MEETING NOTICE
Wednesday, September 17th, 2014

EXHORTATION: SITE CHARACTERIZATION IN PRACTICE

Yoshi Moriwaki, Ph.D., P.E., G.E.
Principal, GeoPentech

SOCIAL HOUR: 5:30 p.m.
DINNER: 6:30 p.m.
PROGRAM: 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: Stevens Steak House
5332 Stevens Place, City of Commerce
Southwest Corner of I-5 & Atlantic Boulevard
PRICE:
$35 with reservation in-advance;
$40 at the door;
Students: Free with valid Student ID
CONTACT: Lisa Star – lisa.star@csulb.edu
ONLINE: http://lageoinstitute.com
Please make reservations by e-mail prior to 12 noon, Friday, September 12
Abstract:

For a given geotechnical project site, site characterization involves developing a model of how subsurface soils are divided into various soil zones or layers, what state of denseness various soils are in, what stress conditions they are in, and what groundwater conditions exist. All of this must consider the existing conditions (geometrical and state characterization), and the anticipated geotechnical changes to the project site, in order to estimate appropriate soil properties (property characterization) to be used in geotechnical analyses. To the extent that we know all of these site characterization issues for a given site, an experienced geotechnical engineer should be able to guesstimate a rough solution to the site-specific geotechnical problem, so site characterization is vital in geotechnical work. Yet, it is often addressed in a somewhat too routine manner and relegated to a secondary role in many geotechnical reports. This presentation urges geotechnical engineers to take site characterization more seriously by presenting technical anecdotes from the “personal files” of the presenter.

Bio:

Yoshiharu (Yoshi) Moriwaki is a Principal with GeoPentech since June 2000, practicing as a geotechnical earthquake and geotechnical engineer. Before June 2000, he has spent most of his time with the Corps of Engineers, Woodward-Clyde, and URS. He has practiced in the greater Los Angeles area since 1984 and in the Bay Area before then and nationally and internationally for almost a half century. He has contributed to various professional activities and taught at two universities. He has BS in Civil Engineering from MIT, MS in Engineering Mechanics from NYU, and PhD in Geotechnical Engineering from UC Berkeley.