

## THE ASCE PITTSBURGH SECTION GEO-INSTITUTE CHAPTER PRESENTS

### *September 2017 Dinner Meeting*

## Geopier Rammed Aggregate Pier Applications & Regional Case Studies

**Presented By:** Keith J. Merl, P.E., Geostructures Inc.



Rammed Aggregate Pier systems are a ground improvement technology that can be used to increase bearing capacity and control settlement of buildings, tanks, retaining walls and embankments to close tolerances. Depending on site requirements, RAP systems can be installed using replacement (Geopier GP3®) or displacement (Geopier Impact®) methods. RAP systems are used to reinforce good to poor soils, including soft to stiff clay and silt; loose to dense granular soil; organic silt and peat; variable, uncontrolled fill; and soils below the ground water table. They can be used as an alternative to deep foundations or over-excavation, and provide cost and time savings on sites where poor soils and/or existing undocumented fill are a concern in terms of bearing capacity and settlement. This presentation reviews fundamental Geopier design and construction techniques and includes regional case studies. Projects discussed include the Penguins Arena and various projects in the Strip District.

Keith Merl is responsible for sales, business development, and technical engineering support in the Northeast Region (Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and New York). Keith's 16 years of experience in related disciplines of geotechnical, environmental, and geologic engineering includes an extensive working knowledge of all facets of civil, industrial, and commercial projects. His strong technical experience in conjunction with his understanding of the complex inter-workings of the regulatory process provides his clients with in-depth knowledge and unique problem solving recommendations leading to successful project completion. Keith has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Drexel University.

Date: **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017**

Place: Gaetanos Restaurant  
1617 Banksville Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Time: 6:00 PM Social Hour  
7:00 PM Dinner  
8:00 PM Presentation

**Reservations received on or before 9/8/17:**

\$25 ASCE Pittsburgh Section Members  
\$30 Non-members  
Students are Free

**Reservations received between 9/8/17-9/13/17:**

\$30 ASCE Pittsburgh Section Members  
\$35 Non-members  
Students are \$10

**PLEASE RSVP** by contacting Mr. Vishal Patel @ [vpatel@agesinc.com](mailto:vpatel@agesinc.com) or by registering online at <http://www.asce-pgh.org/> **Online registration is highly encouraged and payments can be made with credit card.** Only cash or checks will be accepted at the door.