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英國地質學會香港分部



## **A Perspective on the Role of Geophysics**

*Presented by Frank Collar*

**Date:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2014  
**Time:** 6.30 pm – 7:30 pm  
**Venue:** 3/F Meeting Room, The Mariners' Club, Middle Road, Tsim Sha Tsui  
**Seminar Fee:** Free of charge

### **Synopsis:**

Since the 1970s, geophysics has been deployed routinely as a useful geotechnical investigative tool in Hong Kong, possibly more so than in any other region as a consequence of the rate of urban and infrastructure development and the geotechnical activity. In that role geophysics has been very effective at times, in some cases leading to considerable saving of mitigation work and money.

Geophysics is widely used for other applications internationally, including environmental studies, water exploration, mining exploration and very dominantly oil and gas exploration and production where geophysics is key, and large budgets have supported the greatest pace of technical development. In fact many of the significant geophysical developments have derived largely from the oil and gas industry and military applications, both with ample funding.

The talk aims to put these geophysical domains and their funding into perspective and to suggest that collectively they are in fact all assessments of risk of some form, reassurance against financial loss on the one hand or to optimise investment gain on the other. This characteristic, together with the Value Added factor has tended to influence the perceived worth of geophysics.

In that context, there is certainly some further scope in geotechnical geophysics to qualify results in terms of probability of encountering adverse ground conditions. Some selected examples of useful application of geophysics in Hong Kong will be presented and the methods used shall be briefly described, together with some suggestions from recent geophysical developments that could be considered in the future.

### **About the Speaker:**

Frank Collar commenced as a professional geophysicist the early seventies. He has worked in the geotechnical, water, mining and oil industries in many parts of the world, commercially and for public sectors. He founded Cosine Ltd in Hong Kong in 1996 engaged upon data interpretation and development of geophysical testing techniques in the geotechnical sector and upon oil exploration worldwide. In 2006 he was assigned as Exploration Operations Manager to a London listed oil company, responsible for contracting and managing the exploration operations onshore East Africa and offshore SW Africa. He is currently engaged upon oil and geothermal exploration projects in SE Asia, fresh water abstraction in saline areas for agricultural irrigation in UK, and continues to work as a geophysical consultant in Hong Kong.

### **Registration and Enquiries**

*No prior registration is required. CPD certificate will be provided. For enquiries, please contact Ms. Kitty CHAN at [kitty.chan@arup.com](mailto:kitty.chan@arup.com).*

