BUSINESS PLAN
CEN/TC 288
EXECUTION OF SPECIAL GEOTECHNICAL WORKS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Business environment

Special geotechnical works are a necessary and important part of each construction project including infrastructure projects and building projects.

CEN/TC 288 is responsible for standardization in the field of special geotechnical works as well as for the required material properties.

Benefits

Executions of special geotechnical works represent an important market in Europe and world-wide. Working with a unique European standard allows to ensure correct application for the safety and the lasting quality of the foundations of Building and Civil Engineering works. Additionally it will allow countries with little in this field to adopt robust standards elaborated from a diversity of experience.

Priorities

To produce standards for the execution of special geotechnical works, in addition to the rules for design and monitoring given in Eurocodes 7. Initially standards dealing with classical techniques were developed. Today new techniques are highlighted by the new standards being developed.
1 BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT OF THE CEN/TC 288

1.1 Description of the Business Environment

The following political, economic, technical, regulatory, legal, societal and/or international dynamics describe the business environment of the industry sector, products, materials, disciplines or practices related to the scope of the CEN/TC 288, and they may significantly influence how the relevant standards development processes are conducted and the content of the resulting standards:

CEN/TC 288 is responsible for standardization in the field of special geotechnical works (including the testing and control methods of the procedures) and for the required material properties.

Executions of special geotechnical works represent an important market in Europe and world-wide.

The need of common normative references rose from the beginning of the 1990s to improve co-operation and harmonization between all parties involved and to ensure their correct application for the safety and the lasting quality of the foundations of Building and civil Engineering works.

So the European Special Foundation Contractors by the EFFC (European Federation of Foundation Contractors) requested CEN to create a Technical Committee in order to draft standards for this item. The other parties involved are laboratories, administration, technical construct bodies, design offices and universities.

1.2 Quantitative Indicators of the Business Environment

The following list of quantitative indicators describes the business environment in order to provide adequate information to support actions of the CEN /TC 288.

The publication of the European Directive 92/64/04 on the Public Procurement Directive opened the European market to the contractors for foundations and geotechnical works. So they needed in this new context to have some European Standards in order to harmonize the various stages of the art existing in the European countries.

2 BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE WORK OF THE CEN/TC 288

Executions of special geotechnical works represent an important market in Europe and world-wide. Working with a unique European standard allows to ensure correct application for the safety and the lasting quality of the foundations of Building and Civil Engineering works. Nevertheless national experience shall be respected and shall allow each country to maintain any rule proven to be justified.

There are currently 13 published standards.
3 PARTICIPATION IN THE CEN/TC 288

All the CEN national members are entitled to nominate delegates to CEN Technical Committees and experts to Working Groups, ensuring a balance of all interested parties. Participation as observers of recognized European or international organizations is also possible under certain conditions. To participate in the activities of this CEN/TC, please contact the national standards organization in your country.

4 OBJECTIVES OF THE CEN/TC AND STRATEGIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT

4.1 Defined objectives of the CEN/TC 288

CEN/TC 288 has achieved 13 standards and will revise the published standards based on the return of experience on these standards and also based on others standards which could include constituents and/or materials which are used in our field.

CEN/TC 288 may at any time develop a new standard on a technique of special geotechnical works for which the need for European standardization is recognized by the TC. Any new draft standard has to fall within the scope of CEN/TC 288.

4.2 Identified strategies to achieve the CEN/TC.s defined objectives.

CEN/TC 288 has approved a working programme for the standardization of the execution special geotechnical works and created working groups to prepare the drafts, with a Convenor and a Technical Editor, but only if a financial help is found.

The structure of CEN/TC 288 is made of 13 standards which have been under use and some of them have already been revised.

In order to be aware of development of standards in our field liaison with other TCs have been created and particularly liaison with CEN/TC104, CEN/TC 396, CEN/TC 341, CEN/TC 250/SC 7 and CEN/TC 189.

4.3 Environmental aspects

Special geotechnical works have strong link with environmental aspect as well as sustainable development. European cooperation is needed to give proper answer for more sustainable and environment friendly development. In our field this covers extending the limits of acceptable material for in-situ construction, decreasing the production of CO₂ and other atmospheric dangerous gases, decreasing the consumption of water and fossil energy.

Such cooperation would benefit from the existence of a common description of practice which is provided by European reference standards.

For the field of special geotechnical work EFFC has financed the development of a Foundation Carbon Calculator (FCC) already available on internet for use of all stakeholders in the field. This development is a first step and return of experience on this calculator will certainly dictate other environmental software development at EFFC level.
5 FACTORS AFFECTING COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CEN/TC 288 WORK PROGRAMME

Development of TC288 is closely related to the construction activity in Europe as well as the financial stability of the company in the field. TC288 is supported by EFFC which is supported by countries federation in the field.