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Preface

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Preface

The Technical Committee TC102 of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) and the Organising Committee of CPT'18 extend a warm welcome to all participants of the 4th International Symposium on Cone Penetration Testing (CPT'18). The symposium is being held at Delft University of Technology, in Delft, The Netherlands, 21–22 June 2018, and is the fourth in a series of successful symposia endorsed by TC102 of the ISSMGE, following on from: Linköping, Sweden, 1995; Huntington Beach, California, 2010; and Las Vegas, Nevada, 2014.

The Netherlands has a long history of pioneering research in geotechnical engineering, soil mechanics and testing of soils, motivated by the necessity for engineering constructions on reclaimed land and problematic deltaic soils. This included the first application of (electric, strain gauge) cone penetration testing by Fugro in 1964. Fugro then hosted the first symposium on cone penetration testing in 1972 in The Netherlands, with the proceedings of this "Sondeer Symposium 1972" comprising 6 papers in the Dutch language. One of the highlights of this 2018 symposium is a paper on a fibre optic cone penetrometer—a probable first. It is therefore with great pleasure that Delft University of Technology is hosting CPT'18.

The aim of the symposium is to provide a forum for exchange of ideas and discussion on topics related to the application of cone penetration testing in geotechnical engineering. In particular, the symposium will focus on the solution of geotechnical challenges using the cone penetration test (CPT), CPT add-on measurements and companion in-situ penetration tools (such as full flow and free fall penetrometers), with an emphasis on practical experience and application of research findings. As CPTs play a major role in geotechnical engineering, CPT'18 will bring together the world's experts who are working to improve the quality of cone penetration testing and reduce the difficulties involved. The symposium will be attended by academics, researchers, consultants, practitioners, hardware/software suppliers, certifiers and students. It will be a unique opportunity for meeting people and sharing high-level knowledge.

The peer-reviewed papers contained in the proceedings have been authored by academics, researchers and practitioners from many countries worldwide and cover numerous important aspects related to cone penetration testing in geotechnical engineering, ranging from the development of innovative theoretical and numerical methods of interpretation, to real field applications. The main topics are: interpretation of CPT results, application of the CPT, and equipment development.

A total of 189 abstracts were submitted and the authors of those abstracts that fell within the scope of the symposium were invited to submit full papers for peer review. A total of 122 papers were received and, of these, 104 papers were accepted for inclusion in the symposium proceedings (including 3 keynote papers). The editors would like to thank the Scientific Committee for their assistance in the review process. They would also like to thank the keynote lecturers, authors, participants and sponsors. The editors are grateful for the support of the chair and members of TC102.

On behalf of the Organising Committee, we welcome you to The Netherlands and hope that you find the symposium both enjoyable and inspiring.

Michael Hicks
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April 2018