

Publishing

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A themed issue on the role of water in structural failure is planned for 2020

Editor: Ester Calavia Garsaball, Director, Natural Catastrophe and Climate Risk Management, Strategic Risk Consulting, Willis Towers Watson, London, UK

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Water in all its forms has many implications for civil engineers. A core function of buildings is to keep their contents dry, and infrastructure such as roads, tunnels and airports must prevent the accumulation of water to perform as intended. It can impart large loads, and is often the cause or contributory factor of failures.

However, because of its transient nature, the extent water is responsible for failures, and the mechanisms of damage, can be hard to predict. The purpose of this themed issue is to explore forensic case studies and developments that might help us better understand the role of water in these failures, and design to avoid them in future.

Examples of relevant subjects for damage and failures include:

- tsunamis, floods, storm surge
- rain damage, burst water mains
- corrosion, freeze/thaw action
- scour around piles and bridge piers
- waterfront, river and quay walls
- sea defences and breakwaters

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Contact: Sam Hall T: +44 (0)207 665 2450 E: sam.hall@icepublishing.com