Engineering-geological assessment of soils by field and laboratory tests including geophysical investigations
5th National Symposium on “Recent problems of engineering geology in Poland”
September 15–17, 2014, Lublin, Poland
Co-edited by: Zbigniew Frankowski and Marta Sokołowska

PREFACE

The symposium, organized by the Polish Geological Institute – National Research Institute, is the only conference in Poland that is fully dedicated to the issues related to engineering geology and the assessment of physical and mechanical soil properties. The symposium allowed exchanging experiences collected during the engineering-geological recognition of the subsoil under various types of construction, especially with regard to modern investigation techniques.

The symposium was held on September 15–17, 2014, and was attended by 153 delegates. Among all submitted papers, 10 papers are included in this Special Issue of Geological Quarterly, and another 29 articles have been published in Przegląd Geologiczny (vol. 62, No 10/2, 2014).

The Authors presented the results of their studies in four thematic sessions:

- Engineering geology in the construction process,
- Geohazards,
- Geophysical investigations in the construction process,
- Assessment of geological conditions.

All papers of the session “Engineering geology in the construction process” have been published in Przegląd Geologiczny.

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Rydelek et al. presented the assessment of the variability in permeability parameters of peats with regard to their usability as natural geological barriers. The investigations included modern methods of permeability investigations such as BAT penetrometer and Rowe-Barden chamber.

The range of topics of the papers included in this issue of *Geological Quarterly* indicates that the methodology for soil properties characteristics is continuously developing. This is mainly due to the necessity of taking into consideration the number of factors that have an influence on the obtained results. The modern methods of investigation (in both field and laboratory) are commonly used in practice, this is why they need to be validated and calibrated with regard to national conditions and particular types of soil. Such validation will allow obtaining the full characteristics of the subsoil, as well as making the geological risk assessment in the construction process.

Zbigniew Frankowski and Marta Sokółwska