

THOREL Luc

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Luc Thorel obtained his Engineering Degree in Geotechnics and Geophysics in 1987, a diploma delivered by Polytech'Paris, Sorbonne University.

He received his PhD in geotechnical engineering, delivered by Ecole des Ponts ParisTech in 1994 for research on *Plasticity and damage of ductile rocks: application to rocksalt*.

He was research engineer successively both in Lausanne Swiss Federal Institute (1988-1990), working on *frost behaviour of soils*, and in Ecole Polytechnique (1994-1996), working on *mechanical behaviour of clays* in the framework of underground storage.

In 1996 he moved to Nantes' Campus of the University Gustave Eiffel (formerly IFSTTAR and LCPC) to work on *physical modelling* as a researcher in the Geotechnical Centrifuge team.

In 1999 he was appointed as the head of the LCPC's Physical Modelling in Geotechnics group.

In 2010 he passed the Accreditation to supervise Research in Civil Engineering & Geotechnics, delivered by Nantes University and became Director of Research in the University Gustave Eiffel.

In 2013 he was appointed as the Director of the Geomaterials and Modelling in Geotechnics Laboratory, in University Gustave Eiffel's Nantes campus, and in 2021 deputy head of the Centrifuges for Geotechnics Laboratory. Since 2022 he is Assistant Director for Geotechnics of the Geotechnical Engineering, Environment, Natural hazards and Earth sciences Department (GERS) at Univ. Gustave Eiffel.

He was elected member of the technical and scientific committee of the French Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering in 2006, and became vice-president between 2009 and 2012. In 2012, he was elected member of the Conseil of the CFMS and became vice-president from 2016 to 2020. Since 2010, he represents the French Geotechnical Society in the International Technical Committee "Physical Modelling in Geotechnics" TC104. He has been also member, from 2014 to 2020, of the editorial board of the Int. Journal Physical Modelling in Geotechnics, and is involved in the Transportation Geotechnics Journal since 2021.

Luc Thorel's current research explores themes concerned with *physical modelling in geotechnics*, particularly with the geotechnical centrifuge. He is working mainly on *soil-structure interactions under complex loading*, such as soil reinforcement, deep and shallow foundations, including off-geotechnics application such as in Marine Renewable Energy. The ongoing challenge for each of these topics is to observe and understand the phenomena, and also to obtain appropriate experimental data to be compared to numerical or theoretical models.

He coordinates research programmes such as the French National ASIRI+ (2019-2023), devoted to soil reinforcement with vertical rigid inclusions.

He has published 68 publications in journals, 174 communications in conferences, 78 research reports for industry. He co-supervised 15 Ph.D students, and was member of 44 PhD jury, including 19 times as a reporter. He has been regularly asked for reviewing papers for the main geotechnical engineering journals.