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# The Minnesota Geotechnical Society

## *A Foundation for Engineering*

### *The Annual Conference*

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### Short Courses

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Thursday, February 25, 2010

#### *Finite Elements in Geotechnical Engineering*

**Time:** 8:15 am - 4:30 pm

**Objective:** Based on the successful textbook co-authored by the instructor ("Programming the Finite Element Method" by I.M. Smith and D.V. Griffiths, 4th ed., Wiley, 2004), the course will introduce participants to a powerful suite of finite element programs relating to practical geotechnical engineering applications. The course will remove some of the mystique of "black-box" proprietary geotechnical software by giving attendees an insight on how the finite element method works and the way in which programs are put together.

The course will discuss the selection of soil properties for geotechnical analysis by finite elements and demonstrate finite element applications to classical geotechnical problems that include settlements, seepage, and stability. In particular, some discussion will be devoted to a description and demonstration of the widely disseminated finite element slope stability program *slope1*.

**Instructor:** *Vaughan Griffiths, Ph.D., D.Sc., P.E.*  
Professor of Civil Engineering  
Colorado School of Mines

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**Registration:** With conference registration, the fee for the short course is \$225. Without conference registration, the fee for the short course is \$275. The fee includes parking, tuition, handouts, lunch, and refreshments. Participants earn 7 professional development hours (PDH) for the course. Registration must be received by January 30, 2010 and the course is limited to 48 people. The University reserves the right to cancel the course, in which case a full refund will be made.

Indicate your selection of the short courses on the [Conference Registration form](#).

**Location:** The short course will be held at the Continuing Education and

Conference Center, 1890 Buford Avenue, on the St. Paul Campus  
of the University of Minnesota, in Room 32.

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Website questions or comments? Please contact [sbryan@idpage.com](mailto:sbryan@idpage.com)  
MGS questions or comments? Please contact Paul Martin at [PMartin@braunintertec.com](mailto:PMartin@braunintertec.com)