

CURRICULUM VITAE – DR ANDREW RIDLEY



Name: Andrew Ridley
Position: Managing Director
Date of Birth: 21 February 1963
Nationality: British
Qualifications: BSc (Hons) Civil Engineering (1984)
MSc DIC Soil Mechanics (1988)
PhD – The measurement of soil moisture suction (1993)

EXPERIENCE SUMMARY

Andrew is the Managing Director of Geotechnical Observations Ltd and was a founding Director of the company. In his current role he has overseen the continued development and growth of the company and is responsible for all aspects of managing the company.

After graduating from Nottingham University in 1984 with an Honours degree in civil engineering Andrew joined Fugro Limited as a junior geotechnical engineer. He was involved in offshore and land based site investigations using state of the art technology for sampling and in situ testing. Extensive experience was gained in the interpretation of laboratory and in situ tests and the engineering behaviour of offshore piles. In January 1986 he joined W.S. Atkins and Partners. As a member of their Oil and Gas Division he worked as a Geotechnical Engineer with responsibilities for the foundation design of a variety of offshore oil production facilities. He was also involved in the conceptual design of a new generation of lightweight liftable steel jacket structures and a monopod platform. Andrew was Assistant Resident Engineer during the installation of three catalytic cracker vessels (450 - 700 Tons) for upgrading the Shell UK Stanlow oil refinery in 1987.

In 1988 Andrew completed a Masters Degree in Soil Mechanics at Imperial College and was subsequently invited to do research with Professor John Burland. His first research project was to investigate the volume changes in clay soils subjected to isothermal and temperature induced drying. The results of this study were used to advise about possible design features which might reduce the amount of shrinkage beneath hot buildings. In 1993 he was awarded a doctorate and the prestigious Unwin Prize (best PhD in Engineering) for his work on the measurement of soil suction.

Following a short period of post doctoral research, Andrew joined the permanent staff of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Imperial College in January 1996 as a Principal Research Fellow. In this role he directed the college's research activities in the area of partly saturated soils. He was invited to deliver the state-of-the-art address on suction measurement to the 1st International Conference on Unsaturated Soils in Paris in 1995. He has published widely on this subject, convened two short courses at Imperial College and has spoken at numerous Learned Society Meetings and Conferences.

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In April 2000 Andrew was appointed a part-time lecturer in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and at the same time established Geotechnical Observations Limited. He left Imperial College in March 2004 to concentrate on the development of the Company, but remains in contact with this and other Universities on academic matters.

Andrew has also sat on the Steering Committees for various industry and research projects including the *CIRIA 550 Infrastructure Embankments – Condition Appraisal and Remedial Treatment*. He is currently a member of the sub-committee to the Advisory Panel of Géotechnique for the 2011 Symposium in Print on *Partial Saturation in Compacted Soils*.

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Andrew has held an LUL Entry Permit and Track Accustomed Certification for over 15 years. He has undertaken the installation and monitoring of geotechnical instrumentation on most of the subsurface areas of the LUL network. During the 1990s Andrew was involved in the London Underground Knowledge and Planning Research Project that led to the development of the LUL Engineering Standards for Site Investigation and the Assessment of Earth Structures.

Andrew has also held a PTS card for over 10 years and was, until recently, qualified as an IWA. He has undertaken the installation and monitoring of geotechnical instrumentation at various major Network Rail sites including Coal Pit Heath (Bristol), Petts Wood (Kent), Magnolia Road (Southend) and Pound Green (Reading). He also acted in an advisory capacity on these jobs in respect of planning the works and the interpretation of the results.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

London Underground

LUCAS, Track Accustomed Person, Depot Track Accustomed Person

Network Rail

Personal Track Safety

Others

Use of cable avoidance tools

CSCS Card Operative

Fire Marshall

Motorway Pass

Graduate Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers