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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Geo-Professionals Launch Inaugural Induction Ceremony**

**Reston, Va.** – Specialty certifications programs are growing in most professions as the knowledge needed to practice continues to rapidly increase. Specialty certification supports the explosion of continuing professional development. The Civil Engineering Certification's (CEC) Academy of Geo-Professionals (AGP) will hold its Inaugural Diplomate Induction Ceremony Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at the International Foundation Congress & Equipment Expo in Orlando, Fla.

"Earning a college degree in engineering is a significant accomplishment," said Arlan Rippe, P.E., F.ASCE, D.GE, AGP president. "Specialty certification provides an advanced certificate of achievement, which greatly enhances the engineer's career development. It also gives the public further confidence in the competence of our geo-professionals."

The new inductees are:

- Alfred Brand, P.E., M.ASCE, Mueser Rutledge Engineers, Kew Gardens, N.Y.
- William Brumund, P.E., F.ASCE, Golder Associates Inc., Fernandina Beach, Fla.
- Derek Cornforth, PhD., P.E., F.ASCE, Dhc Inc., Lake Oswego, Ore.
- Melvin Esrig, PhD., P.E., F.ASCE, Melvin I. Esrig Consulting Engineers, Tenafly, N.J.
- John Focht, P.E., F.ASCE, Houston
- George Goble, PhD., P.E., M.ASCE, George G. Goble Consulting Engineers, Longmont, Col.
- Richard Gray, P.E., M.ASCE, DiGioia, Gray & Associates, LLC, Monroeville, Pa.
- Garry Gregory, PhD., P.E., M.ASCE, Gregory Geotechnical, Stillwater, Okla.
- Delon Hampton, PhD., P.E., Hon. M.ASCE, Delon Hampton & Associates, Washington, D.C.
- Douglas Hermann, P.E., M.ASCE, STS Consultants Ltd. STS Aecom, Vernon Hills, Ill.
- Arthur Hoffman, P.E. M.ASCE, Gannett Fleming, Pittsburgh
- Walter Jaworski, P.E., M.ASCE, Gza Geoenvironmental Inc., Norfolk, Mass.
- Edward Kavazanjian, PhD., P.E., M.ASCE, Arizona State, Tempe, Ariz.
- Phillip King, P.E., F.ASCE, Synchro Pile, Inc., San Antonio
- Robert Koerner, PhD., P.E., Dist. M.ASCE, Geosynthetic Institute, Springfield, Pa.
- William Kovacs, PhD., P.E., F.ASCE, University of Rhode Island, Peacedale, R.I.

- Steven Kraemer, P.E. M.ASCE, Haley & Aldrich, Inc., Winchester, Mass.
- Fred Kulhawy, PhD., P.E., Dist. M.ASCE, Cornell, Ithica, N.Y.
- Charles Ladd, P.E., Dist. M.ASCE, MIT, Concord, Mass.
- Robert Lytton, PhD., P.E., F.ASCE, Texas A&M, Bryan, Texas
- Alan Macnab, P.E., M.ASCE, Condon-Johnson & Associates, Seattle
- William Marcuson III, PhD, P.E., Hon. M.ASCE, W.F. Marcuson III & Associates, Vicksburg, Miss.
- Ronald McOmber, P.E., CTL/Thompson, Inc., Centennial, Colo.
- Joel Moskowitz, P.E., M.ASCE, Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, New York
- Priscilla Nelson, PhD., Dist. M.ASCE, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark, N.J.
- Robert Patton, P.E., F.ASCE, Fugro Consultants, Inc., Dallas
- Frank Pita, P.E., F.ASCE, Jacobs Associates, Bellevue, Wash.
- Richard Reynolds, P.E., M.ASCE, Richard T. Reynolds PE Geotech Consultant, Boston
- Edward Rinne, P.E. F.ASCE, Edward E. Rinne, PE, GE, Oakland, Calif.
- Larry Roth, P.E., G.E., F.ASCE, ASCE, Reston, Va.
- John Schmertmann, PhD., P.E., John Schmertmann, Inc., Gainesville, Fla.
- Ronald Smith, PhD., M.ASCE, Kleinfelder, Henderson, Nev.
- George Tamaro, P.E., Hon. M.ASCE, Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, Bristol, R.I.
- Harvey Wahls, PhD., P.E., F.ASCE, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C.
- James Withiam, PhD., M.ASCE, D'Appolonia Consulting Engineers, Monroeville, Pa.
- Richard Woods, PhD., P.E., Dist. M.ASCE, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
- Kent Wray, PhD., P.E., University of Missouri-Rolla, Rolla, Mo.

Founded in October 2008 by practicing geo-professionals who are members of the ASCE Geo-Institute, AGP was created to offer a voluntary, post-license credential that provides professional engineers an opportunity to gain further recognition in the broad field of geotechnical engineering. The goal of AGP is to improve the practice, elevate the standards and advance the geotechnical engineering profession.

Geotechnical engineering is the branch of civil engineering concerned with the engineering behavior of the materials and processes forming the earth's crust, in the context of the built environment.

For more information about AGP, go to [www.geoprofessionals.org](http://www.geoprofessionals.org). For more information about the 2009 International Foundation Congress & Equipment Expo, please visit [www.ifcee09.org](http://www.ifcee09.org).

*Founded in 1852, the American Society of Civil Engineers represents more than 146,000 civil engineers worldwide and is America's oldest national engineering society. For more information, visit [www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org).*

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