

Date: Thursday, February 28, 2008

Location: Continuing Education and Conference Center
1890 Buford Avenue (St. Paul Campus of University of MN)

Social Hour: 6:00 PM Sponsored by Hayward Baker, Inc.

Dinner: 7:00 PM Buffet Style - \$25 (members), \$30 (non-members), \$5 (full-time students)

Presentation: 8:00 PM Dr. Evert Hoek, Consultant
See article below

“Experience Gained from 80 miles of Tunneling on the Egnatia Highway in Northern Greece”

A 425 mile long 4 lane highway, following the route of an ancient Roman road, is currently nearing completion in northern Greece. This highway runs from the west coast port of Igomentisa, across the Pindos Mountains and links to the Anatolian highway under construction in Turkey. The project is part of the Trans-European Highway Network and is funded jointly by the European Union and the Greek government. A total of 75 tunnels, with a total length of approximately 80 miles, have been constructed in a wide range of rock types ranging from hard and strong rocks to very weak tectonically disturbed rocks. This informal presentation will deal with some of the challenges that have been faced over the past ten years in route selection, design and construction of these tunnels and the associated portals, cuts and bridges.

Evert Hoek Bio

Evert Hoek was born in Zimbabwe and graduated in mechanical engineering in 1955 from the University of Cape Town. He was awarded a PhD by the same university in 1965 for a study on brittle fracture of rock. He joined the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in 1958 and worked on rock mechanics problems associated with deep level hard rock mining. In 1966 he moved to the Imperial College of Science and Technology in London, England, where he established an inter-departmental center for research and teaching in rock mechanics. He was appointed Professor of Rock Mechanics in 1970 and awarded a Doctor of Science in Engineering by London University in 1974.

In 1975 he moved to Vancouver, Canada, to join Golder Associates as a principal and director and, for the next 12 years, he worked on major projects around the world. In 1987 he was appointed Industrial Research Professor of Rock Engineering in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Toronto. In 1993 he returned to Vancouver where he has worked as an independent consultant since that time.

Evert Hoek has worked on projects in 35 countries and has published 3 books and well over 100 papers. All of his major papers as well as an on-line book on rock engineering are available for downloading from the Internet. He has been awarded honorary doctorates by the University of Waterloo and the University of Toronto and is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in the United Kingdom and a Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Engineering.