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Preface

This geotechnical special publication constitutes the proceedings from five sessions held at the Geo-Denver 2007 Conference, February 18-21, 2007 in Denver, Colorado, USA. The sessions are organized and sponsored by the Soil Improvement Committee of the Geo-Institute of ASCE. The objective of the sessions is to share information, experiences, practices, and advances in soil improvement. The area of soil improvement has been a great source of innovation in geotechnical engineering over the past two decades. Applications to all fields of geotechnical engineering including shallow and deep foundations, embankments, soil liquefaction and to difficult ground conditions such as karst topography and peat soils are being made by various soil improvement techniques. These sessions are aimed at providing a forum for the discussion of recent innovations in applications such as geosynthetic-reinforced, column-supported embankments; piles and deep soil mixing; soil stabilization applications; QC/QA; and aggregate piers. Many of the papers present case histories, providing pertinent information to the profession on actual design, construction and performance of soil improvement applications.

It is the current practice of the Geo-Institute that each paper published in a GSP be reviewed for content and quality. Reviews of papers for publication in this volume were conducted by members of the Soil Improvement Committee and by other members of ASCE with expertise in the subject areas. Each paper included in this volume has received at least two positive reviews and authors were given the opportunity to modify their papers based on reviewers' suggestions prior to final submittal of the papers. All papers published are eligible for discussion in the ASCE *Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering* and they are also eligible for ASCE awards.

The editors express appreciation to all the authors and reviewers who made the publication of this volume possible.

Vernon R. Schaefer, Ph.D., P.E., Iowa State University George M. Filz, Ph.D., P.E., Virginia Tech Patricia. M. Gallagher, Ph.D., P.E., Drexel University Allen. L. Sehn, Ph.D., P.E., Hayward Baker Inc. Kord J. Wissmann, Ph.D., P.E., GeoPier Foundation Company, Inc. The Editors would like to thank the authors and reviewers for their cooperation under a tight schedule and the reviewers for their constructive reviews. Reviewers for the publication were:

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