

## Geotechnical Society of Singapore (GeoSS) Education Trip to Kuala Lumpur on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> April 2014

Reported by Ir. Yee Yew Weng, Secretary General, MGS

GeoSS organized an education trip to Kuala Lumpur on 18th and 19th of April, supported and hosted by the Malaysian Geotechnical Society (MGS). Their objective for this trip is to cultivate good relationships and extend networking with Malaysian geotechnical counterparts; learn about contracting and consultancy practices; appreciate Malaysia ground condition and geotechnical equipment and technology; understand our regulator-industry players' relationship; and to explore business opportunities.

On 18th of April, GeoSS members visited the Klang Valley Mass Rapid Transit (KVMRT) Exhibition Centre located at Jalan Cochrane. The members attended a KVMRT underground construction briefing presented by MMC-Gamuda KVMRT tunnel team representatives and visited the Cochrane tunnel boring machine (TBM) launching shaft and station.



*Photos Taken During KVMRT Exhibition Centre Visit*

Later on the same day, GeoSS held a sharing session on Eurocode 7 (EC7) with committee members from MGS and Geotechnical Engineering Technical Division, The Institution of Engineers and few invited guests.



The main objective was to share about the development, policy, implementation and challenges of EC7 in Singapore and Malaysia.



*Photos Taken During EC7 Sharing Session*

Right after the sharing session, an evening talk on “Development Challenges in Singapore MRT Projects” was given by Dr. Ng Tiong Guan, President of GeoSS. It was jointly organized by MGS and GETD IEM. More than 100 Geotechnical Engineers attended the talk. This particular topic was chosen as there are common challenges in designing and constructing deep foundations, tunnels and underground structures for MRT system.

Dr. Ng explained to the participating Engineers the relatively complex geological setting in Singapore and the challenges when tunnels or underground structures are to be constructed in close proximity to the existing building and structures (which is inevitable in this relatively built-up city-state). He also shared and discussed details of a recent case history involving excessive ground movement due to water ingress.





*Photos Taken During Evening Talk by Dr. Ng*

A Welcome Dinner was held in the evening, hosted by MGS at a nearby restaurant.



*A Symbolic Friendship Momento from MGS Chairman Handed Over to the President of GeoSS*



*Group Photo of MGS and GeoSS Committee Members Taken During Welcome Dinner*



On the 19th of April, GeoSS members visited the remedied slope project by Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR) at Bukit Antarabangsa. Dr. Che Hassandi, the Director of JKR slope department presented the historical setting of the tragedy and explained the types of remedial works subsequently carried out on the slope. The delegation also stopped over at Highland Towers.



*Photos Taken During Bukit Antarabangsa Site Visit*



*Photos Taken During Stopped Over at Highland Tower*

Subsequently, GeoSS members visited the IKEA job site at Jalan Cochrane. The main contractor presented the challenges faced and techniques they used in construction on challenging limestone formation, including down-the-hole hammer technology for constructing bored piles.



*Photos Taken During IKEA Site Visit*