

Soil Mixing Committee

The Soil Mixing Committee is making headway with its *Guideline on Deep Mixing* and should have it back to DFI for review and publication to the industry, and available for purchase. The soil mixing industry is also making progress, with committee member companies like Treviicos completing one of the largest soil mixing projects to date. Information gleaned from this project, and others throughout the country, will be shared at the next committee meeting during the Annual Meeting in Boston. The committee also hosted a well-attended seminar in New Orleans in April. The seminar had over 100 participants and 13 invited speakers who presented a variety of interesting construction, quality assurance and design issues facing the soil mixing industry. Attendees came from many facets of the industry including construction, consulting and owners. I believe everyone left the seminar knowing more about soil mixing, how to specify, design and build it.

The seminar was made up of 1-1/2 days of presentations from notable people from government, academia, contractors and consultants. A brief history of the soil mixing industry opened the seminar, and it was interesting to reflect where we have come in the past 15 years. Several case histories showcased the many uses of the mixing process and included environmental applications involving mixing, which sometimes is an industry in itself. Design applications were provided for walling and levee support, which provided many of the design standards being used currently. The seminar closed with a panel discussion that sparked lively debate amongst the attendees.

The committee will also keep up with ongoing activities during the year. Several ideas are still being contemplated for new committee focus in the future. Some of these new activities could include: sustainability or evaluating the carbon footprint of



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soil mixing and testing standards; what works and doesn't work. In the meantime our committee members are looking forward to the 4th International Conference on Grouting and Deep Mixing in New Orleans next February, where a short course titled Soil Mixing 101 is being presented on February 15 and moderated by past chair, Dave Weatherby, Schnabel Foundation Company.

I continue to challenge our committee members to become more involved in the true aspects of our industry to foster a stronger relationship between those who practice soil mixing and those who design and specify it. We will have a committee meeting in Boston in October, so I look forward to seeing all of you there.