

18 – 19 November 2014, Bloomsbury Hotel, London, WC1B

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**GROUND  
ENGINEERING**

# SLOPE ENGINEERING AND GEOTECHNICAL ASSET MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 2014

*Creating a resilient asset management  
strategy to mitigate future risks*

## Top 5 reasons to attend

- **Meet** face to face with asset owners and generate new business leads through extensive networking
- **Gain** insight into failures from the last 12 months and explore the challenge of finding long-term solutions
- **Share** best practice from the design and delivery of stabilisation projects from across the UK
- **Pinpoint** new strategies for modelling the behaviours of slopes and geotechnical assets, and how this can impact your maintenance regimes
- **Assess** the impact that third party assets are having on infrastructure networks and what solutions there are for engineers and asset owners

## Our expert speakers include:



**Graham Edmond,**  
head of network maintenance,  
**Transport Scotland**



**Jim Jenkins,**  
Abberton programme manager,  
**Northumbrian Water**



**Juliet Mian,**  
associate director,  
**Arup**



**Kaine Lynch,**  
senior professional technical officer,  
**Department for Regional  
Development, Northern Ireland**



**Raul Fuentes,**  
lecturer, school of civil engineering,  
**University of Leeds**

To register, please contact **Ryan Saunders**

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# SLOPE ENGINEERING AND GEOTECHNICAL ASSET MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE 2014

Ground Engineering's **Slope Engineering and Geotechnical Asset Management** conference is the only geotechnical event which will bring together the industry and asset owners, to pinpoint the techniques, technologies and strategies needed to better mitigate geotechnical risk in infrastructure.

We have designed the 2014 event to give you more detailed knowledge into how improved modelling and asset knowledge can impact maintenance and management of complex assets. There will also be insight from award winning individuals and projects that are demonstrating excellence and innovation in their approach to geotechnical asset management.

From ever more extreme weather, to budget cuts and challenging ground conditions, the event will cover a range of critical topics for anyone involved in managing assets and will provide best practice from those maintaining networks and managing major infrastructure projects for Network Rail, Highways Agency and Local Authorities.

## WORKSHOP 18 November 2014

The workshop will bring together stakeholders from across the industry with iSMART to look at how future resilience and better management can reduce the risk of landslips and failures on our infrastructure network. This interactive forum will give you a chance to engage with academics and leading industry figures to explore new solutions to the assessment and long-term management of your assets.

- 13.30 **Registration and refreshments**
- 14.00 **Opening welcome from facilitator**  
**Tom Dijkstra**, engineering geologist/geomorphologist, **British Geological Survey**
- 14.05 **Revealing the aims and objectives of iSMART and why it's important for the industry to engage with the project**  
Analysing the pressures and risks facing the UK's infrastructure network and the need for new thinking in order to create more resilient assets.  
**Stephanie Glendinning**, professor of civil engineering, **Newcastle University**
- 14.25 **The climatic challenges facing geotechnical asset management**  
Examining the impact that more extreme weather is having on assets, the impact that wet and dry weather has on their stability and the need for better weather modelling, if future failures are to be predicted and combated effectively.  
**Neil Dixon**, professor of geotechnical engineering, **Loughborough University**
- 14.45 **Question and answer session**
- 14.55 **BREAKOUT DISCUSSION**  
Focusing on the short-term challenges, the session will look at experiences of managing risky assets and the factors and information which could improve stakeholder management.
- 15.30 **Networking refreshment break**
- 16.00 **CASE STUDY**  
Showcasing an innovative approach to the management of an at risk slope and highlighting the techniques used to model and predict asset performance.
- 16.20 **Question and answer session**
- 16.25 **BREAKOUT DISCUSSION**  
Creating a long-term vision for how asset owners, engineers and contractors can improve the life-span and flexibility of assets through improved knowledge and understanding of asset behaviour.
- 17.00 **Summary from facilitator and end of workshop**

## Who will you meet?

- Asset owners
- Local authorities
- Developers
- Consultants
- Geotechnical engineers
- Contractors
- Academics
- Technology providers
- Suppliers
- Manufacturers

## "Good quality speakers and relevant talks"

**Neil Esslemont**, senior earth structures engineer, **Transport for London**

## MAIN CONFERENCE 19 November 2014

- 08.30 **Registration and refreshments**
  - 09.05 **Welcome from chair**  
**Roger Moore**, technology leader - tunnels and earth engineering, **CH2M Hill** and professor of engineering geomorphology, **University of Sussex**
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- STRATEGIC OUTLOOK**
- 09.10 **OPENING ADDRESS**  
**Developing the Geotechnical Asset Owners Forum's vision for infrastructure management**
    - Improving knowledge of assets through the uses of modelling, instrumentation and geosurveying, and how this affects asset registers and planned works
    - Managing the impact of the recent extreme weather on engineered assets and highlighting the cost of reactive maintenance
    - Explaining the role that engineers and contractors can play in bringing forward innovative solutions to instability and knowledge collection**Tony Wilcock**, professional head (geotechnical), **Network Rail**
  - 09.40 **Assessing how we manage infrastructure assets and why a more resilient long-term strategy is required**
    - Evaluating whether a long-term approach will be possible while short term reactive work still dominates spending and work load
    - Incorporating forecasting of climatic, economic and social factors to improve understanding of future asset usage
    - Creating a more resilient infrastructure network by engineering in flexibility and durability into asset maintenance**Janvi Shah**, project engineer, **Amey** and winner of **GE's Young Geotechnical Engineer of the Year 2014**
  - 10.10 **Question and answer panel**  
Discussing the long-term outlook for geotechnical asset management and how the industry needs to develop over the next 5 years.



## PROJECT PLANNING

- 10.20 **CASE STUDY**  
**Planning and developing solutions to frequent failures in the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site**
- Focusing the £17.6m work on the Jackfield area in order to reduce risk and create a more stable asset for a world heritage site
  - Monitoring ground movement and ground water levels to ensure a safe working environment on site and to act as an early warning of change in currently stable areas of the gorge
  - Incorporating a new highway, river bank protection and treatment of old mine works, into the project to create a more stable and accessible landscape and to maintain access to this part of the world heritage site
- Neal Rushton**, group manager, structures & geotechnics, **Telford & Wrekin Council**

10.50 **Question and answer session**

10.55 **Networking refreshments break**

- 11.25 **CASE STUDY**  
**Designing and delivering the repairs for the A431 Kelston Road, near Bath**
- Installing temporary works to allow piling rigs to construct the retaining wall
  - Improving the drainage of the site to avoid future issues and recycling material from the site for other projects
  - Assessing the challenge for the public during the closure and the impact of the temporary toll road
- Kelvin Packer**, group manager- highways & traffic, **Bath & North East Somerset Councils**

11.55 **Question and answer session**

- 12.00 **PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**What impact are third party assets having on infrastructure and what barriers are there to finding solutions?**
- Assessing the legal implications of neighbouring slopes impacting infrastructure and who pays for maintenance
  - Modelling the areas at risk to create hard and soft engineering solutions
  - Ensuring that collaboration plays a part in delivering solutions which work for all stakeholders
  - Discussing whether the issue will increase as investment in infrastructure rises, while third party assets are left unmaintained
- Graham Edmond**, head of network maintenance, **Transport Scotland**  
**Morag Mackay**, incident policy manager, **Transport Scotland**  
**Clive Edmonds**, partner, **Peter Brett Associates**

- 12.35 **Rock slope netting design, installation and maintenance – UK best practice guidance. Industry based view**  
**Eberhard Groener**, regional manager, **Geobrugg**  
**David Cheer**, rockfall mitigation specialist, **Maccaferri**

13.00 **Networking lunch**

## PROJECT DELIVERY

- 14.00 **CASE STUDY**  
**Delivering geotechnical asset repairs and the slope stabilisation for Dawlish**
- Revealing the impact of the weather and sea on the slope and neighbouring assets, and why the failure happened when it did
  - Assessing different solutions used to induce the slope to failure, including blasting and helicopter drops, and why water cannons were the best solution
  - Pinpointing the long-term impact for the slope of the techniques used and what future stabilisation may be required to ensure the longevity of the asset
- Glyn Cryer**, agent, **BAM Nuttall**  
**Andy Crowley**, contracts manager, **AMCO Rail**  
**Rob Allen**, associate director, **Tony Gee and Partners**

- 14.30 **CASE STUDY**  
**Abberton dam – delivering the complex heightening of an existing asset**

- Assessing the current dam, its features and the challenges of heightening
  - Utilising extensive monitoring to assess the asset's performance and how the project will affect it
  - Outlining how the raised dam was constructed and the temporary structures needed to support the project
- Jim Jenkins**, Abberton programme manager, **Northumbrian Water**

15.00 **Question and answer panel**

Delivering solutions for slope instability – what short options are there for asset owners and stakeholders and are some projects over engineered?

- 15.15 **PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**Promoting the use of modelling to improve understanding and management of assets**
- Increasing knowledge of asset behaviour to create an accurate picture of movements and seasonal change
  - Analysing the technology being used including 3D modelling and satellite monitoring
  - Discussing when BIM will become a force for asset managers and assessing the potential benefits to project maintenance and long-term management
- Christina Jackson**, technical director - geotechnical, **Amey**  
**Mark Pennington**, chief engineer, **Balfour Beatty Ground Engineering** and chair of the **FPS Technical Committee**  
**Kaine Lynch**, senior professional technical officer, **Department for Regional Development, Northern Ireland**

15.45 **Networking refreshments break**

## FUTURE ASSET MANAGEMENT

- 16.10 **Revealing low cost solutions for inspecting geotechnical assets**
- Capturing geometrical information of slopes in an accurate and timely way
  - Utilising a point cloud that can be converted into a 3D model for BIM and other applications
  - Changing the way inspections are carried out to improve management and knowledge of assets
- Raul Fuentes**, lecturer, school of civil engineering, **University of Leeds**

16.30 **Question and answer session**

- 16.35 **Evaluating step changes in Network Rail asset management of a diverse geotechnical portfolio**
- Undertaking an extensive review of current geotechnical asset management processes across the network
  - Refining existing methods to predict areas of risk
  - Developing new tools to understand the consequences of failures and create a more resilient network
- Simon Abbott**, principal engineer (track & civils), **Network Rail**  
**Juliet Mian**, associate director, **Arup**  
**Chris Power**, principal engineering geologist, **Mott MacDonald**

17.05 **Question and answer panel**

What lessons can be learned from the failures and extreme weather from 2013-14 and can these be applied to the management of geotechnical assets in the future?

17.20 **Closing remarks from chair and end of conference**

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**ANDREW HARRIS**  
principal engineer,  
Tony Gee & Partners

*“Enjoyed the presentations - the case studies were very interesting”*

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To register, please contact

**Ryan Saunders**

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**Roland Maybank** on **020 3033 2911**

or email [Roland.Maybank@EMAP.com](mailto:Roland.Maybank@EMAP.com)

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