

# MASS STABILIZATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION

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**Ramboll Finland Oy**



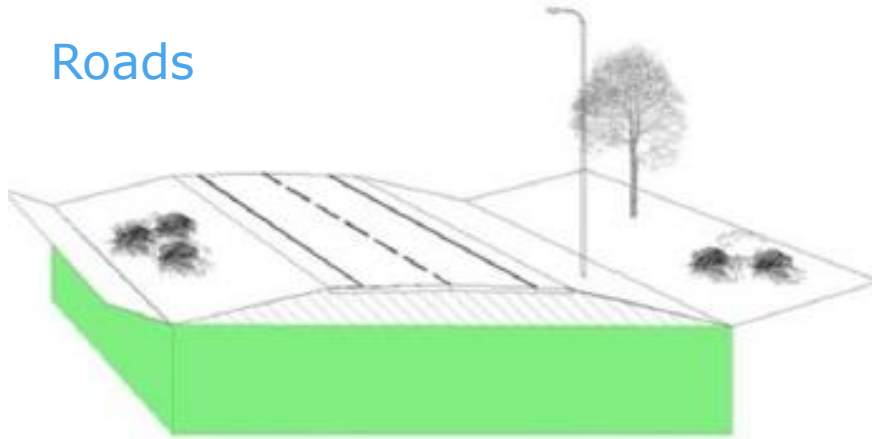
**MASS  
STABILISATION  
CONFERENCE** | **2015**  
22.-24.4.2015  
SIBELIUS HALL, LAHTI, FINLAND

# MASS STABILISATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION

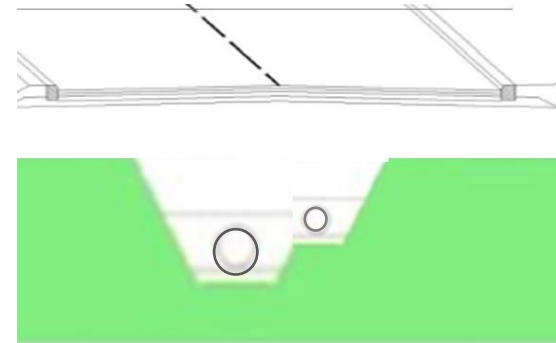
1. GEOTECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL APPLICATIONS
2. ROADS, PROJECT DEMONSTRATION
3. MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS
4. RAILWAYS
5. LESSONS LEARNED

# MASS STABILISATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

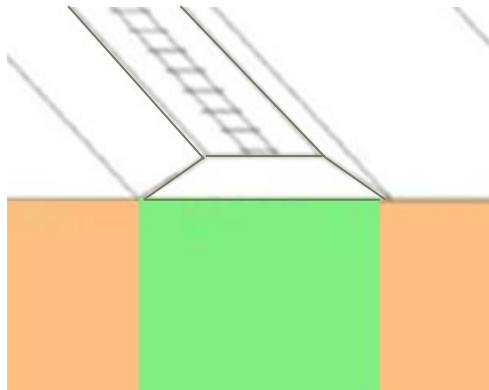
Roads



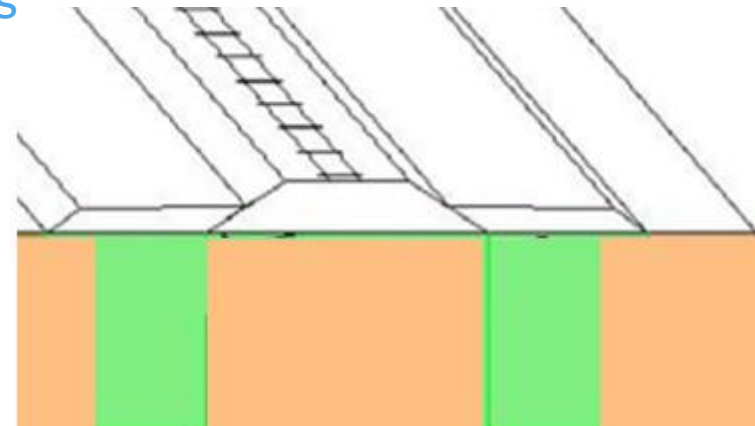
Streets and municipal engineering



Railroads



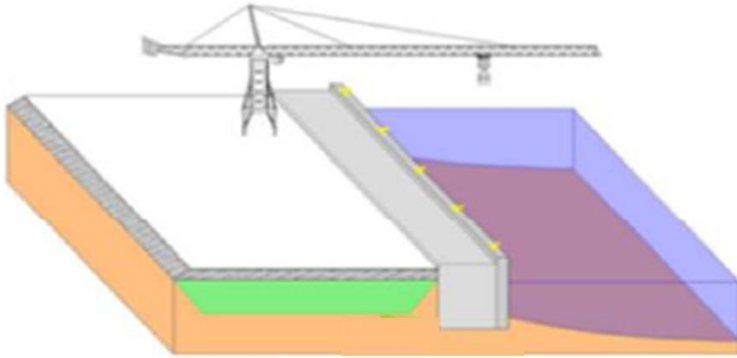
New or existing railroad



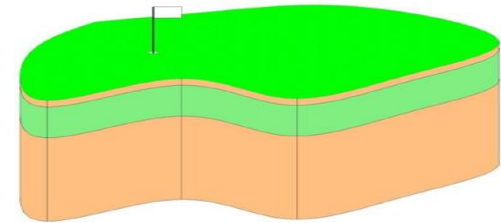
Existing railroad

# MASS STABILISATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION

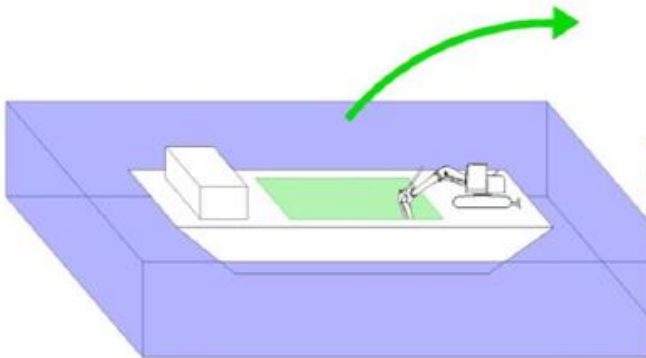
## Harbours



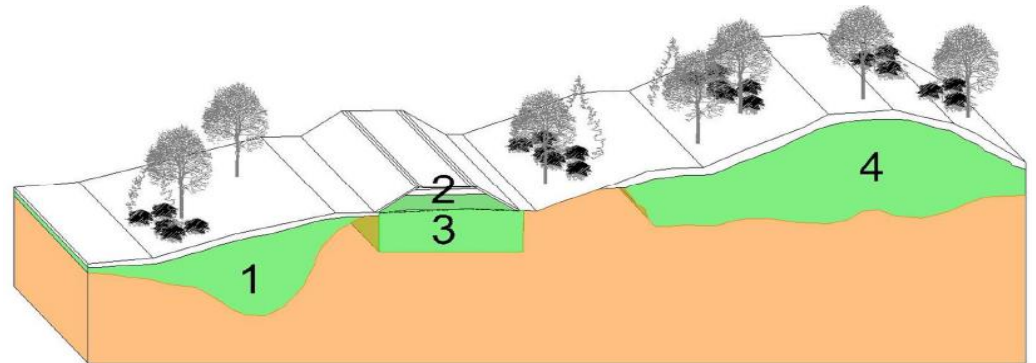
## Outdoor activity centres



## Sea routes (Fairways)

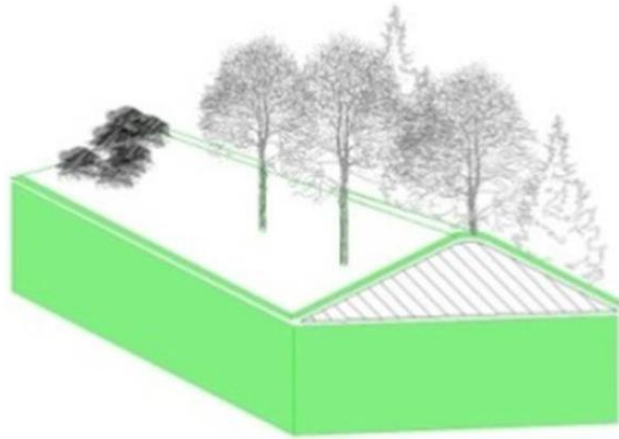


## Green areas and landscaping

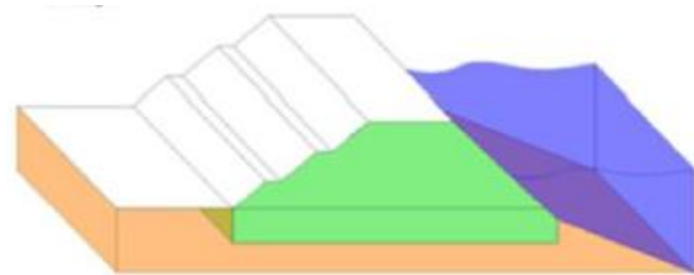


# MASS STABILISATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION

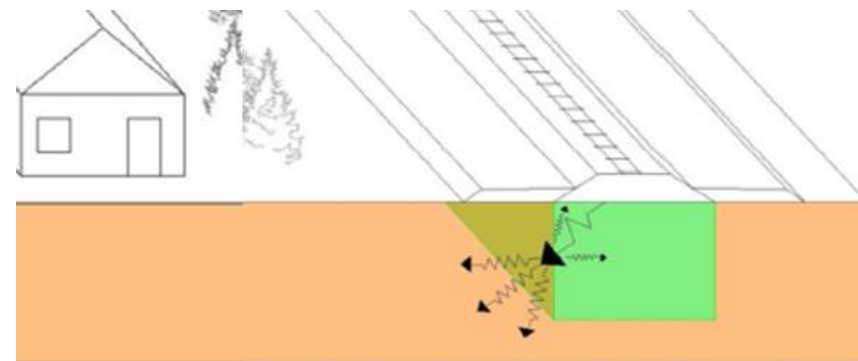
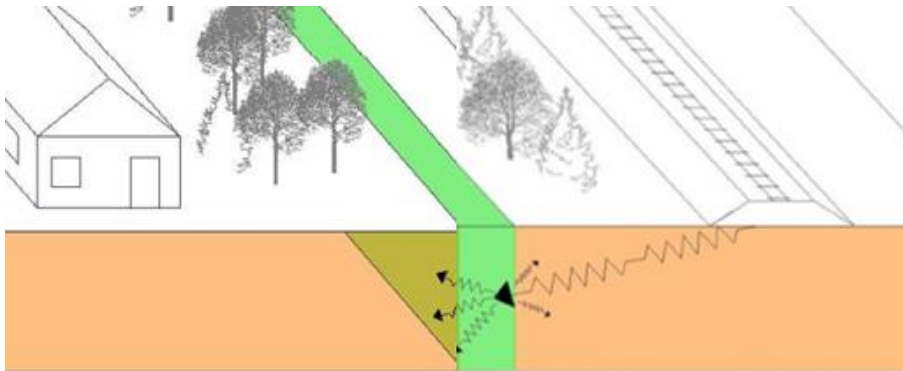
## Noice barriers



## Flood protection dams and embankments



## Vibration reducing (beside or under railroad)

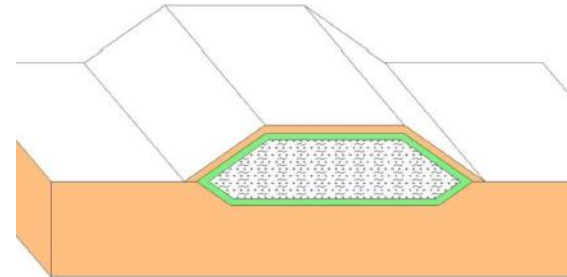


# MASS STABILISATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION

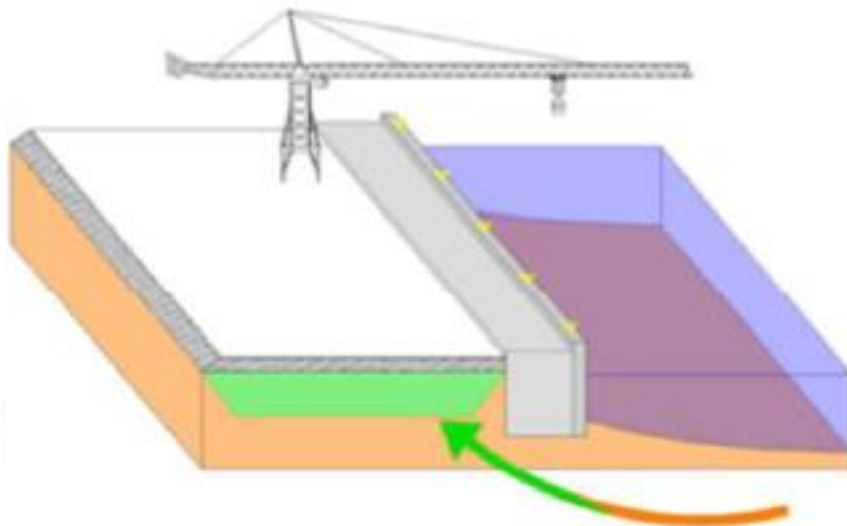
Reactive walls



Sealing layer of landfill structure



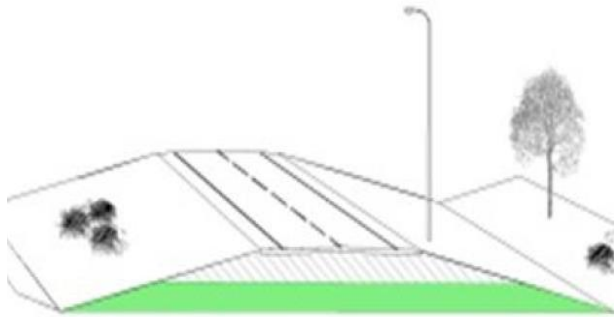
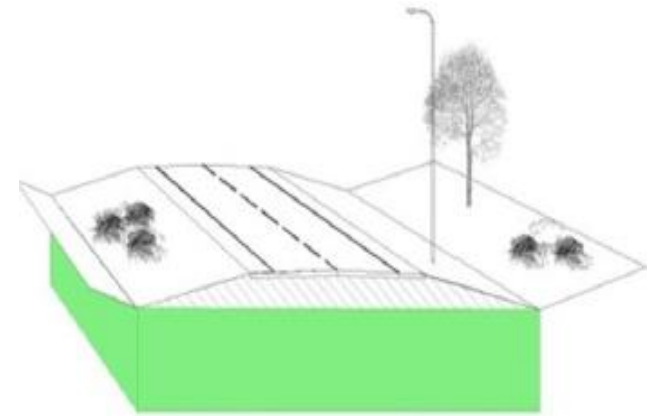
Solidification of contaminated sediment or soil masses in harbour or in noise barriers (etc.)



# ROADS

The function of mass stabilization:

- reduce settlement
- improve the total stability
- increase the load-bearing capacity of the subgrade
- improve the properties of low-quality soils and to utilize them in embankment filling
- prevent forming of poor quality surplus soils (stabilization prior to excavation)



Before

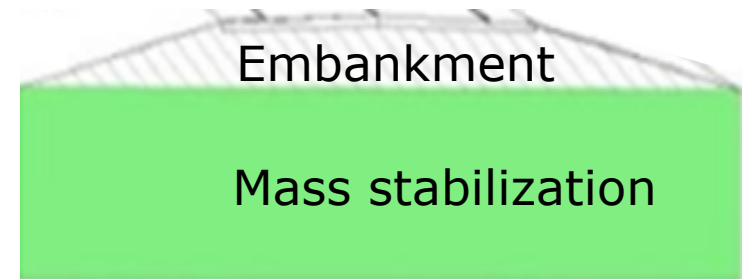
After



# MASS STABILIZATION PROJECT, ROAD (FUEL STATION), HAMINA, FINLAND

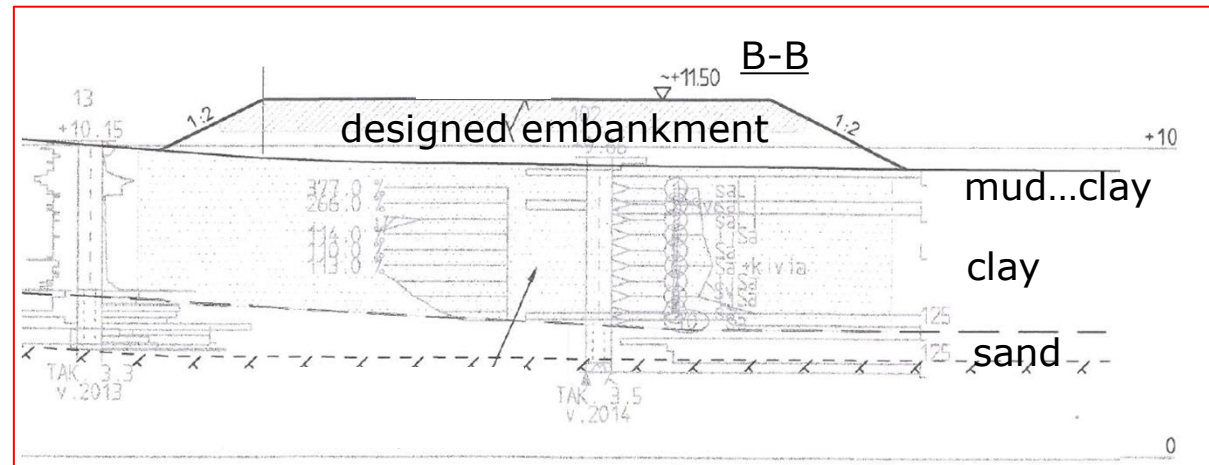
Project demonstration  
(design and quality control):

1. geology
2. stabilisation tests
3. cost estimations
4. dimensioning
5. technical drawings, work specifications, quality assurance plan
6. quality control



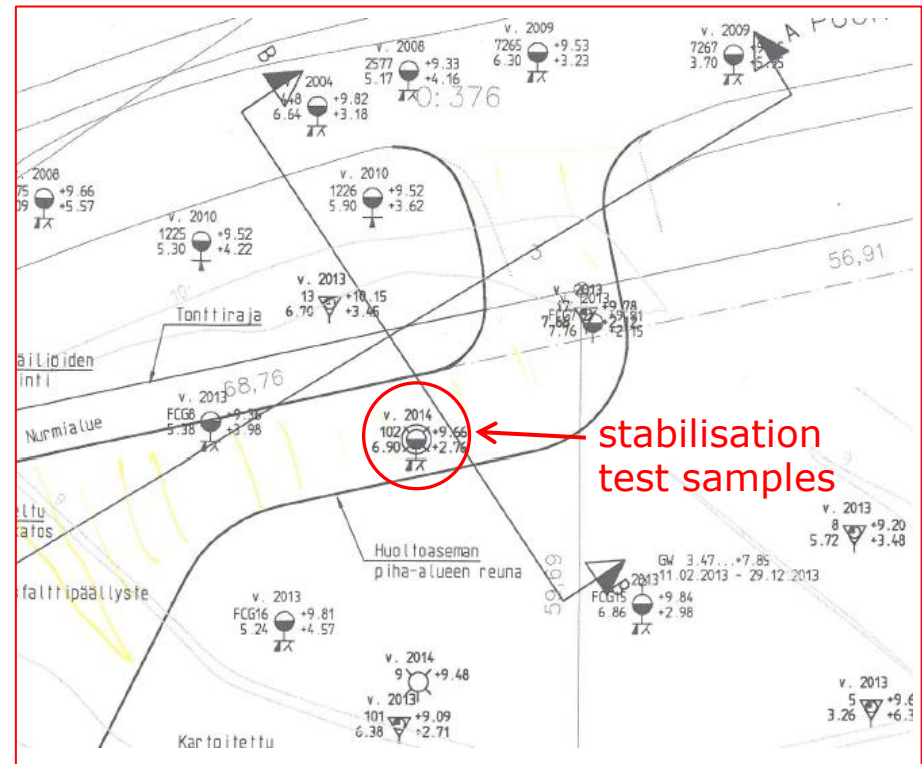


# MASS STABILIZATION PROJECT, ROAD, HAMINA



## 1. Geology:

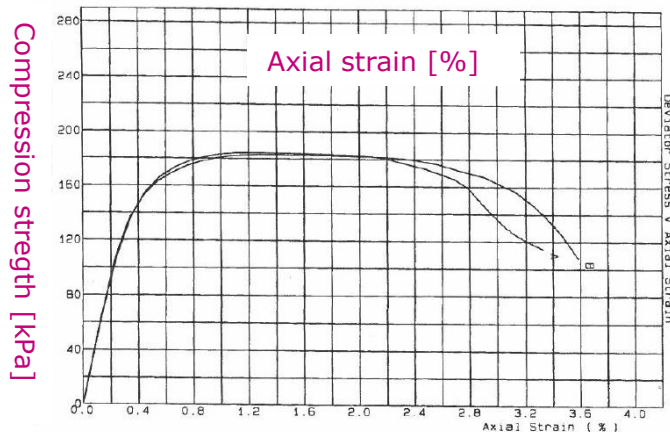
- clay and mud layer 0...7 meters
- sand, glacial till and bed rock under clay layer
- shear strength 4...6 kN/m<sup>2</sup> (vane, unreduced)
- water content 100...400 %
- ground water level  $\approx$  ground surface level



# MASS STABILIZATION PROJECT, ROAD, HAMINA

## 2. Stabilization tests in laboratory:

- 2 sampling depths
  - 2 binders
  - 2...4 binder amounts (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)
  - 28 days hardening time
  - 1-axial compression tests
  - good hardening with binder Nordkalk GTC 75 kg/m<sup>3</sup>
- => shear strength 60...90 kPa is easy to achieve ( $\tau = \sigma / 2$ )



Toimitettujen näytteiden luokitteluominaisuudet

| Piste | syvyys | w [%] | $\rho_m$ [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ] | LOI [%] | maalaji <sup>1)</sup> |
|-------|--------|-------|-------------------------------|---------|-----------------------|
|       | 2 m    | 126   | 1360                          | 8.2     | Clay                  |
|       | 3.5 m  | 98.2  | 1440                          | 4.4     |                       |

1) Silmämääräinen maalajiarviointi.

Stabiloituvuustutkimukset

| Piste | syvyys | Sideaine määrä [kg/m <sup>3</sup> ] | Compression strength [kPa] 28 days | Pa] |    |
|-------|--------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----|----|
|       | 2 m    | GTC                                 | 75                                 | 133 | x  |
|       |        |                                     | 100                                | 135 | x  |
|       |        |                                     | 125                                | 143 | x  |
|       |        |                                     | 150                                | 156 | x  |
|       |        | KC 3:7                              | 75                                 |     | xx |
|       |        |                                     | 100                                | 69  | x  |
|       |        |                                     | 125                                | 104 | x  |
|       |        |                                     | 150                                | 154 | x  |
|       |        |                                     | 180                                |     | xx |
|       |        |                                     | 3.5 m                              | GTC | 50 |
|       |        | 75                                  | 184                                | x   |    |
|       |        | 100                                 |                                    | xx  |    |

x = koestamatta jäänyt varakappale.

GTC = Nordkalk GTC (gypsum + lime + cement)  
 KC 3:7 = lime 30 % and cement 70 %



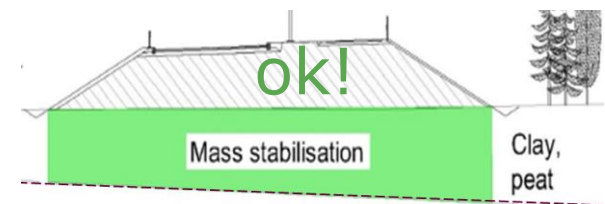
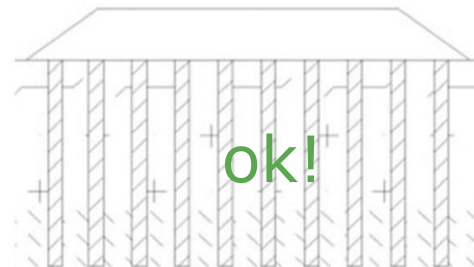
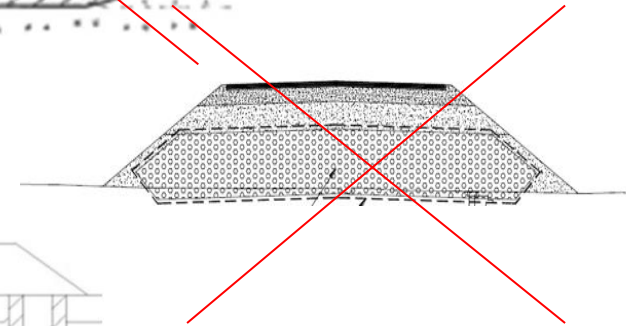
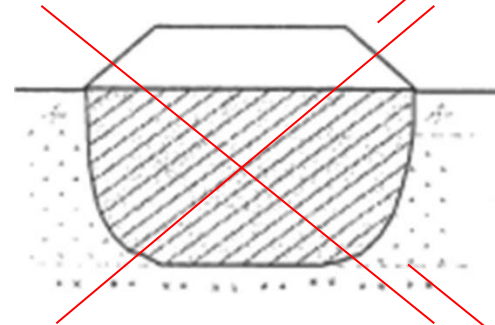
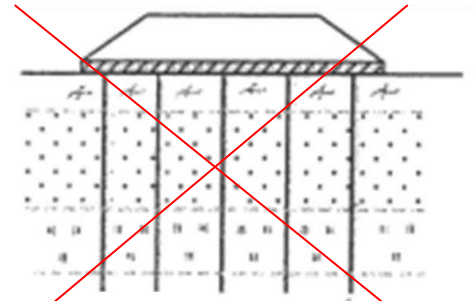
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# MASS STABILIZATION PROJECT, ROAD, HAMINA

## 3. Cost estimation:

Comparison to other potential foundation engineering methods:

- Pile foundation => expensive
- Mass replacement => "brutal" method to near by structures, high price of the surplus soft soil
- Light weight fill => too big settlements, stability?, high price
- Column stabilisation with overlapping columns => ok!
- Mass stabilisation => ok!  
(more suitable in this case)

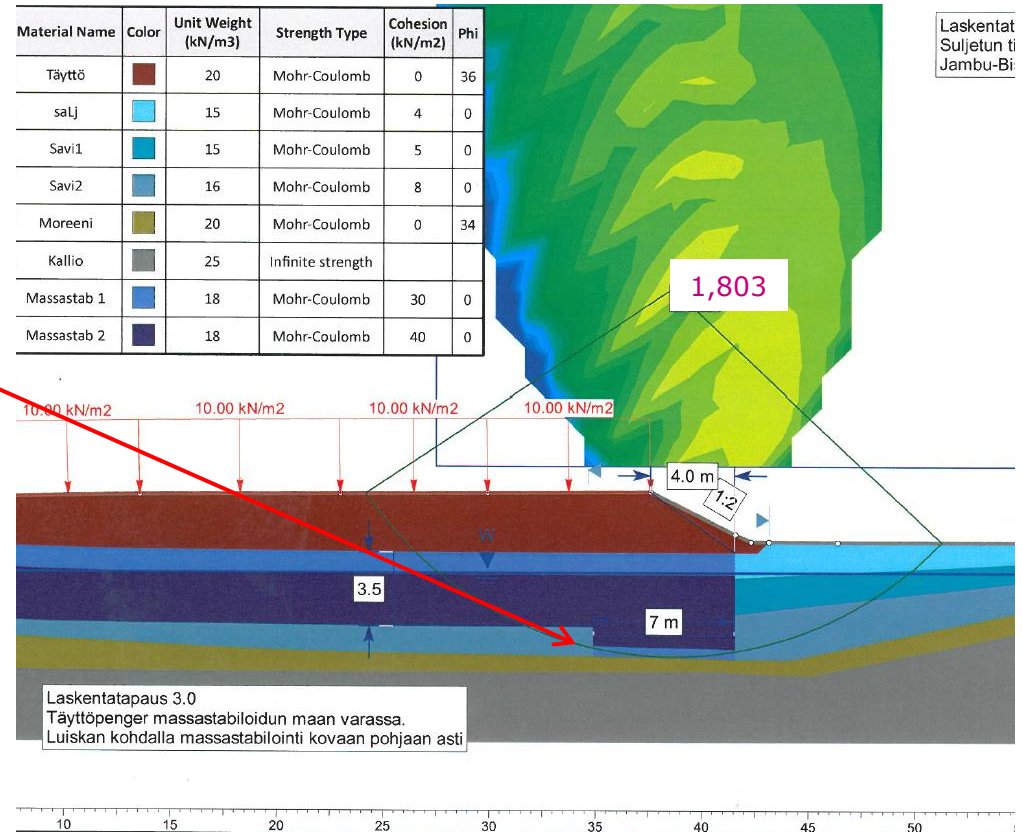
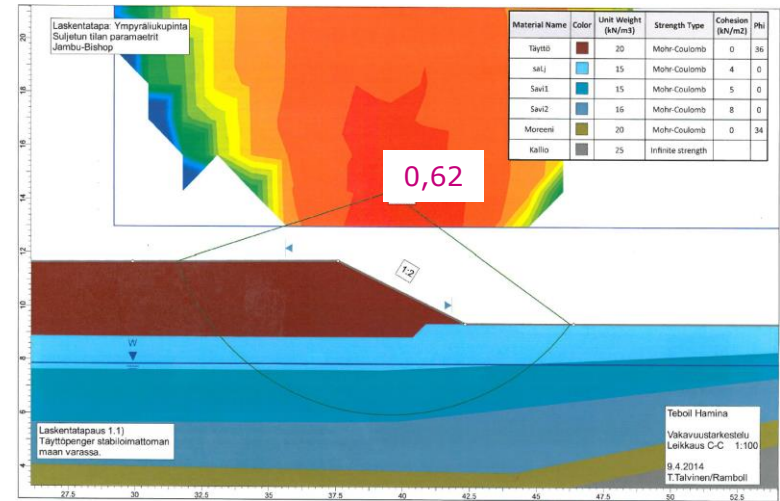


# MASS STABILIZATION PROJECT, ROAD, HAMINA

## 4. Dimensioning:

### Stability calculations

- stability calculations without foundation structures (1) and with deep stabilisation (2)
- 1) safety factor against failure  $F = 0,62 \ll 1,8$
- 2)  $F = 1,803 > 1,8$ , when shear strength of mass stabilised soil is 40 kPa
- NOTE! weaker layer in the bottom of mass stabilization over hard glacial till layer



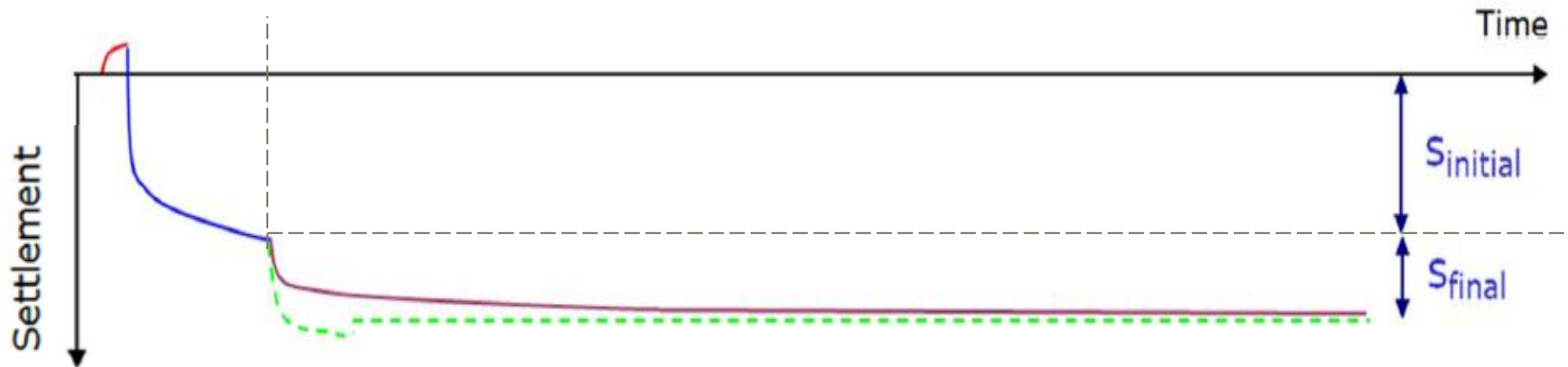
### Settlement calculations:

- 1) >700 mm (theoretical because  $F \ll 1,0$ )
- 2)  $\approx 60$  mm (after hardening of mass stabilization)



## SOME TYPICAL PARAMETERS OF MASS STABILIZED SOIL

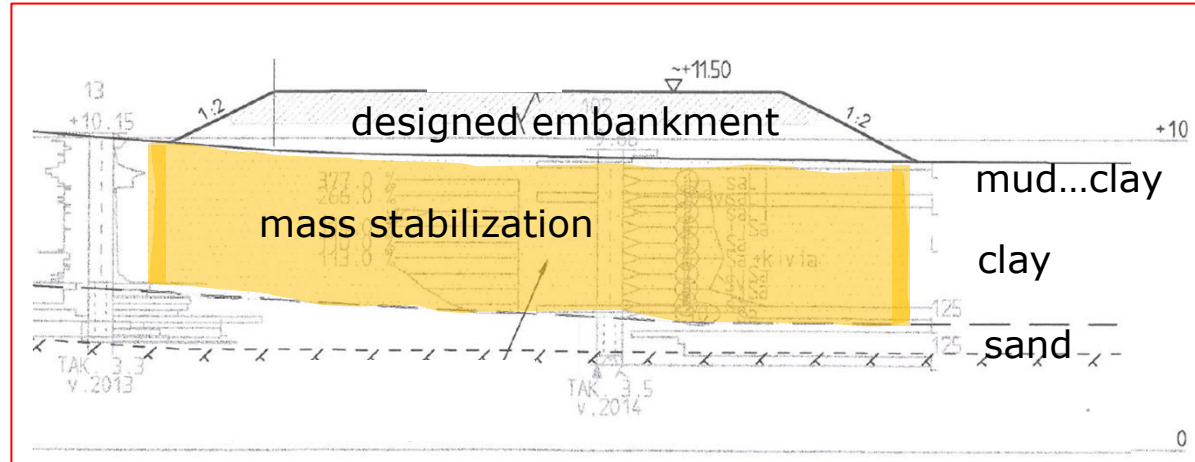
| Parameter                                             | Normal value                          | Test method                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Shear Strength<br>$\tau, \tau = c + \sigma \tan \phi$ | 50...200 kPa                          | 1-axial compression test<br>(3-axial in special cases => $c + \phi$ )                 |
| Modulus, $E_{50}$<br>during hardening                 | 0,1...0,3 MPa<br>( $S_{initial}$ )    | curing time settlement of test specimen                                               |
| Modulus, $E_{50}$<br>after hardening                  | 10...80 MPa<br>( $S_{final}$ )        | 1-axial compression test<br>in practise $E_{50} = 350...450 \times \tau_{stabilized}$ |
| Water Permeability, $k$                               | $1 \times 10^{-8} \dots 10^{-10}$ m/s | CRS-test, flexible wall permeameter                                                   |





# MASS STABILIZATION PROJECT, ROAD, HAMINA

## 5. Technical drawings, work specifications, quality assurance plan, etc.



Target shear strength 40 kPa

Binder GTC 75 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

### 14132.0 Stabiloinnin tavoitetaso ja lujuusvaatimus

#### Stabiloinnin tavoitetaso:

Massasyvästabiloitavan alueen kulmapisteiden koordinaatit on esitetty liitteessä 104. Koko stabiloitavalla alueella massastabilointi ulotetaan saavuttamaan tavoitetaso on esitetty korkeuskäyrinä piirustuksessa 103.

#### Lujuusvaatimukset:

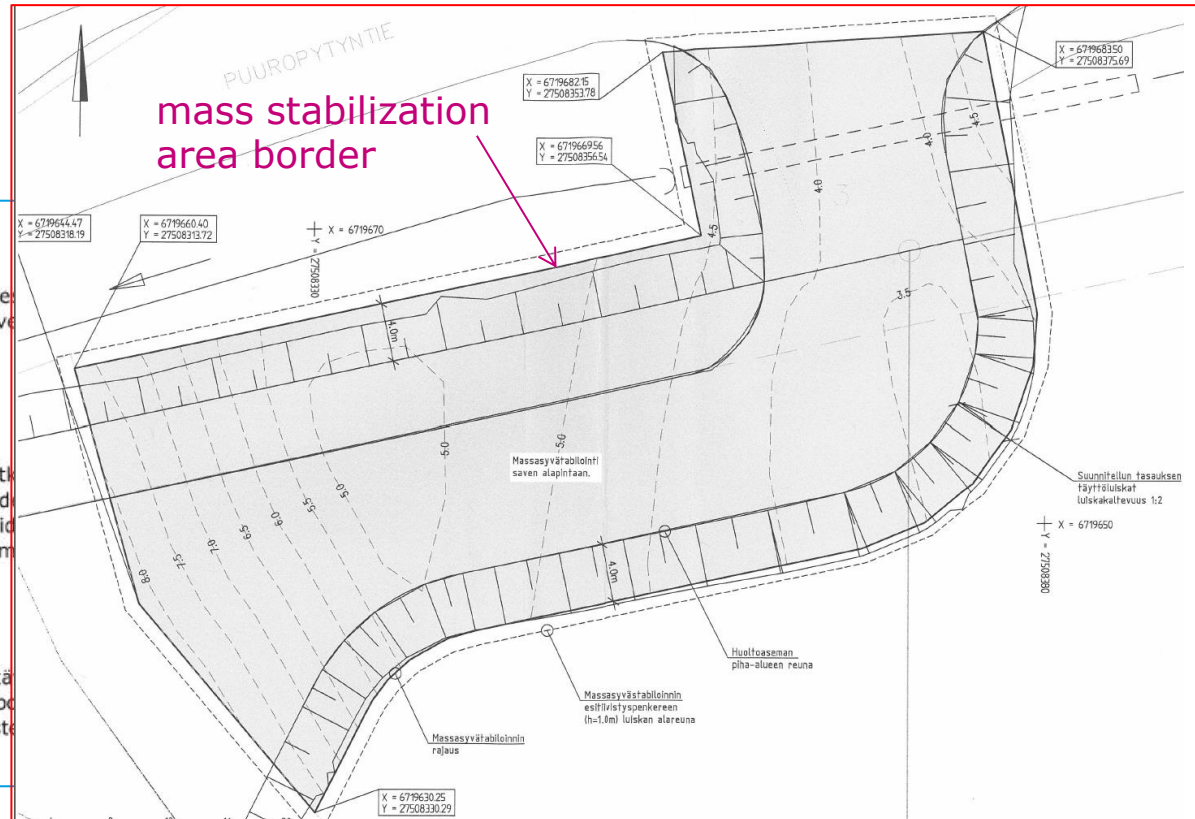
Massastabiloinnin tavoiteleikkauslujuus on 40 kPa.

Lujuusvaatimus tulee saavuttaa 3 kk ikäisenä. 1 kk ikäisenä tutkittuna massastabiloinnin lujuuden tulee olla  $\geq 80\%$  3 kk tavoitelujuudesta. Mahdollisille muille sidottuun lujuusvaatimukseen ei ole esitetty tarkennuksia. Mahdollisille muille sidottuun lujuusvaatimukseen ei ole esitetty tarkennuksia. Mahdollisille muille sidottuun lujuusvaatimukseen ei ole esitetty tarkennuksia.

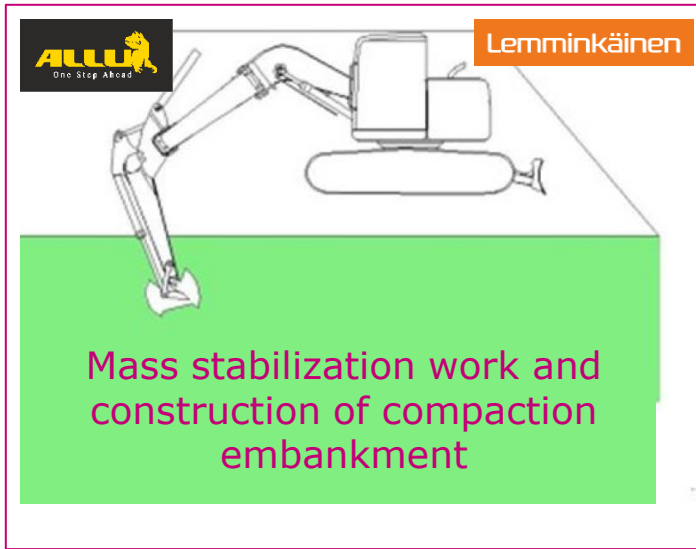
### 14132.1 Massastabiloinnin materiaalit

#### Sideaine ja sideainemäärä

Stabiloinnissa käytetään sideaineena GTC:tä 75 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. Käytettävä sideaine on perustettava laboratoriossa tehtyihin puristuslujuuskokeisiin (Rambor) ja urakoitsija voi esittää muutakin sideainetta laboratoriotulosten perusteella aikaisemmin tehtyjen stabilointien kokemusten perusteella.

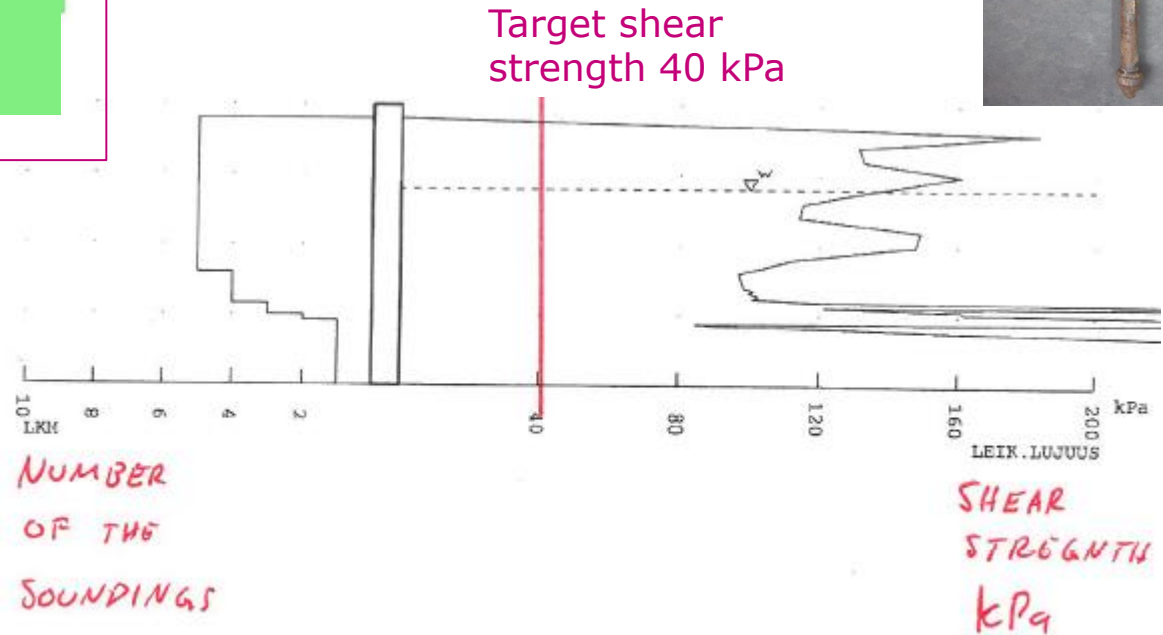


# MASS STABILIZATION PROJECT, ROAD, HAMINA



## 6. Quality control

- after hardening time
- with column penetrometer (normally)



shear strength in situ > target shear strength => **ok!**

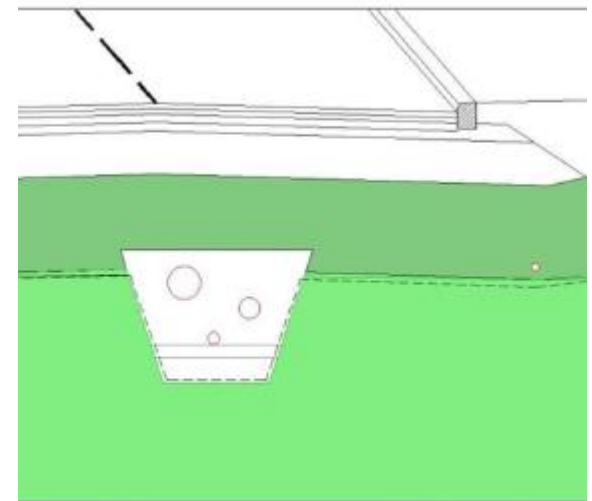
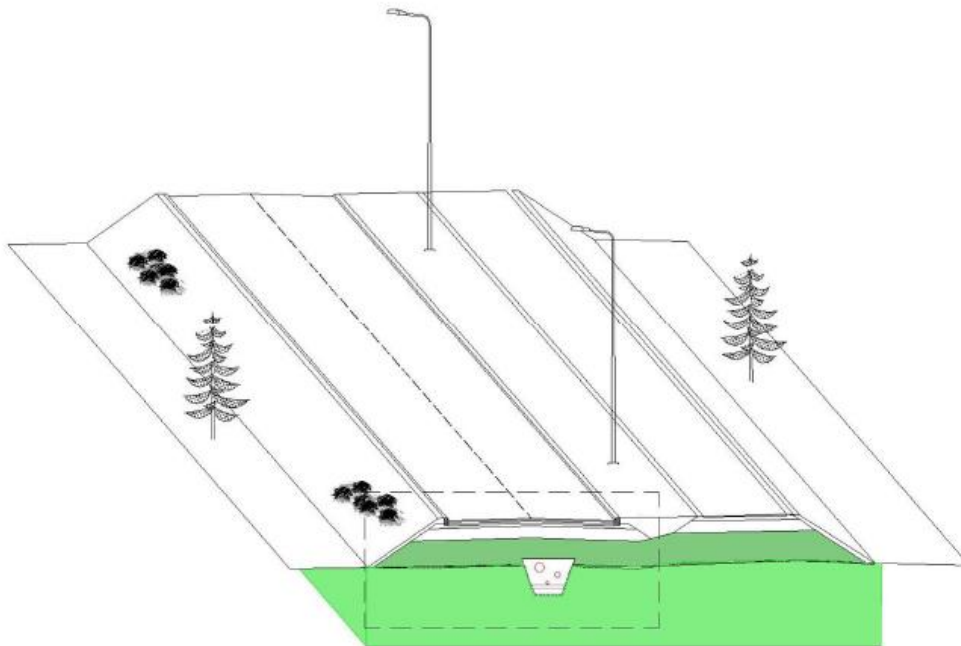
**=> Construction of the final embankment**

# MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS

The function of mass stabilization:

- to reduce settlement of the subgrade
- to improve stability of the pipe trenches
- hardening soft excavated soils to enable re-use in backfilling works in pipeline trenches or elsewhere

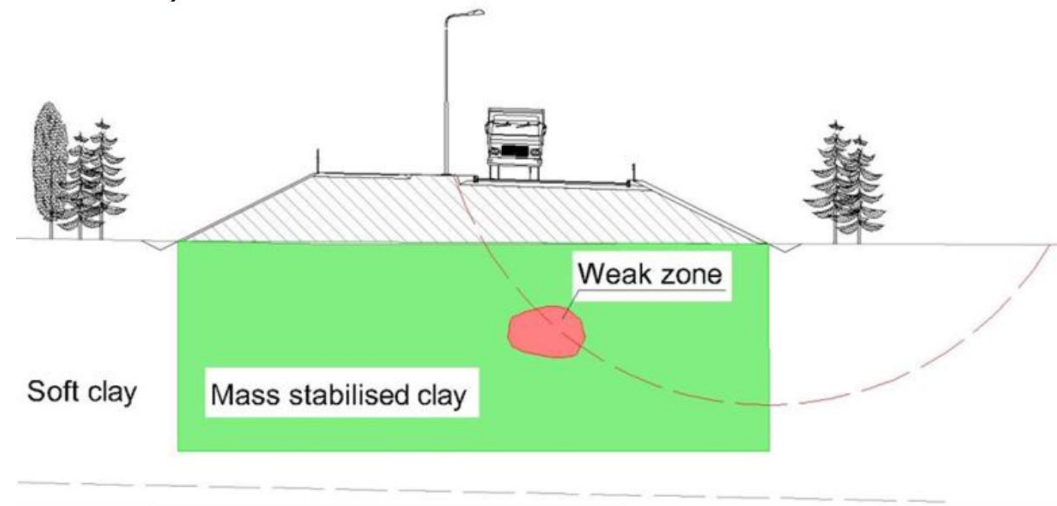
The requirements for the pipe settlement are generally more tight than in the case of a street structure alone.



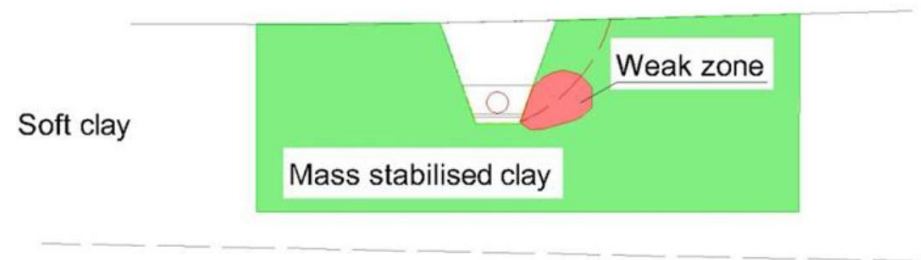
## MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS

The effect of weak zones depends on the purpose of the stabilization and the scale of the sliding surface

Large sliding surface under an embankment => small local weak zone is not "dangerous"



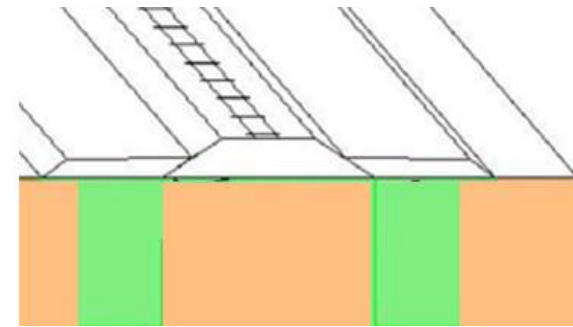
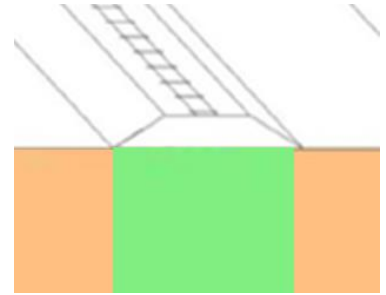
Short sliding surface in the slope of excavation => weak zone is "dangerous" (and sheet pile support or support with bracing elements may be needed)



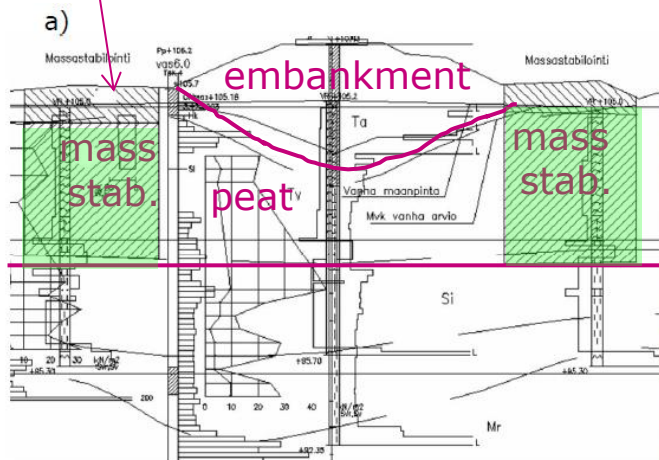
# RAILROADS

The function of mass stabilization:

- ground improvement of a new embankment or existing railroad embankment requiring repair under the embankment
- strengthening the ground adjacent to an old railroad embankment built on a soft soil



counter-weight embankment



Stability of an existing railway embankment was improved by a counter-weight embankment built in the soft soil area treated with mass stabilization



# RAILROADS

## CASE KOTOLAHTI, KOTKA, FINLAND

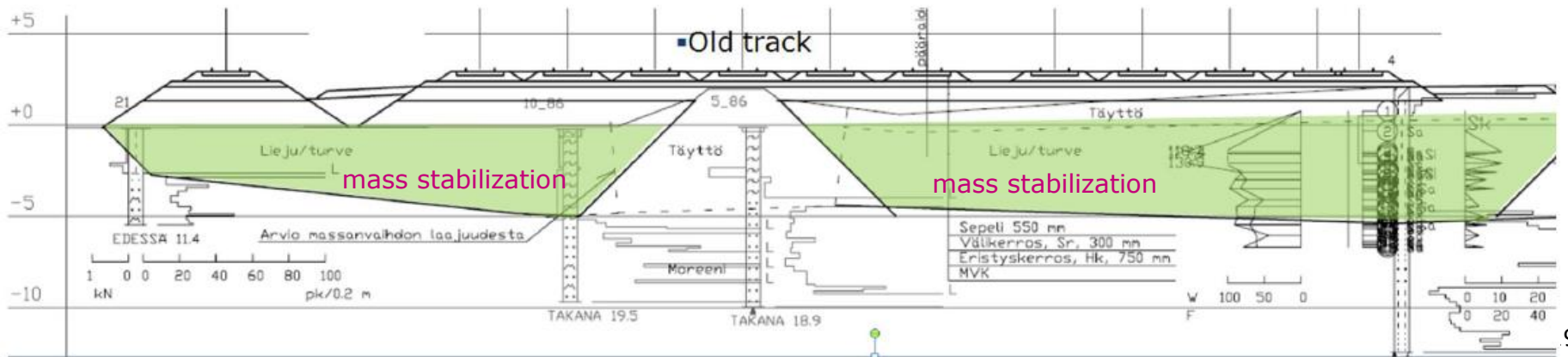
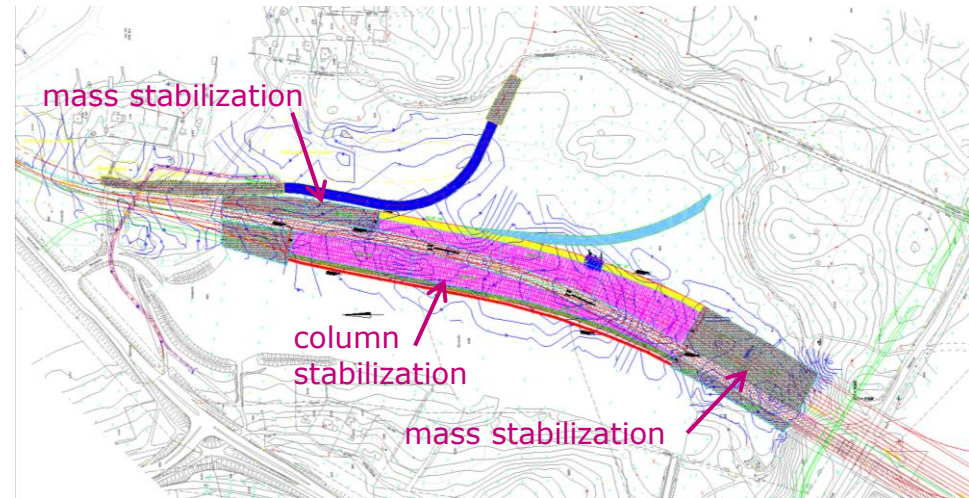
Mass stabilization,  $z_{\text{subsoil}} < 5 \text{ m}$

Column stabilization  $z_{\text{subsoil}} > 5 \text{ m}$

Water content 50...160 %

Shear strengt 7...11 kN/m<sup>2</sup>

Railway yard  
1 old track and 11 new tracks



## 5. LESSONS LEARNED

Mass stabilization is a versatile method to improve soft soils and the variation of applications is huge.

Almost every type of soft soils have been mass stabilized (clay, silt, gyttja, peat, dredged soft sediments, contaminated soils, etc.) during two decades of mass stabilization.

The dimensioning and design of mass stabilized applications are basically quite simple, but there are many issues which needs a lot of experience and understanding of the stabilized material and stabilization method.

Mass stabilization method is quite new method and it is continuously developing (machinery, binders, dimensioning, quality controlling methods, ...)



# Thank You

