

J. P. Giroud — Biographical Summary

Dr. Giroud is an independent consultant operating under “JP GIROUD, INC.” since January 2001.

Civil engineer (Ecole Centrale de Paris), Ph.D. in geotechnical engineering (University of Grenoble).

Former professor of geotechnical engineering (Universities of Grenoble and Paris, French National School for Civil Servants in Civil Engineering) (1963-1978).

Director of the Geotextiles and Geomembranes Group of Woodward Consultants (1978-1983).

Co-founder, former Chairman of the Board, and Chairman Emeritus of GeoSyntec Consultants, a consulting engineering firm that grew in seventeen years from two to more than three hundred employees, including more than 30 PhDs (1983-2001).

Author of over 350 publications.

Past President of the International Geosynthetics Society (IGS).

Past Chairman of the Technical Committee on Geosynthetics of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE).

Co-founder and Chairman of the Editorial Board of the two main technical journals in the field of geosynthetics engineering, *Geotextiles and Geomembranes* (1984-1994) and *Geosynthetics International* (1994-present).

More than 35 years of experience on geosynthetics. Developed many methods for the design of applications of geosynthetics. Originated a number of geosynthetics applications: first nonwoven geotextile filter (1970), first geotextile in a dam (1970), first use of nonwoven geotextile as cushion for geomembrane (1971), first double liner with two geomembranes (1974), first entirely geosynthetic double liner system with two geomembranes and a geonet leakage detection system (1981). Involved in the design or performance analysis of hundreds of structures incorporating geosynthetics.

At the international conference held in Paris in 1977 (and later recognized as the First International Conference on Geosynthetics), Dr. Giroud coined the terms “geotextile” and “geomembrane”, which led to the terminology used in the geosynthetics discipline.

Keynote lecturer at the opening session of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th International Conferences on Geosynthetics (1982, 1986, 1990, and 1994).

The highest level of recognition in the field of geosynthetics engineering was bestowed upon Dr. Giroud when the Council of the IGS decided in 1994 that the opening lecture of each International Conferences on Geosynthetics will be called The Giroud Lecture. In 2002: Honorary Member of the IGS with the citation “Dr. Giroud is truly the father of the IGS and the geosynthetics industry”.

In 2005: delivered the ViennaTerzaghi Lecture; was elevated to the status of “hero” of the Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE); and invited to deliver the Mercer Lectures, a lecture series sponsored by Tensar International and endorsed jointly by the IGS and the ISSMGE.