



Construction and Long-Term Performance of Interstate Constructed on EPS Geofoam



















Steven Bartlett, Ph.D., P.E., University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah





Advantages of Geofoam Technology for Accelerated Transportation Construction on Soft Ground Sites

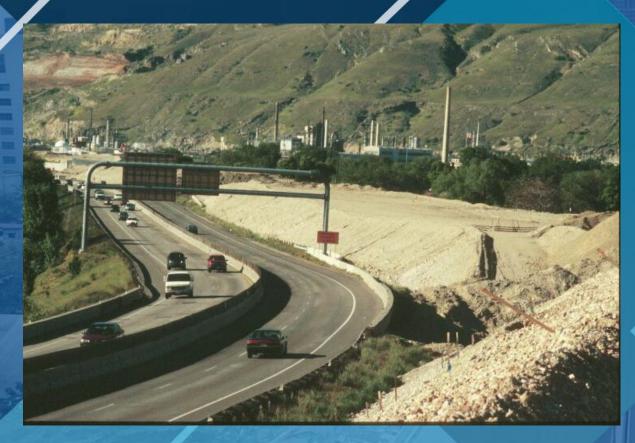
- Rapid Embankment / Foundation Construction
  - Construction Time Days to a Few Weeks
  - Elimination of Damaging Settlements
    - Adjacent structures and facilities
    - Buried utilities
  - Cost Savings
  - Easier Construction Laborers + Technical Oversight
  - Less Traffic Impacts
  - Improved long-term settlement performance and safety

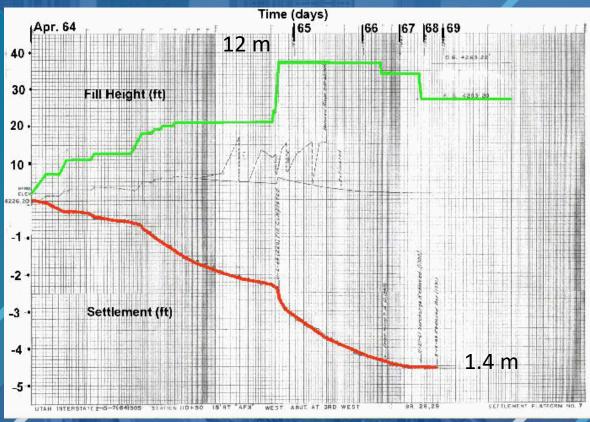






**Traditional Construction – Surcharged Embankments** 





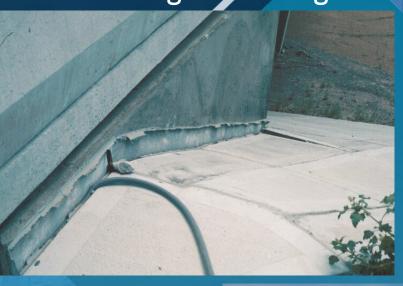
- Settlement record (1960s) Salt Lake Valley
- 2 to 3 years settlement time
- Settlement amounts varied 1 to 2 m







When Things Go Wrong





Settlement at S. University Ave. Provo, Utah

Original Construction PV Drains & Surcharging



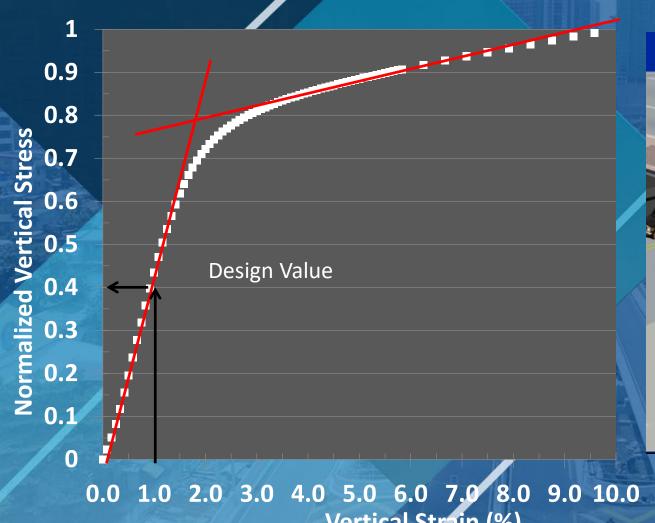
Approach Slab
Settlement, Demolition
And Replacement







Design Considerations For Selecting EPS Blocks for Roadways





**Vertical Strain (%)** 

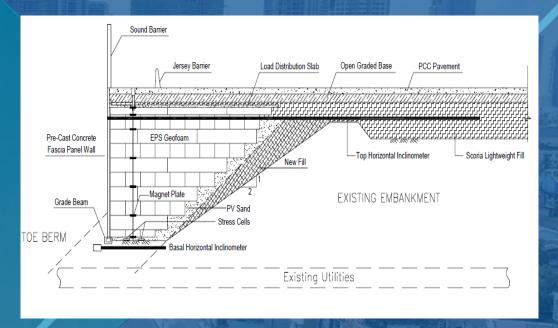






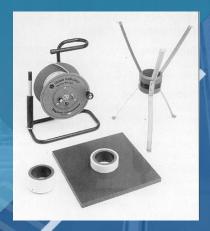
100 South Array – Monitoring and Instrumentation













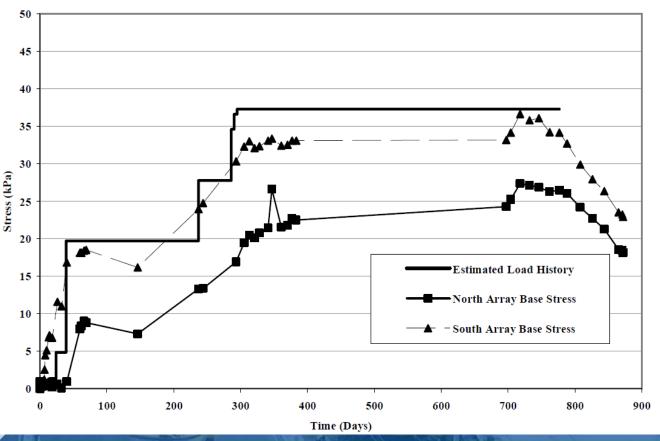






100 South Array (Load and Pressure Cells in Basal Sand)



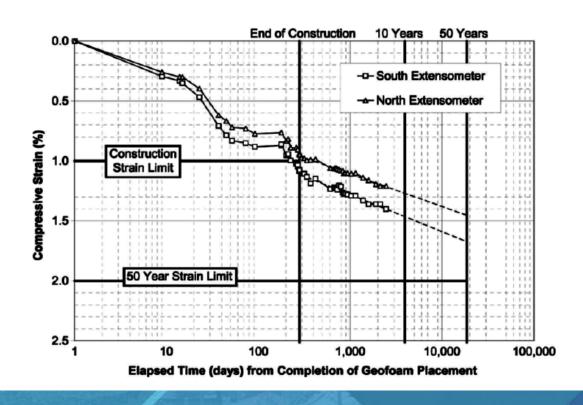




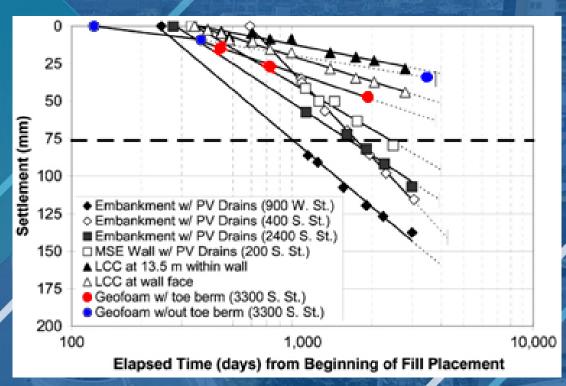




#### Overall Settlement Performance



100 South Array – 10 years monitoring



**Geotechnology Comparison** 







#### Conclusions

- For past 20 years, EPS geofoam has exhibited the best settlement performance of the technologies used on I-15.
- US Federal Highways Administration accepts geofoam as a proven technology.
- Compression, seating and inter-block gap closure of EPS produced about 1 percent vertical deformation during construction loading.
- •Vertical pressure levels are in reasonable agreement with allowable design limits of about 30 kPa.
- •I-15 EPS embankment has undergone about 0.2 to 0.4 percent creep deformation in a 10-year post construction period which is less than the design value.

David Arellano · Abdullah Tolga Özer Steven Floyd Bartlett · Jan Vaslestad *Editors* 

### 5th International Conference on Geofoam Blocks in Construction Applications

Proceedings of EPS 2018



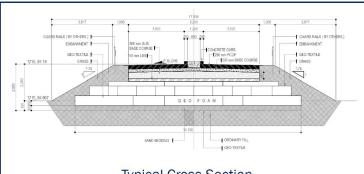








#### Binan - Sta. Rosa Access Road



Typical Cross Section

Scope: **Embankment for New Access Road** 

Location: Mamplasan Near SM Sta. Rosa

Age: 10 years

- Rice Field (Swampy Ground)
- 1.919 km
- 4 months Construction Duration

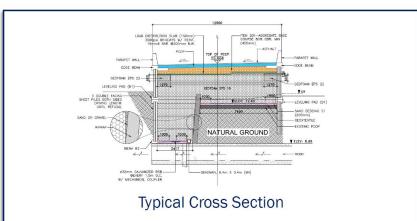








#### Skyway Extension Project - Sucat Alabang Viaduct Northbound Ramp



Scope: Embankment on Ramps

Location: Alabang, Muntinlupa City

Age: 1 year

- Lightweight Embankment on top of RCBC
- · On Ramp In Fill
- 2 weeks Construction Duration of Geofoam





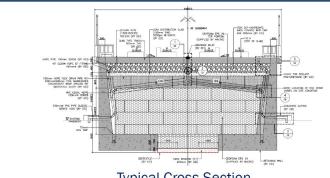








#### MRT 7- Settlement Area



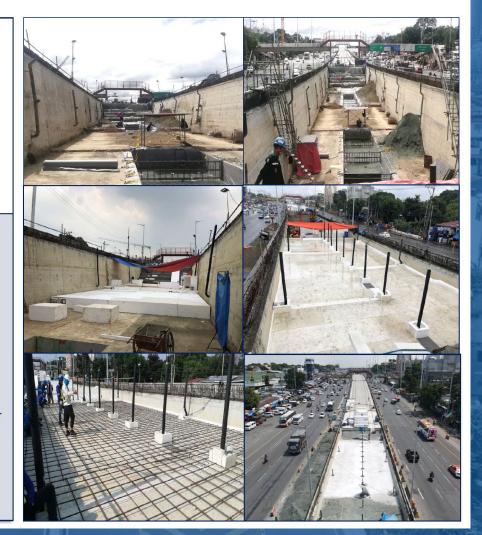
Typical Cross Section

Scope: Soil Embankment Replacement

Location: Tandang Sora Quezon City

6 months Age:

- Lightweight Embankment to ease further settlement
- 75 meters
- · 3 weeks Const. Duration of Geofoam



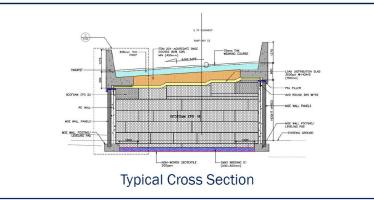








#### Metro Manila Skyway Stage 3 - Plaza Dilao Off Ramp



Scope: Embankment on Ramps
Location: Quirino Ave. Paco, Manila

Age: 7 months

- Lightweight Embankment
- 833 cum
- 5 days Const. Duration of Geofoam



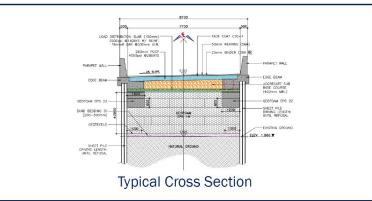








#### Metro Manila Skyway Stage 3 - Nagtahan On Ramp

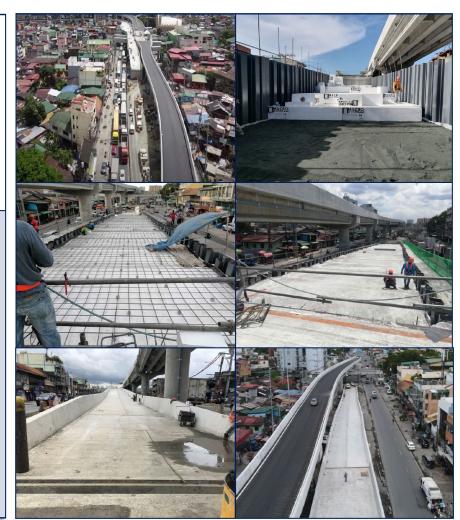


Scope: Embankment on Ramps

Location: Sta. Mesa, Manila

Age: 6 months

- · Lightweight Embankment
- 1,076 cum
- 4 days Const. Duration of Geofoam



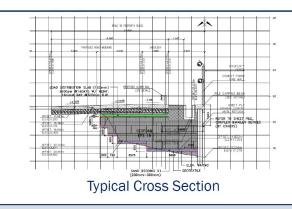








#### Alabang - Susana Heights Expressway Widening - Acceleration Lane



Scope: Embankment Road Widening

Location: Alabang – Susana Heights

Age: Current

- Lightweight Embankment
- 600 m



