

Geoconsult Press Release 02-2018

Geoconsult Asia Singapore celebrates 20 Years of Operation

Austrian consulting engineers high in demand in South-east Asia and beyond

Singapore (SG)/Wals by Salzburg (AT), 14th September 2018. **All over the world Austrian engineers are recognized experts in civil engineering. One of the most accredited consultant engineering firm is the Geoconsult Group with offices on nearly every continent. Geoconsult Asia Singapore now celebrated with more than 200 guests and employees 20 years of successful and reliable operation not only in Singapore, but in the whole Asia-Pacific region. On occasion of this anniversary, Geoconsult organized a technical symposium.**

“We are a local – Singaporean – company with Austrian roots and very proud to be involved in the most important infrastructure and underground projects here in Singapore and abroad.” With these words, Managing Director Dr. Oskar Sigl opened the symposium that featured presentations about some exceptional topics of engineering. “When we started with three engineers in 1996 we were newcomers in Singapore and today we employ about 70 staff. Originally, the intention was that I stay 10 months in Singapore and now I am still here”, Dr. Sigl remembers about the beginnings of Geoconsult Asia Singapore. After initially supporting contractors as sub-consultant, the company achieved registration with the Singapore Professional Engineers Board in 1998 and was forthwith able to participate directly in tenders and to

become appointed as main or lead consultant. “Geoconsult Asia Singapore gradually started to employ local people and to grow more and more. We are involved in any number of underground projects in Singapore like MRT tunnelling, tunnel sewerage systems, cable tunnels, and much more. But we are not only working in Singapore, we are also very active in places like Hong Kong, Australia, Malaysia and also in the United Arab Emirates”, describes General Manager Lee Kah Chan, who joined the company in 2005.

Some of the most notable projects are Phase 1 of the Deep Tunnel Sewerage System (DTSS), the Transmission Cable Tunnel Project, Stage 2 of the Downtown Line (especially with the design of the stations), and the North-South Corridor tunnels in Singapore, as well as Line 2 of the Klang Valley Mass Rapid Transit (KVMRT) in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), and an underground cavern project in the Middle East.

Since almost all Geoconsult projects in Singapore are related to infrastructure and public transport systems, the work is affecting positively the lives of many Singaporeans. “We also take pride in training and developing some of the best engineers in Singapore,” Dr. Sigl adds. Experience, expertise and confidence needs to grow with time, but the prestigious New Civil Engineer (NCE) “Young Tunneller of the Year” award for Geoconsult engineer Senthilnath G T in 2016 is just one example of the company's excellent promotion of young talent. Following this spirit, it is no surprise that Geoconsult Asia Singapore celebrated its 20th anniversary by inviting clients and staff to join a technical symposium about some very interesting topics that are less well known to engineers in Singapore.

Future Technologies in Engineering

Dr. Markus Keuschnig, Managing Director of Georesearch, invited the guests to join him on a futuristic trip into the engineering world of tomorrow. With his presentation “Digitalisation and Construction 4.0: The Future is Now” he gave a fascinating insight into cutting edge technologies and methodologies driving the construction industry, explained technologies supporting the engineering and construction value chain and showed the application of Interferometric Aperture Radar (InSAR) as well as Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) or better known as “drones”.

Relevance of Monitoring for Large Underground Projects in Urban Environment

Steven Garlinge, Managing Director of Geodata Koda Australia, presented the work areas of the company through several project examples and highlighted the special challenges that come with different projects. He described the mainly technical monitoring challenges of today and tomorrow and gave a special view on the complexity of monitoring in urban, densely populated environments.

Koralmbahn Tunnel in Austria

Gernot Jedlitschka, Managing Director at Geoconsult ZT in Wals by Salzburg (Austria) gave an overview of the design and supervision of the long high-speed rail Koralmbahn Tunnel through the Alps considering complex geological conditions and high overburden. The Koralmbahn Tunnel is part of the southern railway in Austria connecting Graz with Klagenfurt. Altogether 100 bridges and 45 km of tunnels will be built and the Koralmbahn Tunnel alone will have a length of 32.9 km. Start of operation of the 130 km double track railway line with a travel speed of 250 km/h is planned for 2025. Jedlitschka gave very

interesting insights into this challenging engineering project and highlighted some of the special issues for Geoconsult.

Design of Subway Tunnels in Vienna's Urban Environment

Dr. Johannes Wageneder, Managing Director of Geoconsult Wien ZT in Vienna (Austria), gave an interesting insight into the problems of subway construction in heritage zones on the example of the Austrian capital city Vienna. He described how the construction impact is assessed, explained the local practices in Vienna with respect to land rights when mining happens directly below heritage buildings, and illustrated the authority approvals in Vienna.

The Geoconsult Group

Geoconsult are private independent engineering consultants offering engineering services to public sector clients and private companies worldwide.

Services comprise structural and civil engineering, geotechnics, soil and rock mechanics, geology, hydrogeology, geo- and information sciences, surveying, mining and electrical engineering. All development stages of engineering projects starting from initial studies and concepts for investigation campaigns followed by all phases of the design process up to services during construction, control and consulting are covered.

Geoconsult has branch offices in Europe, Asia and Latin America.

Further information at
www.geoconsult.eu

((Text: 920 words/6 pictures))

The text is available for download as word document or pdf and the pictures in high resolution at:
www.geoconsult.eu

Or contact Katja Sigl at Geoconsult Asia Singapore directly.

Captions:

Figure 1: On the occasion of its 20-year anniversary, Geoconsult Asia Singapore organized a high-profile symposium on 14th September 2018

Figure 2: Geoconsult Group founder Prof. Johann Golser (left) welcomes the guests together with Dr. Oskar Sigl (right), Managing Director, Geoconsult Asia Singapore

Figure 3: Worldwide operating consulting engineers of the Geoconsult Group joined the symposium in Singapore: Dr. Oskar Sigl (1st row, middle), Prof. Johann Golser (2nd row, 5th from left), Dr. Harald Golser (2nd row, 5th from right) and Johann Golser jr. (Geodata, 2nd from right) with the presenters in the 1st row Gernot Jedlitschka (3rd from left), Dr. Johannes Wageneder (4th from right) and in the 2nd row Dr. Markus Keuschnig (2nd from left), and Steven Garlinge (1st from right)

Figure 4: For generating photogrammetric data more efficiently it makes sense to employ multiple drones flying in swarm mode instead of just one (Source: Robert Delleske)

Figure 5: Monitoring solution for the Red Line Metro in Tel Aviv, Israel, with data visualization and automatic reporting

Figure 6: Logistic cavern with southern access to emergency stop tunnel of the Koralm Tunnel in Austria

(Sources: Geoconsult Asia Singapore)

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Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4 (Source: Robert Delleske)

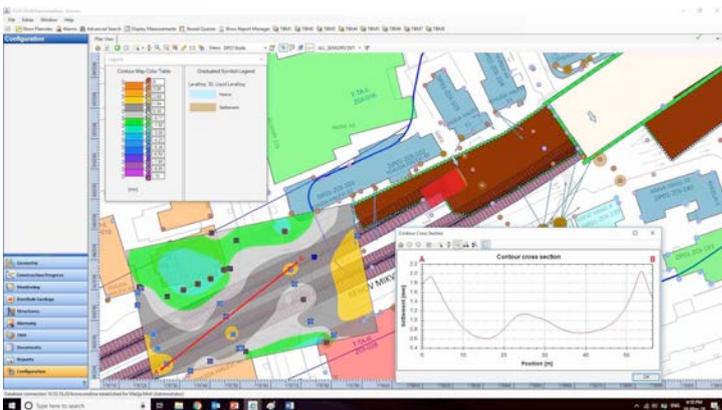


Figure 5



Figure 6