The IPA Seminar on Press-in Technology was successfully held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 18 May 2018. The Seminar was organized by the IPA Local Organizing Committee, together with The Engineering Institute of Thailand (EIT), Thailand Geotechnical Society (TGS), Thailand Underground & Tunneling Group (TUTG) as the Co-organizer. Further, the Seminar received a strong support from TEAM Consulting Engineering and Management Co., Ltd. and Geotechnical and Foundation Engineering Co., Ltd. (GFE) and also received sponsorship by GIKEN LTD. and Thai Fullmore Co., Ltd. as Gold Sponsors.

Overview
Date: 18th May 2018, Friday 09:00 – 16:10
Venue: The Engineering Institute of Thailand (EIT)
487 Soi Ramkhamhaeng 39, Ramkhamhaeng Road, Bangkok 10310, Thailand
Participants: 103

Local organizing committee (LOC)
Chair: Dr. Suttisak Soralump (President of TGS)
Honorary Chair: Dr. Noppadol Phienwej (President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society – SEAGS)
Chair: Dr. Apichart Sramoon (President of TUTG)
Co-chair: Dr. Pastsakorn Kitiyodom (Managing Director of GFE)

The Seminar was commenced with the opening address by Dr. Aphichat Sramoon, President of TUTG followed by the eight (8) meaningful presentations from various fields as follows:

Presentation 1 Title: “Application of Physical Modeling on Retaining Structure”
Lecturer: Dr. Jiro Takemura (Assoc. Prof. at Tokyo Institute of Technology IPA Director)

Presentation 2 Title: “Overall current practice of piling work in Thailand”
Lecturer: Dr. Wanchai Teparaksa (Assoc. Prof. at Chulalongkorn University)

Presentation 3 Title: “Fundamentals of Press-in machine technology and Future potential projects in Thailand”
Lecturer: Dr. Ittichai Boonsiri (Geotechnical Engineer at GFE)

Presentation 4 Title: “Press-in Retaining Structures: A handbook (Design)”
Lecturer: Dr. Jiro Takemura (Assoc. Prof. at Tokyo Institute of Technology / IPA Director)

Presentation 5 Title: “Press-in machine usage experience in Thailand and difficult condition to be applied”
Lecturer: Mr. Visanu Vivatanaprasert (Managing Director of Altemtech Co., Ltd.)

Presentation 6 Title: “Press-in Retaining Structures: A handbook (Construction)”
Lecturer: Mr. Kohei Takata (GIKEN SEISAKUSHO ASIA PTE., LTD.)

Presentation 7 Title: “The Best Practice Notes for Water Jetting”
Lecturer: Mr. Tsunenobu Nozaki (GIKEN LTD.)

Presentation 8 Title: “E-site visit (Introduction of the Press-in applications)”
Lecturer: Tomotaka Hirose (GIKEN LTD.)
Some presentations as collaborated efforts among industry-academia-government to introduce the current construction trends and concerns in Thailand were made by the invited local representatives and those presentations were conducted in Thai language for easier understanding.

Following those presentations, a guidance on the use of the “Press-in retaining structures: a handbook (First edition 2016)” which being published by the International Press-in Association (IPA) was presented by Prof. Takemura. This Handbook was published to update the latest development on Press-in technology with highlighting important issues regarding the both design and construction aspects of the Press-in technology. This Handbook consists of over 500 pages, stored in PDF form, and can be purchased on IPA website (https://www.press-in.org/en/publication/index/1) for JPY 10,000.

“E-site visit” as the Presentation 8 was conducted by the GIKEN LTD. staff with visual materials such as videos, computer graphics and pictures. These materials were well organized to demonstrate the various features of the Press-in Method as well as a mechanism of Press-in principles.

A discussion forum chaired by Dr. Pastasakorn Kitiyodom was held after the 8 presentation sessions. During the Forum, many questions were raised by the audience related to the construction and cost aspects of the Press-in technique. Questions raised by the audiences were comprehensibly answered by presenters for clear understanding.

As the last part of the seminar, the closing remark was addressed by Prof. Osamu Kusakabe, IPA President with expressing an appreciation towards the all participants, the Local Organizing Committee, supporters and sponsors for the successful Seminar. Also, an announcement of the next IPA Seminar to be held in the Philippines on 21 May 2018 was made.