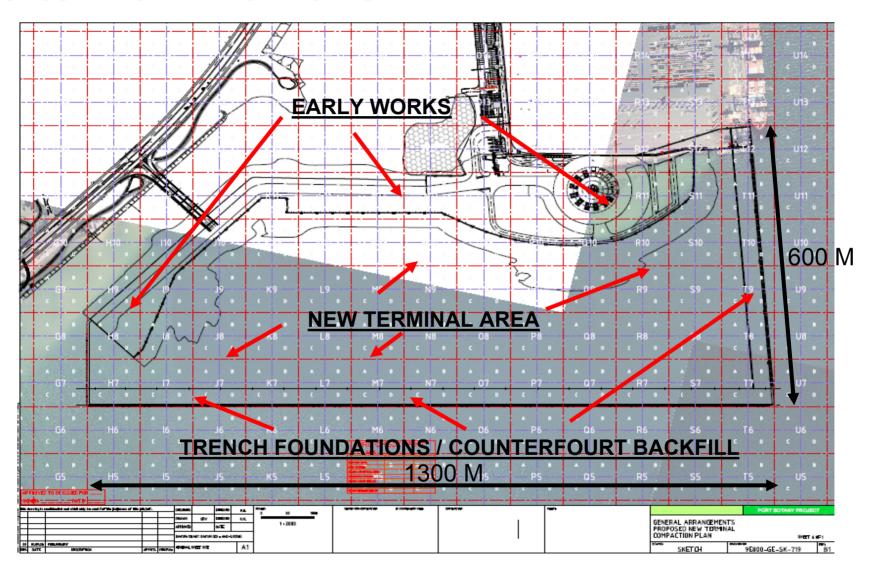




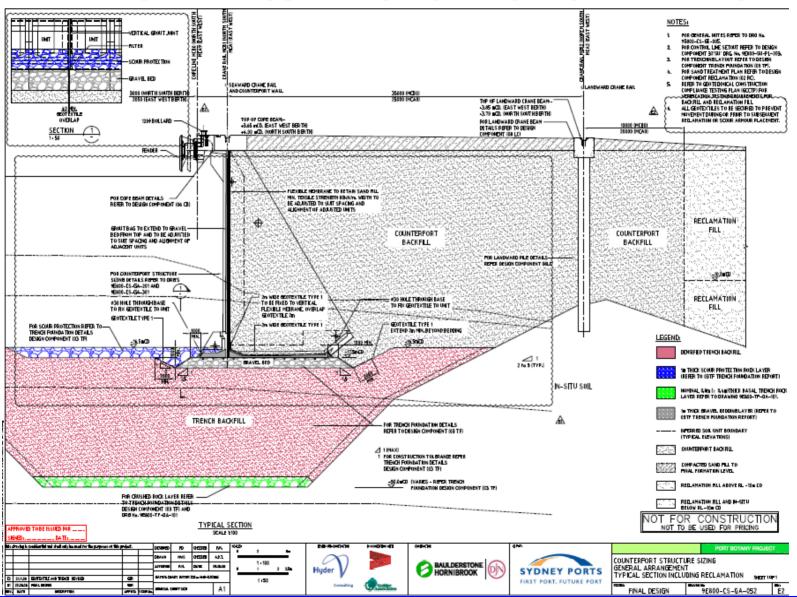
GROUND COMPACTION WORKS



GROUND COMPACTION WORKS



GENERAL ARRAGEMENT COUNTERFORTS INCLUDING RECLAMATION



RESUME / QUANTITIES

PHASE	AREA (M2)	VOLUME (M3)	TECHNIQUE
EARLY WORKS	90,000	650,000	DYNAMIC COMPACTION / VIBRO COMPACTION
TRENCH FOUNDATIONS	64,000	800,000	OFFSHORE VIBROCOMPACTION
COUNTERFOURT BACKFILL	92,000	1,330,000	ONSHORE TANDEM VIBRO COMPACTION
NEW TERMINAL AREA	404,000	5,250,000	DYNAMIC COMPACTION
TOTAL	650,000	8,000,000	DC / VC

Dynamic Compaction & Vibro Compaction



POUNDER WEIGHT 25 TON / 23 METERS DROP HEIGHT

5 m X 5 m GRID / 3 PHASES - 10 BLOWS

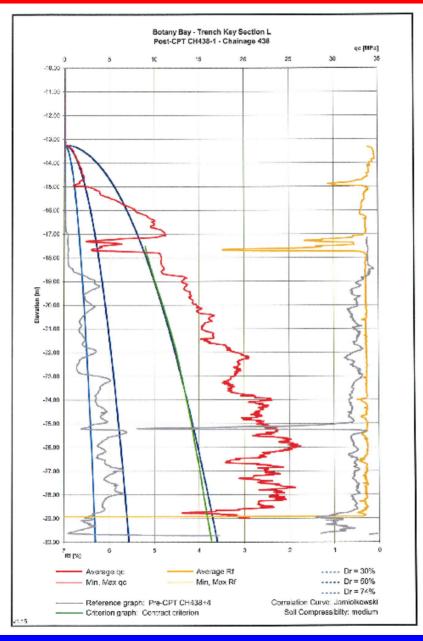
VIEW OF LOAD OUT WHARF - DC / VC WORKING







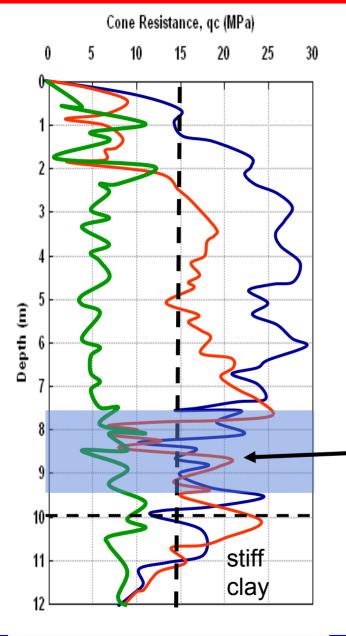




Pasir Panjang Container Terminal, Singapore



Pasir Panj ang Container Terminal, Singapore



RESULTS

- 1. Except for the upper 50 cm, the combination of VC and DC satisfied the q_c of 15 MPa (upper 0.5 m requires surface roller compaction).
- 2. Enforced settlement:

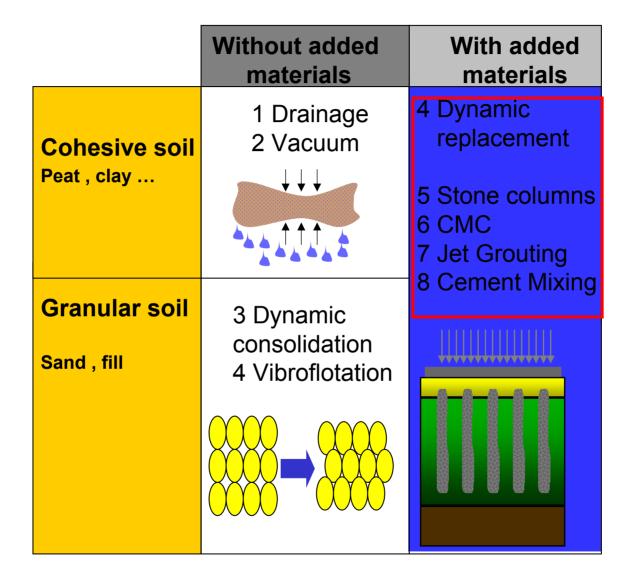
After VC – 47 cm

After DC – 27 cm

Total – 74 cm (~ 10% of treatment depth)

Compaction was less effective in this layer!

Soil Improvement Techniques



Dynamic Replacement

CONCEPT

- -Very soft to stiff soils
- -Unsaturated soft clays
- -Thickness of less than 6 meters
- -Arching layer available

PARAMETERS

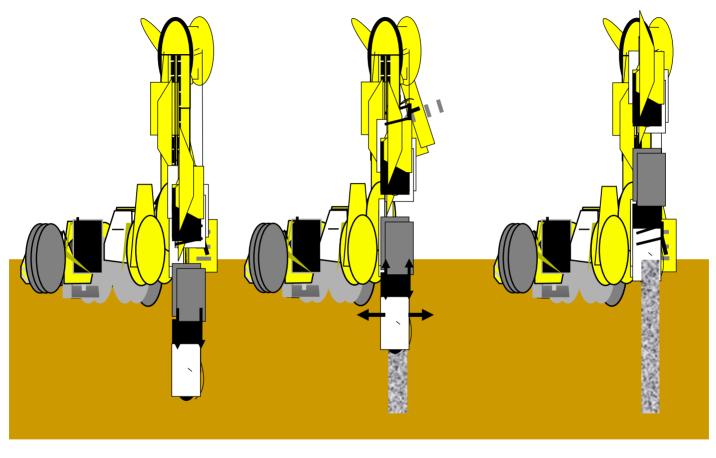
-C, \varnothing , μ , E_y of soil, column and arching

layers, grid

-or P_L , E_P , μ of soil, column and

arching layers, grid

Stone Columns - Bottom Feed



Vibrator penetration

Material feeding

Vibration of material during extraction

Principle of the technology - bottom feed with air tank

Stone Columns - Bottom Feed

Stone Columns
bottom feed to 22 m
depth



Stone Columns

CONCEPT

- -Soft to stiff clays
- -Thickness up to 25 meters
- -Arching layer available

PARAMETERS

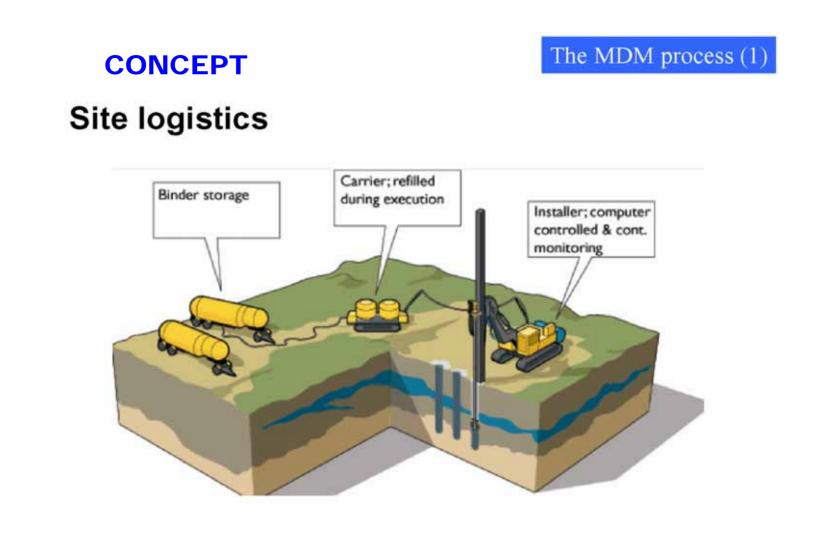
-C, \varnothing , μ , E_y of soil, column and arching

layers, grid

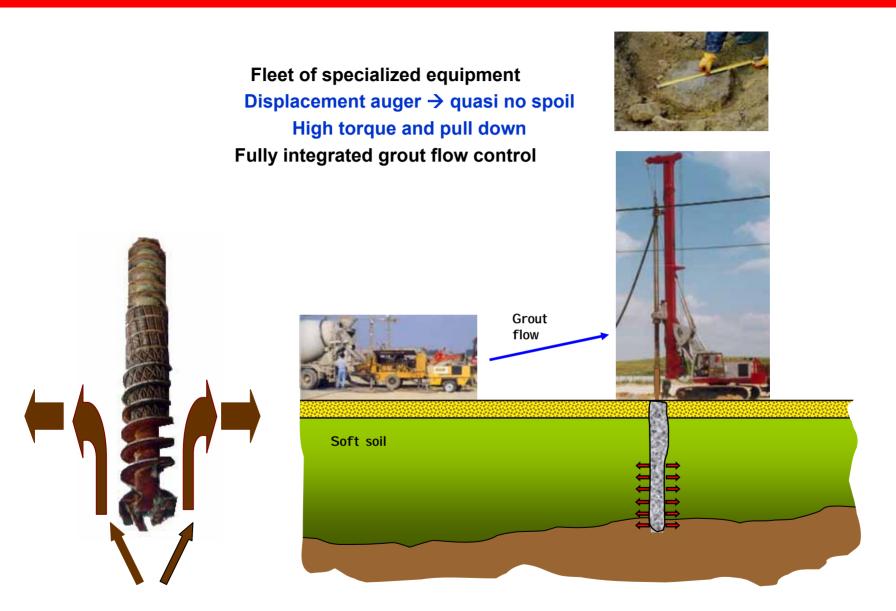
-or P_L , E_P , μ of soil, column and arching

layers, grid

DCM: Deep Cement Mixing



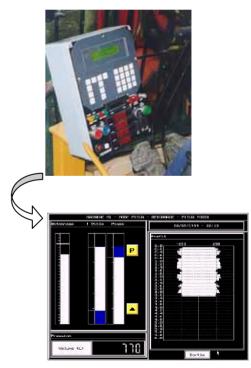
CMC - Execution



CMC - Typical Testing

- Load testing on isolated CMC
 - Checking of individual capacity,
 - Checking of adequate soil parameters taken into account.
- Compression tests on material
 - Checking of good grout resistance
- Data recording system during execution
 - Recording of drilling parameters → Checking of anchorage,
 - Recording of grouting parameters → No necking





RIGID INCLUSIONS - PARAMETERS

SOIL

-C',
$$\varnothing$$
', E_y , μ , γ , ϕ

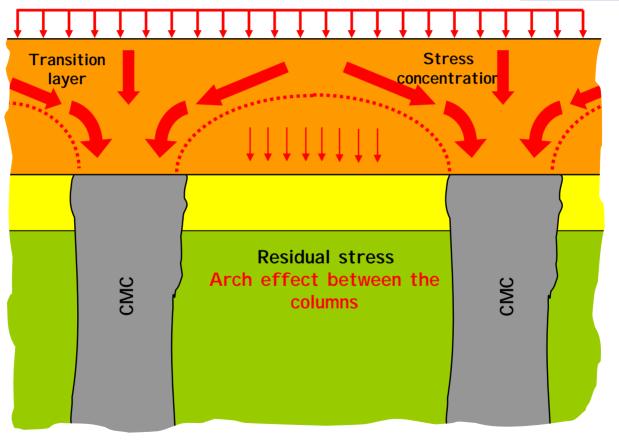
-K_v, K_h if consolidation is considered

INCLUSION

-E $_y$, μ , γ , D (non porous medium)

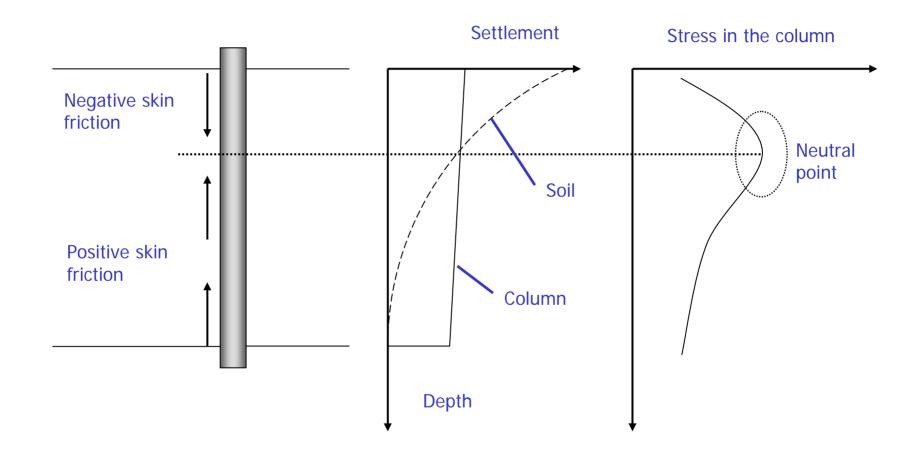
CMC Principle

- Create a <u>composite material</u> Soil + Rigid Inclusion (CMC) with:
 - Increased bearing capacity
 - Increased elastic modulus
- Transfer the load from structure to CMC network with a <u>transition layer</u>

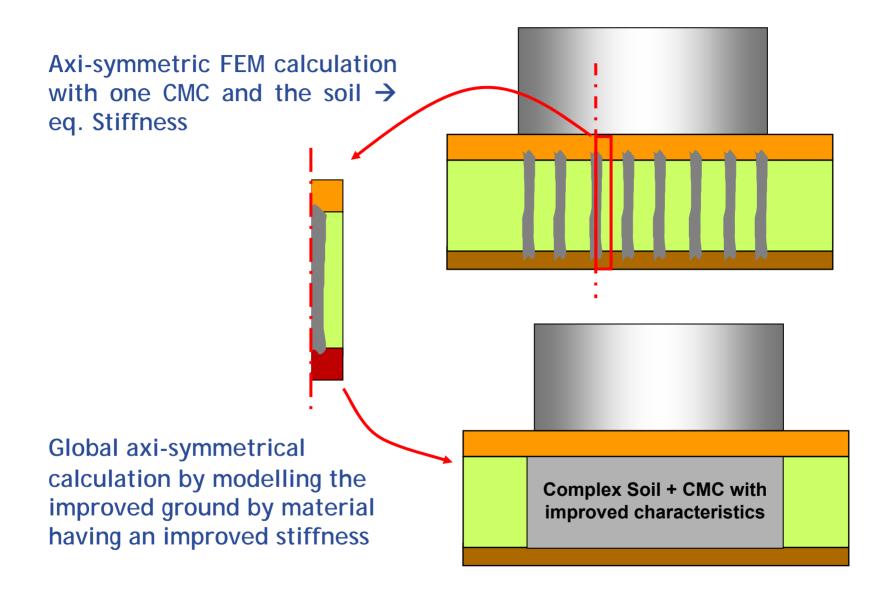


CMC - Basic behavior under uniform I oad

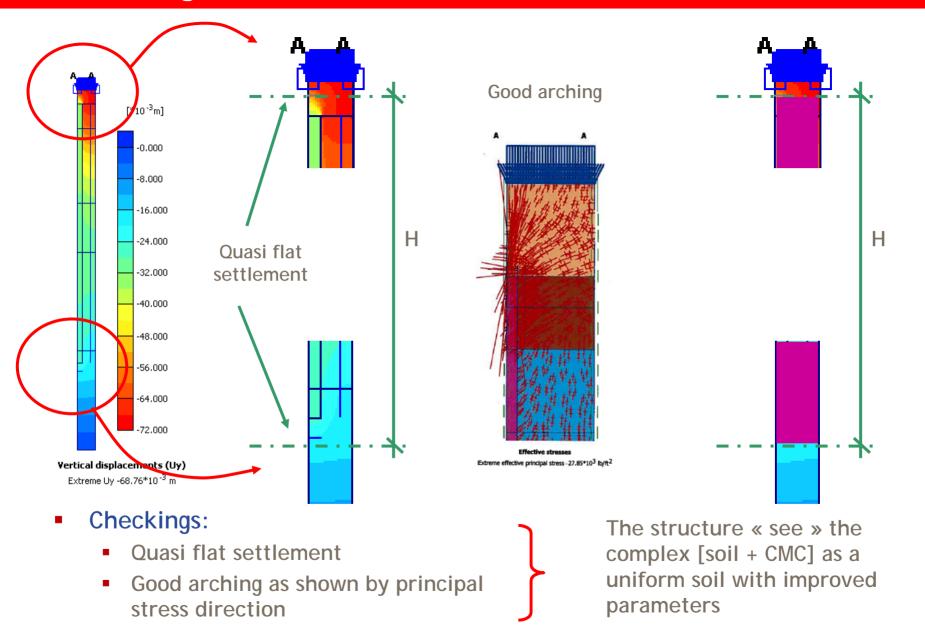
Negative skin friction allows to develop a good arching effect



CMC Design - Principle



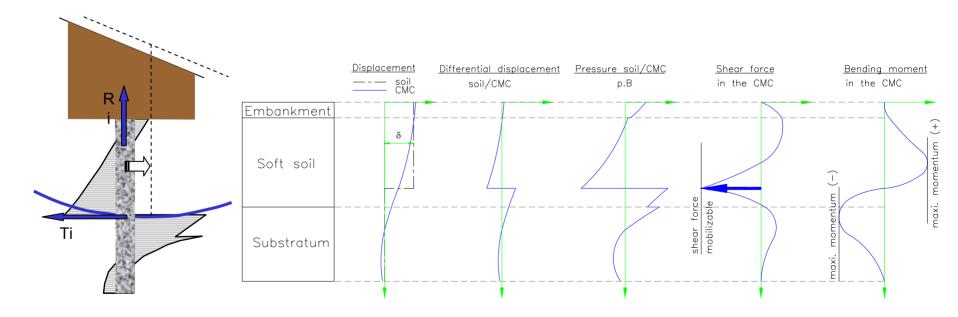
CMC Design - Global Modulus evaluation



CMC Design - Specific case of non vertical Loading

Calculation principle

- 1. Estimation of the vertical stress in the column (% of the embankment load)
- 2. Thus maximum momentum so that M / N \leq D / 8 (no traction in the mortar)
- 3. Thus maximum shear force taken by the inclusion (similar to a pile to which a displacement is applied)
- 4. Modelling of the CMC as nails working in compression + imposed shear force under Talren software (or equivalent)



CMC Design - Benefits for the structure

- Structure shall be designed as if soil was of good quality
 - Specialist contractor provides structural designer with bearing capacity, k, etc...

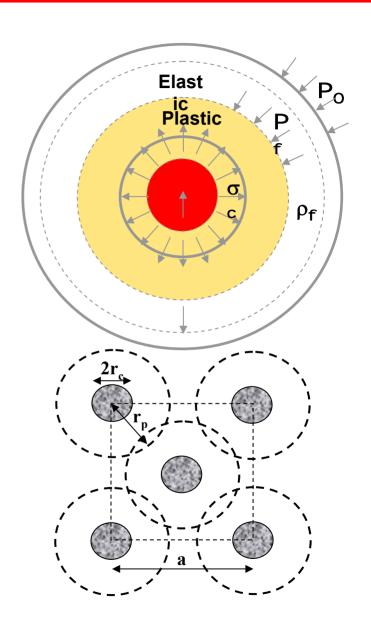
- No connection between foundation and structure
 - Structure is less complex to be designed,
 - No stiff connection, thus no increase under seismic analysis,
 - Structure very simple to be built: footings and slab on grade, no pile cap, thus benefit in terms of cost and speed of execution

New Developement - CMC Compaction - Principle

 Aim of CMC to compact granular material to decrease liquefaction potential

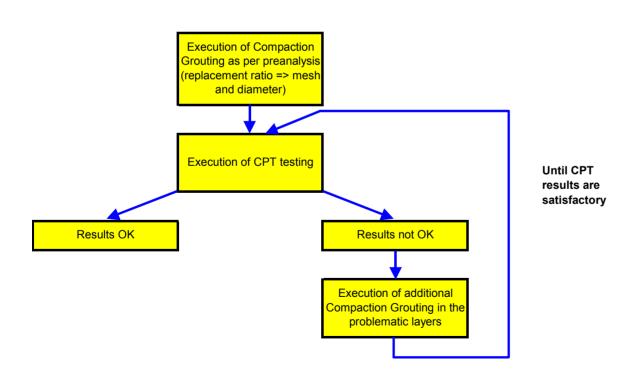
Method of densification

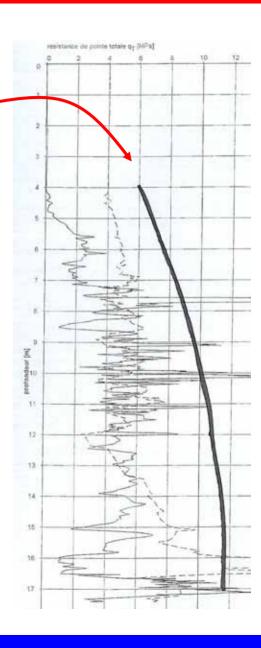
- Injected mortar used to displace and compact the soil around the injection point
- Successive injection according to a regular grid induce a global compaction of the soil
- Mesh and diameter designed so as to achieve a given replacement ratio



New Developement - CMC Compaction - Design

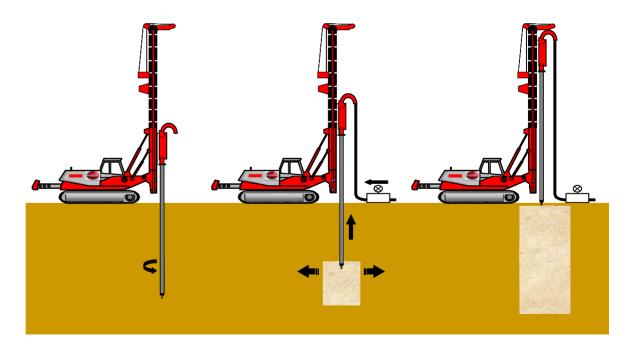
- Principle: Execution and testing procedure
 - Seismic parameters (PGA, Magnitude) \rightarrow q_c soil profile to be achieved (NCEER)
 - Estimation of replacement ratio to achieve required q_c
 - Execution of Works and testing by CPT
 - Additional grouting if necessary



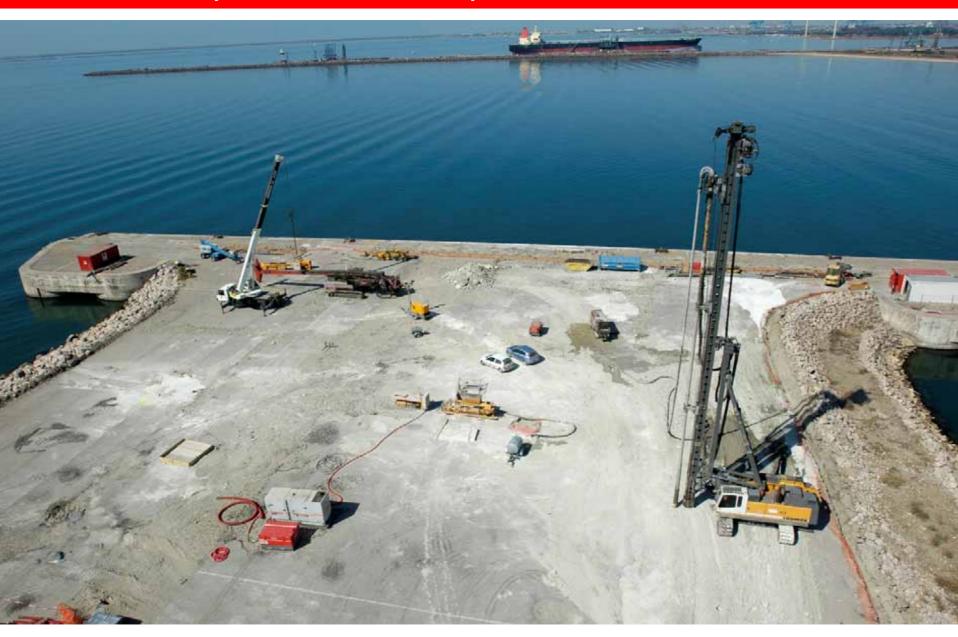


New Developement - CMC Compaction - Execution

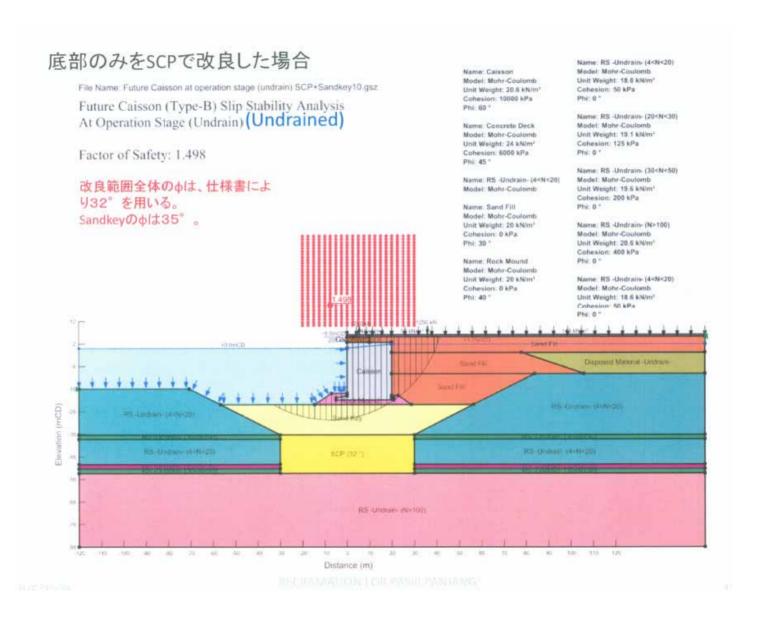
- Same type of equipment as for CMC
 - Soil displacement rig and pump,
- Key points
 - Quality of grout (grain size distribution, workability, consistency)
 - Injection speed and successive phases
- Final Testing = CPT



New Development - CMC Compaction - Fos LNG Terminal



Future Caisson Stability Analysis



As built conditions

EXHIBITED DESIGN

compacted sand fill $\varphi = 35^{\circ}$

dredged line

natural undisturbed clay $(N \ge 50)$ $C_{II} = 250 \text{ kN/m}^2$

AS-BUILT CONDITION

compacted sand fill $\phi = 35^{\circ}$

/ disturbed/softened / dred clay layer (1 /- 1,5m) C_u = 50 kN/m²

natural undisturbed clay $(N \ge 50)$ $C_{II} = 250 \text{ kN/m}^2$

dredged line

Proposed solution

EXHIBITED DESIGN

compacted sand fill $\phi = 35^{\circ}$

1.3m compacted sand fill
$$\phi = 35^{\circ} C = 0$$
 dredged line

1.5m undisturbed clay
$$\varphi = 0^{\circ} C_{u} = 250 \text{ kN/m}^{2}$$

natural undisturbed clay
$$(N \ge 50)$$

 $\phi = 0^{\circ} C_{\parallel} = 250 \text{ kN/m}^2$

PROPOSED SOLUTION

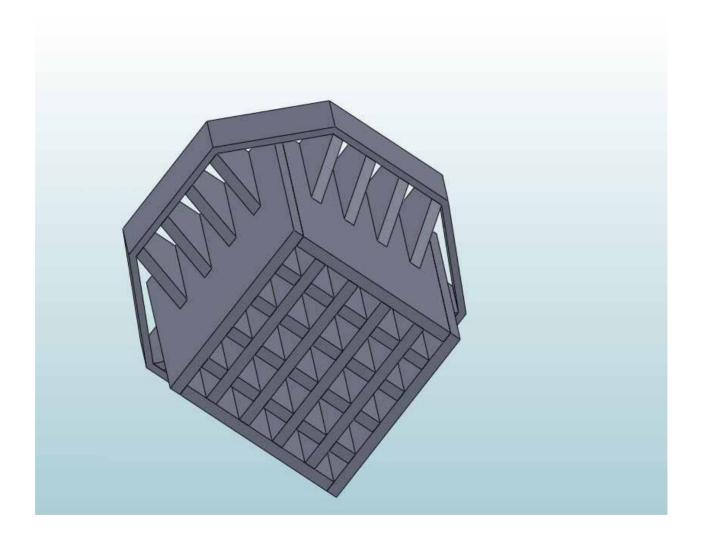
compacted sand fill
$$\phi = 35^{\circ}$$

compacted rock mat
$$(\phi = 45^{\circ} C = 0)$$
 1.3m

natural undisturbed clay
$$(N \ge 50)$$

 $\phi = 0^{\circ} C_u = 250 \text{ kN/m}^2$

Marine Pounder



View of pounder construction



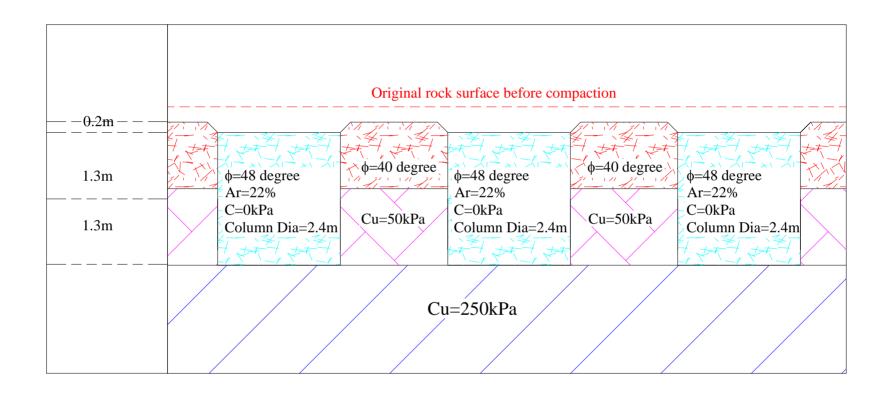
View of pounder ready to work



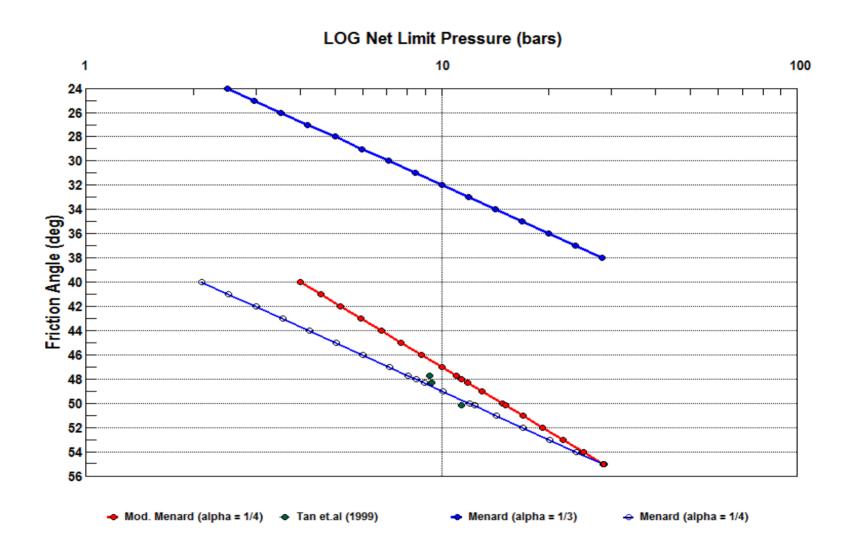
General Set up



After compaction actual results



Determination of Friction Angle by PMT



TOURING LECTURES T.C. GROUND IMPROVEMENT AUSTRALIA

Perth, Adel aïde, Mel bourne, Hpbart, Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane

