



# International Geosynthetics Society United Kingdom Chapter



IGS/Engineering Group of the Geological Society  
JOINT MEETING  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013**  
Geological Society, Burlington House, London

5.30pm for 6.00pm

**AGM followed by**

## **Wallasea Wild Coast Project – A Nature Reserve from Crossrail Spoil Steve Corbett AECOM**

The Wallasea Wild Coast Project is an initiative by the RSPB as a landmark conservation and engineering scheme for the 21st century, on a scale never before attempted in the UK and the largest of its type in Europe. The aim of this project is to combat the threats from climate change and coastal flooding by recreating the ancient wetland landscape of mudflats and saltmarsh, lagoons and pasture. It will also help to compensate for the loss of such tidal habitats elsewhere in England. Once completed, this will provide a haven for a wonderful array of nationally and internationally important wildlife and an amazing place for the local community, and those from further afield, to come and enjoy.

The engineering to enable this project requires the construction of new flood defences, tidal control structures, landscaping of the farmland and the breaching of the existing flood defences. The construction of the new flood defence embankment and the landscaping requires the importation of about 7.5m<sup>3</sup> of soil by sea from the Crossrail project.

The presentation will describe how the Wallasea Wild Coast project has developed, the geotechnical problems associated with building embankments on very soft alluvial foundations using spoil from the Crossrail project and the uses of geosynthetics in the construction.

### Biography:

Steve is a Technical Director, responsible for the technical performance of the Ground Technology Group including the management of projects to ensure that the best possible solutions for geotechnical aspects are delivered.

He is a Chartered Engineer, a Fellow of the ICE, with over 40 years experience in both contracting and consulting, first as a general civil engineer and for the last 32 years as a geotechnical specialist, now registered as an Advisor on the ROGEP geotechnical register. He is one of the UK's leading experts in the designing, specifying, and standardisation of geosynthetics.

He provides general advice to AECOM Ltd project teams on all aspects of geotechnical engineering needed to progress a wide variety of projects through stages of investigation, planning, design and construction. He has provided geotechnical input into a large number of highway, railway and major infrastructure projects.

Steve is the Chairman of Technical Committees: BSi B553, ISO TC 221 and leads the UK delegation to CEN TC189 Geosynthetics. He has written number of the published geosynthetic testing and application standards. He was a member of the IGS Council where he led the Technical Committee and the publication of the IGS document 'A Guide to Specification of Geosynthetics'.

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