



Dr H D St John
BSc PhD
Director

Areas of expertise

Soil properties, field studies, foundations, deep basements, slopes.

Recent experience

Since joining GCG in 1985 Hugh St John has worked with a wide range of clients, advising them on a variety of geotechnical issues at tender stage through to project completion. Much of this work has been concerned with the design and construction of deep foundations, excavations and basements.

He has acted as geotechnical advisor to structural consultants, contractors and client bodies on a large number of projects involving complex foundations in soil and rock, acting as designer and checker. In recent years this has included advising on deep excavations in Italy and Greece and the installation of large diameter caissons for offshore wind farms and deep shafts for tunnelling projects. He has also worked on projects where deep foundations are required in shallow water (for example, bridges and the Thames Cable Car currently under construction). He has been involved in a variety of both small and large basements and foundation schemes in London and other UK cities. On many of these schemes the issues have been the prediction of sub-structure performance. He has led work in the UK on the reuse of substructures in urban environments. He has much experience of working within multi-disciplinary teams to deliver projects.

In recent years Dr St John has had much involvement in aspects of litigation, particularly with foundation problems and also with issues arising from construction of retaining walls, fills, slopes and harbour works. He is an experienced expert witness.

Dr St John has published technical papers on in-situ testing, field studies and design of foundations and basements and foundation reuse. He has served on the Géotechnique Advisory Panel, various national and international committees and was recently Chairman of the British Geotechnical Society. He is currently Chairman of the "Ground Engineering" Editorial Advisory Panel.

He is a visiting Professor in the Geotechnical Engineering Research Centre at City University, who awarded him an honorary DSc in 2009. He was awarded the Skempton Medal by the BGA in 2009 for his sustained contribution to the practice of geotechnical engineering in 2009.

Areas worked

UK, North Sea, Norway, Poland, Spain, Italy, Greece, Ukraine, Middle East, Malaysia, Hong Kong, China, Pakistan, India, Iraq, Nigeria.



GEOTECHNICAL CONSULTING GROUP

52A Cromwell Road London SW7 5BE United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20-7581-8348 Fax: +44 (0)20-7584-0157 Email: admin@gcg.co.uk

Previous experience

On graduation Dr St John worked for 12 years for the Building Research Establishment's Geotechnics Division. During this period he was engaged in applied research, principally concerning excavations in soft ground, foundations for offshore structures, and ocean disposal of hazardous waste. His PhD, based on field observations of ground movements around deep excavations, was undertaken whilst on secondment to Cambridge University.

He was also seconded to the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute in 1976 and British Petroleum in 1977, where he undertook a variety of research and project-oriented tasks related to offshore structures. In 1980 he became Section Head responsible for a number of projects on offshore geotechnics. These included the development of an offshore pressuremeter, research into the design of tension piles, and the initiation of a UK research programme into the deep sea disposal of nuclear waste.

In 1982 Dr St John joined Ove Arup & Partners and worked in their Hong Kong office as a senior geotechnical engineer. During this period he was responsible for a variety of geotechnical projects, including slope protection works, excavations in soil and rock, and foundation design for high-rise buildings and building on reclaimed land. He was also involved in advising departments of the Hong Kong Government on technical aspects in litigation and he carried out design of foundations and temporary works for a high-rise hotel in Shanghai.

Education/Research

PhD, Cambridge University, 1975

BSc (1st Class), University College, London, 1970

Service on Technical/Professional Bodies

Chairman of the British Geotechnical Society, 1995 - 1997

Chairman of the "*Ground Engineering*" Editorial Advisory Panel

Year of Birth

1949