

# Slurry Wall/Trench Committee

Laurent Lefebvre asked that I succeed him as chair of this challenging technical committee. I accepted, knowing that we have several projects in the works, and several others that I hope to introduce that I believe will bring a new dimension to this committee. First, I want to thank Laurent for his work and commitment as chair. He has some large projects requiring his immediate attention, and I know he wants to attend every single project meeting, leaving little time to our committee's work. Good luck, Laurent, with those projects.

Our latest committee meeting during the 36th Annual Conference in Boston was a real success. About 40 people attended, and we reviewed and debated about our ongoing and future projects. One is the final review and editing of our *Guide to Selecting Cutoff Wall Methods*. This guide has been reviewed and approved by the Slurry Wall/Trench Committee and will be

available for a final review by the DFI's Technical Advisory Committee. Our next goal is to revise and update our 2005 *Industry Practice and DFI Guidelines for Structural Slurry Wall*, with new materials and equipment information as well as an updated projects table.

We will prepare a Slurry Wall 101 PowerPoint presentation that will target a large public audience including educators, students and engineers that look for basic information on what a slurry wall or slurry trench is. We intend to prepare a second, more detailed presentation that will include design information and constructability issues to be used by the committee members when meeting design/engineering firms or other public authorities.

Carbon footprint savings and energy conservation are becoming increasingly



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important and we will set-up a sub-committee to look into these issues and outline guidelines to use recycled materials, limit waste, design lean or more efficient wall systems, and use geothermal resources in slurry walls. This is our most challenging sub-committee and I am very excited about this undertaking.

We believe our 2013 seminar will be in the Northeast or in the Midwest near a large Canadian metropolitan area, and the committee has the go-ahead to present a slurry wall shortcourse for the 2012 DFI 37th Annual Conference in Houston. Finally, those DFI members interested in slurry walls or slurry trenches can join us by contacting DFI Headquarters.