

NZ GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY INC.

Auckland Branch Meeting

Tuesday 25th May 2010

Auckland University, Room 3.401



Light Refreshments, Compliments of Permathene from 5:30pm near Room 3.401, School of Engineering. The lecture will commence at 6:00pm

AN INTERLUDE INTO SOME CHALLENGES FACED BY COLLEAGUES ABROAD

Evan Giles, Parsons Brinckerhoff

We are all familiar with the challenges the generally youthful New Zealand landscape provides; visitors with a geotechnical bent salivate over our ubiquitous hummocky hill slopes – surely this is geotechnical paradise! What about challenges that others face?

Evan Giles will share some examples from the more unusual geological environments he has known, in particular addressing transportation routes across karst country. The development of sinkholes in karst country and risk mitigation measures adopted in 2 different stratigraphic environments will be outlined. He will also show the effects of severe shrink-swell; an issue our generally wet climate protects us from, but were the drought to continue? If time permits, he will outline a novel method adopted to ameliorate damage from severe settlement in light structures.

Evan is Tunnels and Geotechnical Executive at Parsons Brinckerhoff (NZ) Limited. He is known for his passion for practical geotechnics and for seeking fundamental solutions to engineering issues.



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