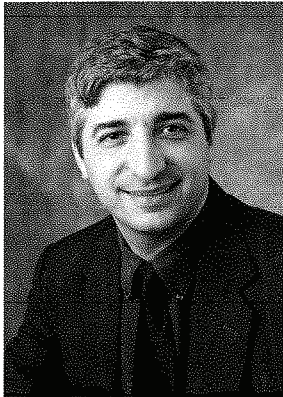


### Welcome Note by the IGS President

Dear Participant of the 10ICG,



I have the distinct pleasure of welcoming you to the 10th International Conference on Geosynthetics (10ICG). The International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) German Chapter, a special group within the German Geotechnical Society (DGGT), has worked tirelessly to organize a truly unique technical program. An important characteristic of this 10ICG is that it is co-located

with the 33rd Baugrundtagung, the biennial German Soil Mechanics Conference, a feature that will certainly result in significant synergism, particularly since the two conferences share a common exhibition.

While the themes of the conference cut across the many areas of geosynthetics and their affiliated applications, the conference organizers have identified three timely areas of emphasis, as follows:

- Geosynthetics for mitigation of natural disasters
- Geosynthetics for implementation of energy-efficient solutions
- Cost benefits of geosynthetic solutions

Three of the keynote lectures of the conference will center on these emphasis areas, which together with the Giroud Lecture and a Special Welcome Lecture will launch the technical program of each of the four days of the conference. The 10ICG will see a major display of technical sessions, which includes seven simultaneous sessions being offered throughout the conference on geosynthetics research, design, and manufacturing. The technical program also includes educational training lectures, where the most qualified experts on different aspects of geosynthetics and geosynthetic applications will deliver state-of-the-knowledge lectures. Key aspects of geosynthetics in transportation, mining applications, waste containment, hydraulic projects, energy-related systems, pavements, and disaster mitigation will be covered by the technical sessions and training lectures of this landmark conference.

Complementing an impressive technical program, multiple IGS activities will also be conducted during the conference. This includes meetings of the Young IGS Members Committee as well as meetings of the IGS Technical Committees on Filtration, Reinforcement and Barriers. The current IGS Council will finish its term during the IGS General Assembly, which is when new Council will initiate its mandate. This includes the initiation of Dr. Russell Jones as the new (ninth) President of the IGS. In addition, some of the society's most important awards will be granted during the conference to celebrate the major technical achievements and important service contributions of notable members of the IGS.

An important highlight of the conference will be its major exhibition, which will offer an excellent opportunity for geosynthetics manufacturers and service providers to present new technologies and innovations to regulators, contractors, engineers, specifiers and the geotechnical community at large. Last but not least, the 10ICG will offer unique social opportunities, including those in the exhibit hall, the receptions, the always prolific coffee breaks, and the highly anticipated gala dinner.

In conclusion, I welcome you to our tenth quadrennial Geosynthetics Conference and I especially invite you to engage in open and constructive dialogues about the new challenges facing the geosynthetics discipline.

All best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jorge Zornberg". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Jorge G. Zornberg, Ph.D., P.E.  
IGS President