International Conference on Advances and Innovations in Soft Soil Engineering

24 – 26 August 2026

Delft, the Netherlands

Preface

This collection gathers the extended abstracts presented at the *International Conference on Advances and Innovation in Soft Soil Engineering*, held in Delft, the Netherlands, in August 2026. The contributions address the full range of key topics and methodologies in soft soil engineering: material behaviour, as observed in the laboratory and in the field; modelling approaches from traditional methods to machine learning techniques; and soil improvement and the transfer of knowledge into practice. Another ninety contributions were submitted as full papers and are published on the E3S Web of Conferences.

The event was promoted by Technical Committee TC214 on Soft Soils of the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, and follows the International Conference held in Vancouver in 2006. Two decades after that meeting, there was a strong need to bring together researchers and practitioners to share knowledge, discuss advances and innovations, and tackle the open challenges in soft soil engineering. The need for *soft soil engineering* arises from the difficulties these materials pose in terms of representative sampling, reliable testing and comprehensive, yet practical, modelling. The contributions show how, owing to their fabric and organic components, these soils are particularly sensitive to multiphysics processes, whose effects are amplified by growing climate pressure. To address both long-standing and emerging issues, considerable attention is given to ground improvement techniques, with an eye on low-carbon solutions.

All published contributions were selected through a rigorous peer review process, and we are deeply indebted to the reviewers for their role in ensuring the quality of the collection. We warmly thank our Editorial Board colleagues and the Authors for their vital contribution to the success of this scientific initiative, and we acknowledge the support given to the conference by the ISSMGE and by KIVI, the Royal Netherlands Society of Engineers.

Cristina Jommi
Stefano Muraro

Delft, 30 July 2026

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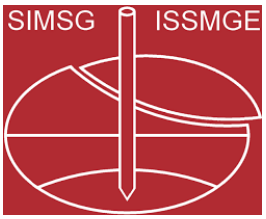
The ISSMGE Technical Committee TC214 on "Foundation Engineering for Difficult Soft Soil Conditions" plays a central role in advancing knowledge and practice in soft soil engineering. TC214 brings together practitioners and academics from around the world to foster collaboration and exchange of experience, knowledge, and new ideas. Its activities span the full spectrum of soft soil challenges, from the characterisation of difficult soils such as sensitive clays, peats, and organic deposits to the prediction of soil behaviour and the development of ground improvement solutions. Through workshops, symposia, and international conferences, TC214 continues to bridge research and engineering practice in one of the most demanding fields in geotechnical engineering.

KIVI Koninklijk Instituut Van Ingenieurs

The Royal Netherlands Society of Engineers (KIVI) is the leading professional association for engineers in the Netherlands, representing a community of over 13,000 members since its founding in 1847. Through its diverse network of more than 50 specialised sections, KIVI supports engineers at every stage of their careers, offering cutting-edge professional development tools, internationally recognised qualifications, and over 400 events annually - from lectures to technical workshops.



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