



# SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGISTS

[www.saieg.co.za](http://www.saieg.co.za)

## Newsletter – November 2007

### EDITORS MESSAGE

Hi everyone and welcome to the first and only issue of the 2007 newsletter. We are honored to be the new editors for this newsletter. We would like to thank the council members for giving us this opportunity and trust that this will be a start to an exciting association.

*Salona Naidoo & Sue-Anya Pillay – Co-editors*

### NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's been a long time coming! Our first newsletter of the year I mean. We've had a long and hard time finding someone to take on the role of editor of the newsletter. So it's with huge relief that we have found not one but two editors to run our publication! A big welcome to Anya and Salona who've taken on the burden of getting recalcitrant people, like myself, to put finger to keyboard and produce some items for the newsletter. We believe that we'll get our four newsletters a year off to a flying start next year.

Please let Anya and Salona have your news, views and suggestions. Their contact details are to be found on the back page. There's much been going on behind the scenes that will impact on the membership of SAIEG. Here is a brief review of some of the issues that Council are tackling at the moment:

- **Competent persons (dolomite)**

A major effort is underway by government to define who is competent to carry out stability investigations on dolomite and to certify these persons. We have made submissions to SANS on this issue and have, in basic terms, insisted that a competent person be someone who has the requisite experience to work in this field. Evidence would be required in the form of reports written, work carried out etc. and this would be presented for review to a panel of peers. We have reduced the previous requirement that hours of work in the field of dolomite stability investigation alone be enough to define an expert. We are also insisting that SAIEG remain involved in this process. There is

### Contents

- Editors message
- Note from the President
- SAIEG AGM and Gold Awards Dinner - 2007
- SAIEG Council Activities
- Soil Profiling and Geotechnical Core logging Course
- Report back: IAEG – Annual executive and council meetings
- Report back: 50 Year AEG AGM
- Status Report: Code of Practice for Site Investigations
- Membership
- Obituary
- Upcoming Conferences
- Contact details

also a mysterious body out there called the National Dolomite Risk Management Working Committee (how do they come up with these names – NDRMWC!!) with whom we have had one meeting and will approach to become more regularly involved. We're not too sure as to where they are going and not even sure that they know – we'll stay in touch though!

- **Legal standing of engineering geologists**  
ECSA (Engineering Council of SA) has recently produced a draft law defining the areas in which engineers may work. We will circulate a summarised version of the law to all of you requesting your comments and input. There is a possibility that some areas of engineering geological work could become the exclusive preserve of engineers if certain contradictory positions are not clarified at this stage. ECSA is willing to discuss this matter openly with us and we will be negotiating with them. We also have the full support of the geotechnical engineers in this matter.
- **Constitutional review**  
Our constitution is in desperate need of a severe overhaul as we find that, amongst a variety of other problems, there is no room for allowing environmental geologists in as full members! Bit of a conundrum given that we call ourselves the SA Institute of Environmental and Engineering Geologists. We aim to sort this out early in the year and intend to present the first revision at the AGM in March. If there is a member, or associate member, working in the environmental arena who is willing to join the sub-committee looking at the constitution, we would welcome the help. And if you don't volunteer, we'll put the finger on you! Contact details are on the back page.
- **Logging and profiling standards**  
Once again SANS have pushed a nose into this area which we pride ourselves as being the experts in and we are having to respond. As part of the regulations governing investigations SANS have produced a draft document determining how profiling and logging should be done. Some of this is good, some adequate and some appalling. We will shortly respond and give SANS our version of what we consider to be a minimum standard. Recent experience on the Gautrain investigation indicates that we need to overhaul our standards and bring some of them into line with international standards. We intend to hold three workshops in the coming year dealing with soil profiling, chip logging and core logging. We hope to receive your input at these workshops resulting in action to upgrade and standardise these codes of practice.

We intend to send out a new questionnaire for our membership directory with your dues invoices. The new directory will be out round about April 2008 once we've received your responses. The faster you get back to us, the faster we can do it. And believe you me, RCA who act as our secretariat, work really efficiently and rapidly. It's the response from you that determines the speed with which we can put things like the directory into place. Please use our website, [www.saieg.co.za](http://www.saieg.co.za), to obtain contact details of the members of your council and feel free to call or e-mail us with your opinions and needs.

Have a good holiday season, drive safely and I trust that we'll see you at the AGM and Gold Awards dinner on March 6, 2008, as well as at the seminars, functions and workshops we plan in the forthcoming year.

*Tony A'Bear – President*

## SAIEG AGM AND GOLD AWARDS DINNER - 2007

Better late than never!! So much has already happened this year it might seem a little superfluous to report on the AGM and Gold Awards dinner. However, we now have new Editors of our Newsletter, many people did not manage to get to the AGM etc, so some feedback to Members will be welcomed I'm sure.

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of SAIEG was held in the late afternoon on Thursday, 8th March 2007 at the VW Conference Centre in Midrand. A total of 22 members and guests attended the proceedings, which were opened with a warm welcome from our President, Tony A'Bear. There were a good number of apologies, which somewhat reflects how busy everyone seems to be, and how difficult it was to be able to make time for even such an important Institution event.

Formal matters such as the outgoing President's report for 2006 (ably presented by Mr Gary Davis), the appointment of auditors etc were dealt with. General discussion points raised covered, amongst others:

- A proposed Chair of Environmental and Engineering geology at Witwatersrand University (Oliver Barker),
- A Fellow's Committee (Oliver Barker)
- The standard of report writing and courses that might help improve this (Trevor Pape)
- An educational Committee on the SAIEG Council (Louis van Rooy)
- The presentation of a Slope Stability course (Louis van Rooy).

The Gold Awards Dinner followed the AGM, at the same venue. We must say a very big "thank you" to Robbie Cameron and her very efficient team for once again making the Awards Dinner a very special occasion for all who attended.

The 2006 GOLD AWARD recipients are:

- **Mr Mick Mountain** - The presentation of the award was done in Cape Town at a dinner attended by both the Present and Past President of SAIEG. Mr Richard Galliers gave the introduction. The event was a great success, and Mick was deeply honoured to have received this prestigious SAIEG Award.
- **Dr Kobus Venter** - Phil Paige-Green gave the preamble to the award, which was then presented to this also very worthy recipient. Afterwards Kobus entertained us with a delightful and very humorous few words.

*Margaret Wynne – Vice-President, and Events*

## SAIEG COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

For those who don't know, the following persons are 2007 Office Bearers and / or contributors to the Council in various ways at present:

<b>Tony A'Bear</b>	<i>President</i>
<b>Margaret Wynne</b>	<i>Vice – President, and Events</i>
<b>Gary Davis</b>	<i>Past - President, and reporting on SANCOT / SAIMM</i>

<b>Greg Dyke</b>	<i>Membership</i>
<b>Kobus Venter</b>	<i>SACNASP and the Dolomite Group</i>
<b>Phil Paige-Green</b>	<i>SAICE Geotech. Division Representative</i>
<b>John Stiff</b>	<i>Awards</i>
<b>Michel Benet</b>	<i>Kwa-Zulu Natal Representative</i>
<b>Richard Galliers</b>	<i>Western Cape Representative</i>
<b>Fred Calitz</b>	<i>Limpopo Representative</i>
<b>Richard Puchner</b>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<b>Salona Naidoo</b>	<i>Newsletter Co-editor</i>
<b>Sue-Anya Pillay</b>	<i>Newsletter Co-editor</i>
<b>Neal Carter</b>	<i>Interim Certification Board Representative</i>
<b>Robbie Cameron</b>	<i>RCA Events Co-ordination</i>
<b>Di Brooks</b>	<i>RCA Events Co-ordination</i>
<b>Heather Davis</b>	<i>SAICE Geotech. Division - for additional liaison</i>

The SAIEG Council meets regularly; under the current Presidency of Tony A' Bear we have held meetings on 08 March, (before the AGM), on 09 May and again on 16 August 2007. Despite very busy schedules the Council Members are applying themselves to a number of specific issues as well as regular matters.

1. **The SAIEG Constitution** – there is an urgent need to re-consider and revise our Constitution. Extra pressure to update the Constitution comes from issues arising out of membership applications, and the need to accommodate Environmental Geologists who apply for membership, as well as the Institute's relationship with SACNASP. In addition, we need to be sure that, a clear definition of our society is encapsulated in the document.

The review Committee comprises Tony A'Bear, (Chair), John Stiff, Kobus Venter, Margaret Wynne and Dr Louis van Rooy.

2. **Financials** – the Institute is in a fairly healthy state; but if you haven't done so already, as the advert goes "**Please pay your SAIEG Subscriptions, it's the right thing to do!**"

*Margaret Wynne – Vice-President, and Events*

## SOIL PROFILING AND GEOECHANICAL CORE LOGGING COURSE

Over the past couple of years the "Soil Profiling and Core Logging Workshop and Practical Courses" have been held in Gauteng, Durban and in Cape Town.

Considerable effort is put in by Messrs G Davis and T A' Bear to run these courses, and impart their wealth of knowledge to the delegates.

The course was held on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October and Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007, at the Glen Hove Conferencing, Melrose, Johannesburg and attendance was of particular interest and benefit to:

- Young or learner geotechnical engineers and engineering geologists
- Soil laboratory or geotechnical technologists

- Foreign geotechnical practitioners who need an introduction to the widely used South African methodology
- Mine geologists working in the geotechnical field

(2 ECSA CPD points will be allocated to delegates attending both days).

*Margaret Wynne – Vice-President, and Events*

### **NOTICE OF PROPOSED COURSES**

SAIEG is interested in hosting the following courses:

- report writing
- slope stability
- soil profiling
- core logging
- chip logging
- GIS, mapping, cartography, remote sensing
- aerial photo interpretation
- API

If you are interested in one or more of the above courses, please contact SAIEG at [saieg@rca.co.za](mailto:saieg@rca.co.za)

### **REPORT BACK: IAEG – ANNUAL EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS**

As the current Vice-President for Africa of the IAEG, I attended the Executive and Council meetings held in Vail, Colorado during June 2007. These were held immediately prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> North American Landslide Conference.

The Executive meeting was held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June being a full day of discussions starting at 09h00 and finishing after 17h00. The current IAEG President Fred Baines chaired the meeting at which all of the incumbent Vice-Presidents, various past presidents and the Editor of the IAEG Bulletin were present. The business of running the IAEG effectively was essentially discussed with certain issues being highlighted for further discussion at the Council meeting held the following day.

At the Council meeting, in addition to the usual Presidents, Treasurers, Vice Presidents and Editors reports, the following issues were discussed in detail and warrant feedback to the SAIEG members.

Subscriptions: There is a nominal increase in subscriptions in the offing. The main reason for this is the increased running costs of the Association. However, those subscribing to the Bulletin will need to pay somewhat more, as the Bulletin is being expanded from the existing 500 pages or so per year to 600 next year, in order to cater for the number of papers submitted.



**The current IAEG Executive**

Front (L-R): Scott Burns (N America), Sebastien Dupray (Secretary General in training), Pierre Pothérat (Treasurer), Michel Deveughéle (secretary General – outgoing), Alan Moon (Australasia), Faquan Wu (Asia).  
Back (L-R): Phil Paige-Green (Africa), Niek Rengers (Immediate past president), Fransisco Noguiera de Jorge (South America), Fred Baines (President: Australia), Daniel Morfeldt (Europe), Carlos Delgado (Europe).



Who says you can't combine landslides and wine?



Snow in Vail 2 weeks before mid-summers day!!

A call was made for members to submit papers to the Bulletin in order to increase the citation index of the Bulletin and at the same time to share useful information with other members, one of the benefits of being a member of IAEG.

Web Site: Visit <http://www.iaeg.info/> to see what the new improved IAEG web site has to offer. There is up to date information, details on the commissions (have a look at the Aggregates Commission C17 and the information provided) and even a blog where the idea is to exchange views, request information on specific problems from others, etc.

Bulletin: One issue that was discussed was the delivery of the Bulletins for those who subscribe to them. It appears that the publisher, Springer, will not dispatch any issues until they have been paid for. In the past, SAIEG have paid their IAEG subscriptions towards the end of the year. For this reason, no-one would have received their Bulletins this year yet. Arrangements have been made to pay IAEG, and all of those who subscribe to the Bulletin, will get all the volumes for this year thereafter (hopefully shortly).

Membership: membership of IAEG has remained relatively static over the past few years, although there was some doubt cast on the figures submitted by the national groups. In order to



grow IAEG and give the members value for their money, it was agreed that the membership needs to increase. This will not only entail persuading our local colleagues to join SAIEG (and automatically IAEG) but also to increase the number of African countries in IAEG (currently only South Africa is a member).

So much for the business side – now for the social side. The Landslide Conference was organised by the AEG, now a national group of IAEG in the same way as South Africa is, and the IAEG Executive was offered the facilities of this Conference for the annual meeting. This resulted in amazing hospitality from the AEG members, who went out of their way to lay on serious social events for the IAEG Executive members almost each night. Although Vail is almost closed down at the time of the year of the meeting (between the winter-sports and summer-sports periods) they managed to arrange exceptional get together's (I am sure that Oliver can support this after his recent visit).

Although the Conference was entitled the 1<sup>st</sup> North American Landslide Conference, nearly 500 delegates from about 40 different countries attended. The technical sessions included 9 international keynote speakers, 8 invited speakers and the presentation of 196 papers during three parallel sessions each day. A couple of social events, including a Gala Dinner, an evening at a typical "cowboy" ranch and a range of field trips (needless to say, the visit to assess the effect of geology on the wines of Colorado appealed most to me) all went down very well. In addition there were more than 40 exhibitors and sponsors who went out of their ways to fill the "goodie bags" in good US tradition.

It was interesting to note from the presentations and discussions that landslide work has changed little over the past 20 years or so. There is certainly more application of remote imagery (eg, InSAR and Lidar) and more emphasis on risk assessment than the hazard assessment of the past. However, the routine investigation, analysis and remediation of slope stability problems remains little changed.

All in all, despite 2 unexpected snowy days two weeks before mid-summer day, I consider the trip a useful and interesting one, where numerous friendships were renewed and many new ones established.

*Phil Paige-Green – SAICE Geotech. Division Representative*

#### **REPORT BACK: 50 YEAR AEG AGM**

The AEG Foundation celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during AEG's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting in September. We'd like to tell you some exciting news about both people and their generosity to the Foundation. Students and practicing professional alike will soon see the outcomes of our growing programs.

The Silent Auction at AEG 2007 benefited the Martin L. Stout Scholarship Fund and helped raise the Fund balance to over \$50,000! Thank you everyone who donated and to those of you who participated in the bidding. We had over 100 items and the successful event met Director Tom Kuper's goal of \$50K by the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of AEG.

The Foundation welcomed Marliave family members to the meeting. Jacqueline Marliave Mitchell, Carol Marliave Hehmeyer, and Paxton Hehmeyer all joined the AEG Foundation Directors and previous Marliave Scholars in honoring this year's Marliave Scholar, Adam

Prochaska. In a surprise move, Carol Hehmeyer challenged the banquet attendees to raise \$1,000 for the Marliave Fund by October 31, and she will match the donations dollar for dollar. By the end of the meeting, AEG members had matched her challenge! Many members added a contribution to their AEG membership renewals. Special thanks to the AEG Board of Directors who contributed to help meet Carol Hehmeyer's challenge and who more than matched Foundation President Robert Tepel's \$1,000 gift to the Foundation.

The Foundation also honored the following scholarship recipients:

Shaina M. Forsyth – Undergraduate, Tilford  
Scott Braunsten – Masters, Tilford  
Christopher Hein – PhD, Tilford  
Sherry Marie McGee – Undergraduate, Stout  
Adam J. Campbell – Graduate, Stout

Saving the biggest news for last...the AEG Foundation received a tremendous gift from John and Nancy Peck. They donated \$50,000 to establish the AEG Foundation Research Fund. Grants from this fund will support small research projects performed by consultants, retired geologists, university professors, or graduate students. Application forms will be on the Foundation's web site by the end of 2007.

Needless to say, the Foundation has tremendous momentum, and we do not want to slow down! As you move into the tax season and end of year budgeting, we ask that you remember the Foundation and donate to your favourite fund(s). You can donate online at [www.aegfoundation.org](http://www.aegfoundation.org) or download a donation form to send with a check.

The AEG Foundation Board of Directors recognizes and appreciates the support of AEG members. You made the AEG Foundation what it is today – a vibrant, thriving organization that benefits students and professionals in environmental and engineering geologists. THANK YOU!

The Foundation's growth plan calls for doubling our scholarship funding and increasing the number of awards and their value. We also want to Increase our support of the Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer, fund more Roy J. Shlemon Specialty Conferences, and support publications and an Internet Library through the Legget Fund. Your gifts make it happen, so thanks again for your generosity in supporting the AEG Foundation.

*Oliver Barker*

## STATUS REPORT : CODE OF PRACTICE FOR SITE INVESTIGATIONS

SAIEG is an active participant in the drafting of a Code of Practice on Site Investigation which is being driven by the Geotechnical Division of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering (SAICE). SAIEG members serving on the committee compiling this document include John Stiff, Trevor Pape and Gary Davis. This involvement by SAIEG in the process is considered vital, because SAIEG members are, by definition, immersed in site investigation and any development in the realm of site investigation should be of direct interest to our membership. A first draft was compiled at a workshop held in late July. Following further comments and editing a final draft will be presented for industry review later in the year.



The following brief introduction (from a draft of the document – with acknowledgement) is perhaps the best way to describe the purpose of this Code of Practice.

The Site Investigation Code of Practice is being drafted as a reference for "acceptable engineering practice" to assist the construction industry (client, project manager, consultant, contractor) in the planning, design and execution of geotechnical site investigations in South Africa.

The code will be published as a guide to good practice and is not intended to be prescriptive in its content and recommendations. However, the included recommendations are based on generally accepted national and international standards and principals, and any deviation from these will have to be defended by sound engineering judgement or site specific experience.

The code is being introduced to the South African civil engineering industry as a matter of urgency to address some of the shortcomings that have lead to inappropriate investigations being carried out. In its current form the code will be published by the Geotechnical Division of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering. Once the document has been commented on and accepted by industry, the code will be updated and submitted for publication as a national standard by the South African National Standards organisation.

Site investigation is a complex process and is vital to any construction project, since inadequate investigation can lead to over-conservatism in design and/or large construction cost overruns. There are countless examples in industry of investigations that are insufficient or inappropriate for the type and size of development and for the prevailing soil conditions and proposed foundation solutions. Often these investigations have been prescribed by budget and/or time constraints (fast tracking) or by ignorance on the part of the client and project manager.

The objective of this code will be to recommend a concise and systematic way of carrying out investigations using methods and techniques that are relevant, reliable and cost effective. It represents the Minimum Requirements for good practice. In addition to giving guidance to geotechnical practitioners, this guideline should also be used by project managers and clients in the preparation and adjudication of site investigation proposals and tenders.

*Gary Davis – Past president, and reporting on SANCOT and SAIMM*

## MEMBERSHIP

Having reviewed the number of membership applications received to date this year, it is apparent that there has been a significant reduction in the number of new members this year compared to last year, with only four new members being admitted since March this year.

On behalf of the SAIEG Council, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following new members to the Institute and look forward to a long and mutually beneficial association:

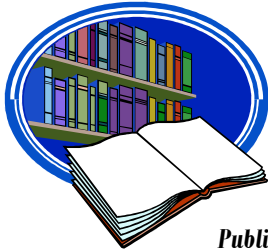
Robert Leyland	-	Associate Member
Elaine van der Linde	-	Associate Member
Sue-Anyia Pillay	-	Associate Member
Salona Naidoo	-	Associate Member

With the year rapidly coming to an end, I look forward to receiving a number of applications from

new graduates early in the New Year.

Regards

*Greg Dyke – Membership Representative*



*Publications*

### **Recommended Read**

**A BOOK ON TONY BRINK'S LIFE** - The publication "Spine of the Dragon" compiled and edited by J Haarhoff and covers the life of the late Tony Brink. It is most readily ordered through Jones and Wagener.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>	<b>Price (including postage)</b>
The Natural Road Construction Materials of Southern Africa	Weinert, H.H	1980	R30,00
Cities of South Africa	AEG Symposium	1981	R50,00
Guidelines for Urban Engineering Geological Investigations	SAIEG/SAICE	1997	R75,00
A Practical Guide to Soil Movement	SAIEG/SAICE	1999	R75,00
Proceedings 9 <sup>th</sup> IAEG Congress (with extended abstracts) – Engineering Geology for Developed Countries, Durban, 2002 (Compact Disc format)	Editors: Van Rooy, J.L. and Jermy, C.A	2002	R120,00
SAIEG ties			R50,00
Dolomite Guidelines			R50,00 (CGS – contact Juanita)
'97 Conference Proceedings			R100,00

### **OBITUARY**

It is with regret that we noted the passing early this year of Jan Cronje, one of first members. Jan left an indelible mark on those who came into contact with him and I'm hoping that we'll be able to publish a short sketch of his life in the next newsletter. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to his wife and family. Many will also have come into contact with Margaruite Barker (Oliver Barker's wife) as she kept Oliver company in his duties as an engineering geologist, council member, president and colleague. She sadly passed away early this year as well and our sympathies are also extended to Oliver and his family.

*Tony A'Bear – President*

***Upcoming event .....***

The next AGM and Awards Dinner is on **8<sup>th</sup> March 2008**



## Local

### **Problem soils conference - 2007**

In 1985, a conference was held on the “Problem Soils of South Africa”. This involved the publication of a number of invited “Keynote” papers on each of the major problem soils occurring in South Africa (ie, Expansive soils, Collapsible soils, Soft clays, Dispersive soils and Dolomites) by recognised South African experts in the SAICE Journal.

This was followed a couple of months later by a conference at which these papers were presented by their authors and additional discussion papers and case histories were presented. To-day, the keynote papers are still seen as the state-of-the-art information and referred to by most practitioners. The SAICE Geotechnical Division Committee recognised that this information is now getting dated, a lot of young practitioners do not know about the papers and they needed updating. Selected people were approached to prepare the necessary documents and a call for papers was made. These are due in at the end of October after which they will be fully peer reviewed following the normal SAICE process and published in the SAICE Journal (or a special edition of the journal) in the second half of next year. This will be followed (probably in November, 2008) by a one and a half or two day conference for discussion and feedback on the document.

So remember, if you all want to stay abreast of the Problem Soil field, keep next November open for this. It should be a very worthwhile get-together. I will keep you informed about the progress.

[Details to follow](#)

*Phil Paige-Green – SAICE Geotech. Division Representative*

## International

### **33<sup>rd</sup> International Geological Congress (IGC)**

This conference will be held from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> August 2008 in Oslo, Norway. The IGC is a 4 yearly conference attracting between 8 000 and 14 000 geologists of all disciplines for an extended intellectual get-together. Typically there will be about 40 parallel sessions per day covering every geological discipline that you can think of. Of particular interest to us are the Engineering Geology and Geotechnics, Geohazards, Mineral Resources (construction materials, prospecting, etc), Hydrogeology, Remote Sensing, Geomorphology, Soil Science and Environmental sessions. Check the programme out on

<http://www.33igc.org/coco/Layoutpage.aspx?containerid=5005&pageid=5002>

and think of submitting the results of some of your recent projects. This will be an outing of note if you can attend. I would be particularly interested to have some South African construction materials related papers in the session that I am convening. Give me a call if you want any more information.

*Phil Paige-Green – SAICE Geotech. Division Representative  
(012 841 2924)*

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT	CONTACT
November 26-30, 2007	14 <sup>th</sup> African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering ISSMGE	Yaoundé, Cameroon	ISSMGE
November 28-30, 2007	2 <sup>nd</sup> GT07 conference on Soil and Rock Engineering, Engineering Geology and Environmental Geotechnics	Changsha, China	<a href="http://www.cipremier.org">www.cipremier.org</a>
November 2007	International Conference on Ground Anchorages and Anchored Structures in Service	London, UK	Vidya Gunapala <a href="mailto:vidya.gunapala@ice.org.uk">vidya.gunapala@ice.org.uk</a>
December 6-7, 2007	International Symposium on Geotechnical Engineering, Ground Improvement and Geosynthetics for Human Security and Environmental Preservation	Bangkok, Thailand	Prof. Dennes T. Bergada <a href="mailto:gedmar08@hdu.edu">gedmar08@hdu.edu</a>
December 6-9, 2007	International Conference on Forensic Engineering: Diagnosis of Failures and Solving Problems (ICACI), ASCE	Mumbai, India	Mr. R.Naiker Principle Coordinator <a href="mailto:icaci@vsnl.net">icaci@vsnl.net</a> <a href="http://www.icaci.com">www.icaci.com</a>
December 10-14, 2007	13 <sup>th</sup> Asian Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Indian Geotechnical Society	Kolkata, India	Dr. N. Som <a href="mailto:nitin_som@vsnl.com">nitin_som@vsnl.com</a>
March 9-12, 2008	GEOCONGRESS 2008: The challenge of sustainability in the Geoenvironment	New Orleans, Louisiana, USA	<a href="mailto:conferences@asce.org">conferences@asce.org</a> <a href="http://www.geoinstitute.org/events/geocongress.cfm">www.geoinstitute.org/events/geocongress.cfm</a>
March 28-30, 2008	International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering, Geotech. Eng. Res. Team	Tunis, TunisiaA	
May 20-24, 2008	GEOHAZARDS IV	Quebec City, Quebec, Canada	<a href="mailto:info@geohazardsquebec.com">info@geohazardsquebec.com</a>
June 30 – July 4, 2008	10 <sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Landslides and Engineered Slopes (ISL), 12 <sup>th</sup> IACMAG Conference	Xi'an, China	<a href="http://www.landslide.iwhr.com">www.landslide.iwhr.com</a> <a href="http://www.cgs.ca/cgsevents/">www.cgs.ca/cgsevents/</a>

**Interesting Pics** - “Oliver Barker taking “Into Thin Air” literally!”



*To wrap up ...*

Best wishes over the festive season. Please feel free to email us with any aspects that you would like to see as well as submit to the newsletter. Until next time.....

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