

Professor Eduardo ALONSO



Professor Eduardo Alonso is Professor of Geotechnical Engineering at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos, Universidad Politécnica de Catalunya, in Barcelona, Spain. Born in 1947, he received his Engineering degree from the Universidad de Madrid in 1969 and his PhD from Northwestern University in 1973.

His main topics of interest are reliability and risk in geotechnical engineering, behaviour of partially saturated soils, expansive soils and rocks, numerical analysis of geotechnical problems (soils and rocks), field measurements and geotechnical backanalysis, slope stability. He has been involved in over ninety consulting jobs in Spain and abroad involving deep excavations, nuclear power stations, diaphragm walls, ground improvement techniques, design of shallow and deep foundations, slope stability, underpinning of structures, site investigation reports, breakwaters, concrete and earth dams and tunnels

Professor Alonso has written over 250 papers published in National and International Symposia, specialized research books and learned journals. Among his most prestigious awards are the Telford Medal from the Institution of Civil Engineers in the United Kingdom, the Premio Jose Toran from the Comité Español de Grandes Presas in Spain, and the Conference Coulomb from the Comité Français de Mécanique des Sols in France. He is truly an internationally known engineer and chairs the ISSMGE Technical Committee TC6 on Unsaturated Soils. In 1995, he was elected to the Royal Academy of Engineering of Spain.

Professor Eduardo Alonso delivered the eleventh Spencer J. Buchanan Lecture on November 10, 2003 at the Hilton Hotel in College Station, home of Texas A&M University. The topic of his lecture was “Exploring the Limits of Unsaturated Soil Mechanics: The Behavior of Coarse Granular Soil and Rockfill”.