

EARLY CAREER MEMBERS EVENT  
WEDNESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2014 AT 6:30PM  
Imperial College London, Skempton Lecture Theatre (LT201), SW7 2AZ

# RECLAIMING ENGINEERING: ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND THE PROFILE OF GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERS

**ALEXANDER NIKOLIC**

The BGA are pleased to invite you to the 4<sup>th</sup> Early Career Members event of 2014. The event will present an overview of the status of the civil engineering industry and the dynamics within the fragmented construction sector. The concept of the role and value of the engineering profession being at the core of society will be scrutinised, an aspect which is often not recognised by the wider community. The discussion will proceed to focus on the challenges faced by the engineering fraternity and engagement of geotechnical engineers at the forefront of project conception and delivery. Looking beyond the significance of a strong academic background and pursuit for technical excellence, the discussion will aim to unravel the historical hurdles with integration of the geotechnical discipline in engineering consultancy. The thought-provoking notion of our failures to communicate project risk and to demonstrate value will be put forward with a view of generating a constructive and exciting discussion on the topic.

There will be time for debate and discussion and the event will be followed by drinks and nibbles. Thanks are extended to our sponsor, BuroHappold Engineering and of course to Imperial College London for hosting the event. All levels of experience are welcome.



Alex Nikolic BEng (Hons) MSc DIC CEng MICE MSt (Cantab) currently leads BuroHappold Ground Engineering. He has experience in directing significant integrated design teams on projects across the globe that include the award winning Emirates Air Line and one of the most challenging basements in the USA, the Harvard Allston Science Complex. Alex has a particular interest in integrating geotechnical and structural design by means of advanced soil structure interaction modelling. Alex has project experience across the entire design and construction life-cycle ranging from feasibility and concept design development to working alongside clients and contractors managing and delivering schemes. He is experienced in many forms of procurement and contractual engagement, working with clients from various sectors, inter-disciplinary design teams and an array of contractors.

As part of his technical leadership and pursuit for excellence, Alex's passion for elegance in design is underpinned by a creative and dynamic approach to engineering, which he will touch on during the talk. Moreover, Alex's route to becoming discipline lead of BuroHappold Ground Engineering will provide inspiration to those at the start of or considering a career in geotechnical engineering.

**18:00-18:30 Refreshments and Registration**

**18:30-18:40 Introduction - Jonathan Dewsbury**

**18:40-19:30 Reclaiming Engineering: Entrepreneurship and the Role of Geotechnical Engineers - Alex Nikolic**

**19:30-19:45 Debate and Discussions**

Disclaimer: Any views or opinions expressed on any matters by the presenters or participants during or in connection with this presentation are solely the views of the authors of the respective comments and/or opinions and must not be taken to be the views of ICE or the BGA or any other organisation. ICE and the British Geotechnical Association makes no representations, warranties or assurances concerning any information provided in these presentations and accepts no responsibility for the content and/or accuracy.

Event Sponsors:

**BUROHAPPOLD  
ENGINEERING**



**The BGA is member  
of Ground Forum**

Are you a BGA member?

Join today at <http://www.britishgeotech.org.uk>  
In case of any query please contact BGA Co-ordinator  
020 7665 2007 or email: [bga@britishgeotech.org.uk](mailto:bga@britishgeotech.org.uk)  
Follow us @BritishGeotech or join us on LinkedIn  
<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5061912>