

INTRODUCTION OF J.P. GIROUD

Dr. Giroud, a former professor of geotechnical engineering, is a consulting engineer under JP GIROUD, INC., and Chairman Emeritus and founder of GeoSyntec Consultants. Dr. Giroud is chairman of the editorial board of *Geosynthetics International* and past president of the International Geosynthetics Society (the IGS). He has conducted research on geosynthetics since 1969, has authored over 350 publications, and has lectured worldwide on geosynthetics. Dr. Giroud coined the terms “geotextile” and “geomembrane” in 1977. He has developed many of the design methods used in geosynthetics engineering and has originated a number of geosynthetics applications, in particular for landfills and liquid impoundments. In 1994, the IGS named its highest award “The Giroud Lecture”, “in recognition of the invaluable contributions of Dr. J.P. Giroud to the technical advancement of the geosynthetics discipline”. In 2002, Dr. Giroud became Honorary Member of the IGS with the citation “Dr. Giroud is truly the father of the International Geosynthetics Society and the geosynthetics industry”. In 2005, Dr. Giroud has been awarded to status of “hero” of the Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and has delivered the very prestigious Vienna Terzaghi Lecture. In 2005-2006 he will present the Mercer Lectures, a prestigious lecture series endorsed jointly by the IGS and the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering.