



# THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON GEOTEST SITES (ISGTS)

12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019  
Oslo, Norway

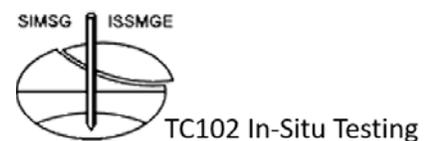
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NORWEGIAN GEOTECHNICAL INSTITUTE



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# 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on GeoTest Sites

12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019

## Welcome!

Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on GeoTest sites (ISGTS). The symposium will be held on 12-14<sup>th</sup> June 2019 in beautiful Oslo, Norway's capital city. Oslo is one of the largest capitals in the world in area, yet its population is just 670,000. The city lies at the head of Oslo Fjord in the southeastern part of Norway.

## Symposium

Benchmarking is of significant importance in geotechnical engineering, both for testing and verifying innovative soil investigation methods and foundation solutions. NGI and its partners, NTNU, SINTEF, UNIS and the Norwegian Public Roads Administration (NPRA), recently developed a unique research infrastructure called the *Norwegian GeoTest Sites (NGTS)* that consists of five benchmark sites in Norway. The sites cover a wide range of soil conditions, including soft clay, silt, sand, quick clay and frozen soil (permafrost). The NGTS sites are available to the industry, public authorities, research organizations and academia worldwide to test new soil investigation methods, calibrate geotechnical equipment, test foundation solutions, do long term observations and perform specialized testing to develop soil models.

As a part of the NGTS project, the NGI and its partners will arrange the first International GeoTest Site Symposium (ISGTS) from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2019 in Oslo, Norway. The Symposium aims to present detailed characterization of a wide range of natural soils used for benchmarking in geotechnical engineering. The symposium also seeks to promote an increase use of the benchmark sites as a research tool, as training and teaching facilities and as ground for development of new soil models, testing of new investigation methods and further advance the state-of-the-art.





## **Tentative program**

### **Day 1 – 12<sup>th</sup> June:**

- Characterization and Engineering Properties of Natural Soils used as GeoTest sites

### **Day 2 – 13<sup>th</sup> June:**

- Examples of testing for verification of foundation solutions (large-scale testing)
- Use of database for modelling and correlation purposes
- Discussion

### **Day 3 – 14<sup>th</sup> June:**

- Field trip to the benchmark testing facilities at Onsøy (soft clay) and Halden (silt)
- Lunch in the old town of Fredrikstad

## **Publication Venue**

At this time, we are in contact with both ICE Publishing and Taylor Francis to select the best publication venue for the symposium papers. We are currently working on estimating the registration fee for the symposium that will be kept as low as possible and will include the book of the proceedings. More information on this will be given in the second circular later in August.

## **Content of papers:**

**For Day 1** it is the intention to have some high quality papers following the scheme that was used for the successful Singapore workshops in 2001 and 2006. See two example papers on webpage.

All the papers to be presented on Day 1 shall contain the following information/structure

- Site geology and location, distribution, local and global importance
- Engineering geology, including source of material, depositional environment, post-depositional processes and stress history
- Composition, mineralogy and fabric
- State and index properties
- Engineering properties (strength, stiffness, hydraulic conductivity, etc.)
- Comments on quality/reliability of data, with reference to methods of sampling, laboratory testing and standard *in situ* testing methods.
- Engineering problems including a summary of typical problems and hazards and with references to case histories



## For Day 2

The structure for the papers presented on day 2 is more open. These papers should deal with one of the following: i) Examples of large-scale testing at a given benchmark site, ii) testing and verification of *in situ* tools for soil characterization at benchmark test sites, iii) Use of soil parameter database for modelling and/or correlation purposes.

## Important deadlines

Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018: Abstract (max 300 words), intended full manuscript contribution

February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019: Full paper submission

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019: Final paper submission and Early bird registration

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019: Abstract for poster presentation

## Venue:

The symposium will be held at:

Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (NGI)  
Sognsveien 72  
0855 Oslo  
Norway

## Contact information

Should you require further information, feel free to contact the Workshop secretariat at:

[ISGTS@ngi.no](mailto:ISGTS@ngi.no)

### Advisory and organizing committee

Dr. Jean-Sébastien L'Heureux (Chair - Norway)	Dr. Samson Degago (Norway)
Mr. Tom Lunne (Co-Chair - Norway)	Dr. Arne Instanes (Norway)
Dr. Ana Priscilla Paniagua Lopez (Norway)	Ass. Prof. Arnfinn Emdal (Norway)
Prof. Mike Long (Ireland)	Dr. Anatoly Sinityn (Norway)
Prof. Don DeGroot (USA)	Ms. Tone Solem (Norway)
Dr. John Powell (UK)	

We look forward to seeing you all in Oslo!

On behalf of the organizing committee  
Jean-Sebastien L'Heureux (Chair)