

**JAMES G. COLLIN**

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## **EDUCATION**

PH.D. - University of California, Berkeley, CA - 1985

M.S.C.E. - George Washington University, Washington, DC - 1980

B.S.C.E. - Union College, Schenectady, NY - 1976

Licensed Professional Engineer: AL, AK, CT, DC, FL, GA, ID, IL, KS, MA, MD, MN, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, PA, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, WI

## **PROFESSIONAL HISTORY**

The Collin Group, Ltd. President, 1995 - Date

Maryland University - Adjunct Professor, Sept. 1995 - 2003

Tensor Earth Technologies, Vice President, Technology Development, 1991-1995

West Virginia University - Adjunct Professor, 1992-1997

Woodward-Clyde Consultants, Manager, Geotechnical Services, 1990-1991

George Washington University, Associate Professorial Lecturer, 1990-1991

STS Consultants, Ltd., Principal Engineer, Regional Manager, 1988-1990

Metropolitan Partnership, Vice President, Design and Construction, 1986-1988

GeoFreeze, Vice President, 1985-1986

University of California, Berkeley, Research Assistant, 1983-1985

The George Hyman Construction Company, Foundation Engineer, 1976-1982

## **EXPERIENCE**

Dr. Collin founded The Collin Group, Ltd., in 1995. He was author of the National Highway Institutes "Ground Improvement Methods Manual," "Soil Slope and Embankment Design Manual", "Slope Maintenance and Slide Restoration", and "Shallow Foundations Manual". Dr. Collin is also a certified instructor for the U.S. DOT, Federal Highway Administration courses on Earth Retaining Structures, Soil Nail Wall Design, MSEW and RSS Design and Construction Guidelines, Ground Improvement, Geosynthetic Design and Construction Guidelines, Shallow Foundations, Soil Slopes and Embankments, Slope Maintenance and Slide Restoration, and Geosynthetics. He was recognized by NHI as an "Instructor of Excellent" in 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2012.

Dr. Collin served on the Geotechnical Review Board (GRB) for Fairfax County, Virginia from 1995 through 2019. The GRB reviews all geotechnical reports in the problematic soils (i.e., marine clays) submitted to the County prior to issuing building permits.

Dr. Collin has performed MSE system evaluations for State DOT approval in Illinois, Idaho, Maryland, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, and Virginia.

Dr. Collin has led the use of column-supported embankments on load transfer platforms in the United States. Over the last decade he has been the design engineer of record for over 15 column supported embankment projects across the US. Projects have included bridge approach embankment support in NJ, TX, IA, MN, FL, and WA, support of oil storage tanks in NJ and Louisiana, support of MSE walls, and support of office buildings and townhouses in NJ and Alabama. The design methodology used to design these structures was pioneered by Dr. Collin, and it has contributed to the growing use of column supported embankments with load transfer platforms. His leadership in engineering this technology has led to wide-spread use throughout the U.S. and has expanded use worldwide. Dr. Collin has also conducted research on this ground improvement technique. He was the principal investigator for an FHWA research program to develop design guidelines for column supported embankments (Collin, J.G., Han, J., and Huang, J. (2005), "Design Recommendations for Column Supported Embankments" Federal Highway Administration FHWA-HRT). This research was continued in the SHRP2R02 project to provide additional guidance for designers and specifiers of CSE. He is also part of a team that developed the new FHWA Design Manual on Deep Mixing for Embankment and Foundation Support (*FHWA Design Manual: Deep Mixing for Embankment and Foundation Support*, Federal Highway Administration FHWA/NHI 13-046, 2013).

More recently, Dr. Collin was a principal investigator for the SHRP2R02 project on "Geotechnical Solutions for Soil Improvement, Rapid Embankment Construction, and Stabilization of the Pavement Working Platform." The objectives of this 4 year research program included the evaluation of ground improvement and rapid construction techniques for building embankments over soil soils (i.e., deep soil mixing, column supported embankments, wick drains, etc.), the development of a catalogue of materials and systems for rapid renewal projects; guidance for design and QC/QA procedures, methods for estimating costs, and sample specifications for the identified geotechnical materials, systems and technologies. The culmination of the research program was the development of a web based Ground Improvement selection and guidance system.

Dr. Collin has served as an expert witness for over 100 geotechnical and or construction related failures both in the US and abroad.

As an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland, Dr. Collin developed two new graduate engineering courses for the University. One deals with different methods of soil improvement (i.e., grouting, deep soil mixing, jet grouting, micro piles (pin piles), soil nailing, light weight fill (including fly ash), wick drains, dynamic compaction, and stone columns). The other course is titled Designing with Geosynthetics and covers the design and specifications of geosynthetics.

Dr. Collin possesses a wide range of geotechnical engineering experience involving reinforced soil structures, geosynthetics, embankments over soft soils, deep and shallow foundations, retaining walls, excavation support systems, ground freezing, soil nailing, pin piles, tiebacks, slurry walls, decking and building facade support. He has been responsible for technical consultation and overview on major engineering projects and has been involved in contract negotiation and

supervision of construction operations. Dr. Collin has been engineer of record on over 100 projects that involved the production of construction drawings and contract specifications. In addition to Dr. Collin's extensive design experience he has managed large construction project for a national construction company.

Additional experience for Dr. Collin includes: design of an underpinning system (micropiles/pin piles) to stop the vertical and lateral settlement of a 150-year old church caused by an adjacent excavation; design of a soil-cement arch, using finite element analysis, over an existing tunnel to minimize the increase in stress on the tunnel structure caused by the placement of 11 feet of fill; design of permanent tieback retaining wall systems and coordination of construction operations for roads and highways; design of frozen earth walls using finite element analyses; supervision and monitoring of installation of frozen retaining systems.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

American Society of Civil Engineers, Fellow, Diplomat of Geotechnical Engineering  
American Society of Civil Engineers, Geo-institute, Board of Governors  
American Society of Testing Materials  
Geotechnical Extreme Events Reconnaissance - Member  
International Society of Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering, Member  
Transportation Infrastructure Geotechnology – Editorial Board Member

## **AWARDS**

NHI's Instructor of Excellent for 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2012.  
ASCE Geo-Institute - Wallace Hayward Baker Award 2013 - The award is given in recognition of ingenious innovation in the field of ground modification.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

1. J.G. Collin, T.D. Stark, A. Lucarelli, T.P. Taylor, and R.R. Berg (2020) "Stability and Stress-Deformation Analyses of Reinforced Slope Failure at Yeager Airport" ASCE GI Journal of Geotechnical and GeoEnvironmental Engineering, January 2021.
2. R. R. Berg, J.G. Collin, T.T. Taylor, and C.F. Watts (2020) "Case History on Failure of a 67 M Tall Reinforced Soil Slope" Geotextiles and Geomembranes, September 2020.
3. G. M. Filz, J.A. Sloan, M.P. McGuire, M. Smith, and J. G. Collin (2019) "Settlement and Vertical Load Transfer in Column-Supported Embankments" ASCE GI Journal of Geotechnical and GeoEnvironmental Engineering, October 2019.
4. T. P. Taylor, J.G. Collin, and R.R. Berg (2017) "Evaluation of Limit Equilibrium Analysis Methods for Design of Soil Nail Walls", Report No. FHWA-NHI-17-068. Federal Highway Administration, September 2017.

5. V. R. Schaefer, R.R. Berg, J.G. Collin, B.R. Christopher, J. A. DiMaggio, G.M. Filz, D.A. Bruce and D. Ayala (2016) "Geotechnical Engineering Circular No. 13 Ground Modification Methods – Reference Manual" Report No. FHWA-NHI-16-027. Federal Highway Administration, December 2016.
6. M. P. McGuire, M. B. S. Yust, and J.G. Collin (2016) "As-Built Verification, Condition Assessment, and Forensic Analysis of Mechanically-Stabilized Earth Walls Incorporating Terrestrial Lidar", ASCE Geotechnical Conference, Phoenix AZ.
7. H.I. Ling, L. Xu, D. Leshchinsky, J.G. Collin, P. Rimoldi (2016) "Centrifugal Modeling of Reinforced Soil Retaining Walls Considering Staged Construction", ASCE GeoChicago Conference, Chicago, Illinois.
8. B. Tanyu, A. Abbaspour, J.G. Collin, D. Leshchinsky, J. Han, H. I. Ling, and P. Rimoldi (2016) "Case Study: Instrumentation of a Hybrid MSE Wall System with up to 2 m Vertical Spacing Between Reinforcements" 3<sup>rd</sup> Pan-American Conference on Geosynthetics, Miami Beach, Florida.
9. L. Xu, H.I. Ling, J.G. Collin, J. Han, D. Leshchinsky, B. Tanyu, L. Li, T. Kawabata, P. Rimoldi (2016) "Centrifugal Modeling of Gabion Faced Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Retaining Walls" 3<sup>rd</sup> Pan-American Conference on Geosynthetics, Miami Beach, Florida.
10. J.G. Collin and F. Jalinoos (2014) "Foundation Characterization Program (FCP): TechBrief #1 – Workshop Report on the Reuse of Bridge Foundations", FHWA-HRT-14-072.
11. Mary Ellen C. Bruce, Ryan R. Berg, James G. Collin, George M. Filz, Masaaki Terashi, David S. Yang (2013) *FHWA Design Manual: Deep Mixing for Embankment and Foundation Support*, Federal Highway Administration FHWA/NHI 13-046, 2013.
12. Henry Lin, Hoe I. Ling, Liming Li, James G. Collin, Dov Leshchinsky, and Pietro Rimoldi, (2013) "Centrifuge Modeling of Gabion Walls Reinforced with Geosynthetics" International Symposium on Design and Practice of Geosynthetic-Reinforced Soil Structures, October 14-16, 2013 Bologna, Italy.
13. Reeb, Alexander, B., and Collin, James, G. (2013) "Evaluation of Design Procedures for Vibro-Concrete Columns" Center for Geotechnical Practice, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, February 2013.
14. Malouf, George, F. and Collin, James, G. (2013) "Shoot-in Soil Nailing Technical Evaluation report" Center for Geotechnical Practice, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, February 2013.
15. Barngrover, Amanda, L., Berg, Ryan, R., Mitchell, James, K., and Collin, James, G. (2013) "Whiter Paper on Integrated Technologies for Embankments on Unstable Ground" Center for Geotechnical Practice, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, February

2013.

16. Sloan, J. A., Filz, G.M., and Collin, J.G. (2013) "Full-scale Column-supported Embankment Test Facility: Description and Validation" ATSM GTJ.
17. Sloan, Joel, A., Filz, George, M., and Collin, James, G. (2013) "Columns Supported Embankments: Field Tests and Design Recommendations" Center for Geotechnical Practice, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, February 2013.
18. Reeb, Alexander, B. and Collin, James G. (2012) "Axial Capacity of Vibro-Concrete Columns" *ISSMGE - TC 211 International Symposium on Ground Improvement IS-GI Brussels 31 May & 1 June 2012*.
19. Schaefer, Vernon R. and Collin, James G. (2012) "A Web Based Toolkit for Geotechnical Engineers" SEFE7, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
20. Sloan, J.A., Filz, G.M., and Collin, J.G. (2012) "A Generalized Formulation of the Adapted Terzaghi Method of Arching in Column-Supported Embankments," *Geo- Frontiers: Advances in Geotechnical Engineering*, GSP 211, ASCE, Reston, 798- 805.
21. Sloan, J.A., Filz, G.M., and Collin, J.G. (2012) "Task 10 Report. Column-Supported Embankments: Field Tests and Design Recommendations," a publication of the Strategic Highway Research Program, Project SHRP2 R02, Transportation Research Board of The National Academies, Washington, D.C.
22. Filz, G., McGuire, J.A., Sloan, J., Collin, J.G., and Smith, M., (2012) "Column-Supported Embankments: Settlement and Load Transfer" ASCE Geo-Congress 2012 Oakland, California.
23. Collin, J.G., and Watson, C.H. (2008) "Historical Overview and Current U.S. State-of-Practice for the Design of Geosynthetic Reinforced Column Supported Embankments", ASCE Geo-Congress 2008.
24. Collin, J.G., Hung, J.C.H., and Lohre, E. (2008) *Highway Slope Maintenance and Slide Restoration Reference Manual*, Federal Highway Administration FHWA/NHI 08-098, Nov, 2008.
25. Collin, J.G., (2007) "Evaluation of Geopier Rammed Aggregate Piers by Geopier Foundation Company: Final Report, American Society of Civil Engineers, Reston, VA 978-0-7844-0955-8 (ISBN-13).
26. Collin, J.G., (2007) "The Use of Geosynthetics to Improve the Performance of Foundations in Civil Engineering," Chapter 10 from *Geosynthetics in Civil Engineering*, R.W. Sarsby, Ed., Woodhead Publishing Ltd. Cambridge, England.
27. Collin, J.G., Berg, R.R. , and Meyers, M.S., (2007), "State-of-the-Practice Design of Segmental Retaining Walls: NCMA's Third Edition Manual", Geo07, Washington DC.

28. Collin, J.G., Berg, R.R. , and Meyers, M.S., (2007), "State-of-the-Practice Design of Segmental Retaining Walls: NCMA's Third Edition Manual", GeoDenver 2007, Denver, CO.
29. Morrison, K. F., Harrison, F. E., Collin, J. G. and Anderson, S. A., (2007), "Full-Scale Testing of Shored Mechanically-Stabilized Earth (SMSE) Wall Employing Short Reinforcements", GeoDenver 2007, Denver, CO.
30. Collin, J. G., (2007), "U.S. State-of-Practice for the Design of the Geosynthetic Reinforced Load Transfer Platform in Column Supported Embankments", GeoDenver 2007, Denver, CO.
31. Gabr, M.A., Robinson, B., Collin, J.G., and berg, R.R., (2006) "Promoting Geosynthetics Use on Federal Lands Highway Projects", FHWA-CFL/TD-06-009, Federal Highway Administration, December, 2006.
32. Morrison, K. F., Harrison, F. E., Collin, J. G. and Anderson, S. A., (2006), "Design of an Innovative Retaining Wall System for Highway Construction in Steep Terrain", 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Geology Symposium, Denver, Colorado.
33. Morrison, K.F., Harrison, F.E., Collin, J.G., Dodds, A., and Arndt, B. (2006), *Shored Mechanically Stabilized Earth (SMSE) Wall Systems Design Guidelines*. Report No. FHWA-CFL/TD-06-001. Federal Highway Administration, February, 2006.
34. Collin, J.G., Han, J., and Huang, J. (2005), "Geosynthetic-Reinforced Column-Supported Embankment Design Guidelines", North American Geosynthetics Society/Geosynthetics Institute Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada.
35. Collin, J.G., Han, J., and Huang, J. (2005), "Design Recommendations for Column Supported Embankments" Federal Highway Administration FHWA-HRT-XXX.
36. Collin, J.G., Watson, C.H. (2005), "Recent Developments in the Design of Load transfer platforms for Column Supported Embankments", Boston Geotechnical Society Annual Conference, Boston, MA.
37. Collin, J.G., Watson, C.H., and Han, J. (2005), "Column Supported Embankment Solves Time Constraint for New Road Construction", ASCE Geo-Frontiers Conference, Austin TX, January, 2005.
38. Huang, J., Collin, J.G., and Han, J. (2005), "3D Numerical Modeling of a Geosynthetic-Reinforced Pile-Supported Embankment – Stress and Displacement Analysis", 16<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, September 12-16, 2005, Osaka, Japan.
39. Han, J., and Collin, J.G., (2005), "Geosynthetic Support Systems over Pile Foundations", GRI 18 Conference: Geosynthetics in Transportation and Geotechnical Engineering, Austin, Texas, January, 2005.

40. Huang, J., Collin, J.G., and Han, J. (2005), "Geogrid-Reinforced Pile-Supported Railway Embankments – Three Dimensional Numerical Analysis", Transportation Research Board – 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, January 9-13, 2005, Washington, D.C.
41. Han, J., Collin, J.G., and Huang, J. (2004), "Recent Developments of Geosynthetic Reinforced Column Supported Embankments", 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Highway Geology Symposium, Kansas City, MO, September, 2004.
42. Elias, V., Lukas, R., Bruce, D., Collin, J.G., and Berg, R.R. (2004) *Ground Improvement Methods Reference Manual*, Federal Highway Administration FHWA NHI-04-001, July 2004.
43. Collin, J.G. (2004) "Column Supported Embankment Design Considerations", Proceedings 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Geotechnical Conference, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. February 27, 2004.
44. Young, L.W., Milton, M.N., Collin, J.G., and Drooff, E. (2003) "Vibro-Concrete Columns and Geosynthetic Reinforced Load Transfer Platform Solve Difficult Foundation Problem", Proceedings for 22<sup>nd</sup> World Road Congress, South Africa.
45. Collin, J.G., Berg, R.R., and Carter, L.R. (2002) "Drainage Guidelines for Segmental Retaining Walls", GRI 16 Conference: Hot Topics in Geosynthetics III, December, 2002, Philadelphia, PA.
46. Collin, J.G., Berg, R.R., and Meyers, M. (2002) *Segmental Retaining Wall Drainage Manual*, National Concrete Masonry Association, Herndon, VA.
47. Collin, J.G. (2002) *Timber Pile Design Construction Manual*, American Wood Preservers Institute.
48. Arman, A., Collin, J.G., Hung, J.C.H., and Brouillette, R.P. (2001) *Shallow Foundations Reference Manual*, Federal Highway Administration DTFH61-97-C-00025, June, 2001.
49. Collin, J.G., Hung, J.C., Lee, W.S., and Munfakh, G. (2001) *Soil Slopes and Embankment Design Reference Manual*, Federal Highway Administration FHWA NHI-01-026, March, 2001.
50. Schwanz, N.T., Meyers, M.S., Berg, R.R., and Collin, J.G. (2001) "Corps of Engineers Criteria for MSE Walls and Reinforced Soil Slopes", Geosynthetics Conference 2001, Portland, OR.
51. Collin, J.G. (2000) "Lessons Learned From A Segmental Retaining Wall Failure", GRI 14 Conference: Hot Topics in Geosynthetics, December, 2000, Las Vegas.
52. Collin, J.G. (2000) "Lessons Learned From Surficial Failures of Geosynthetic-Reinforced Slopes", Geosynthetics: Lessons Learned from Failures – J.P. Giroud, K.L. Soderman & G.P. Raymond, Editors, in press.
53. Gabr, M.A., Dodson, R., and Collin, J.G. (1998) "A Study of Stress Distribution in Geogrid-Reinforced Sand", Proceeding of the ASCE Annual Convention, Boston, MA., October.

54. Collin, J.G. (1997) "SRW Connection Strength: How Much Is Enough?" Geotechnical Fabrics Report, Industrial Fabrics Association International, St. Paul, MN., September.
55. Adams, M.T. , Lutenecker, A.J., and Collin, J.G. (1997) "Design Implications of Reinforced Soil Foundations using Soil Strain Signatures and Normalized Settlement Criteria," Proceedings of the International Symposium on Mechanically Stabilized Backfill, Denver, Colorado, February.
56. Adams, M.T. and Collin, J.G. (1997) "Large Model Spread Footing Load Tests on Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Foundations," Journal of Geotechnical Engineering, ASCE, Vol. 123, No. 1, January, 1997.
57. Collin, J.G. (1997) ed., Design Manual for Segmental Retaining Walls, second edition, National Concrete Masonry Association, Herndon, VA.
58. Collin, J.G., Kinney, T.C. and Fu, X. (1996) "Full Scale Highway Load Test of Flexible Pavement Systems with Geogrid Reinforced Base Courses", Geosynthetics International, Vol. 3, No. 4, pp537-549.
59. Collin, J.G. (1996) "Controlling Surficial Stability Problems on Reinforced Steepened Slopes" Geotechnical Fabrics Report, Industrial Fabrics Association International, St. Paul, MN., April
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61. Reid, R.A. and Collin, J.G. (1995) "Response of Geogrid-Reinforced Retaining Wall to Explosive Loading: Part II - Full Scale Tests," Proceedings Geosynthetics '95, Nashville, Tenn.
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64. Collin, J.G., Berg, R.R., and Anderson, R.B. (1994) "Temperature Affects on the Connection Strength of MSE Walls", Proceeding of the Fifth International Conference on Geotextiles, Geomembranes and Related Products, Singapore.
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66. Collin, J.G., Butchko, S.T. and Berg R.R. (1993), "Liner Design for Lateral and Vertical Expansions," IV International Landfill Symposium, Sardinia, Italy.



67. Collin, J.G. and Berg, R.R. (1993), "Connection Strength Criteria for MSE Walls," Transportation Research Board, 72 Annual Meeting, January 10-14, Washington DC.
68. Collin, J.G., and Berg, R.R., (1993), "Comparison of Short Term and Long Term Pullout Testing of Geogrid Reinforcement," Geosynthetic Soil Reinforcement Testing Procedures, ASTM STP 1190, S.C., Jonathan Cheng, Ed., American Society for Testing and Materials, Philadelphia.
69. Berg, R.R., and Collin, J.G., (1993), "Material Testing For Design of Reinforced Soil Structures," Geosynthetic Soil Reinforcement Testing Procedures, ASTM STP 1190, S.C., Jonathan Cheng, Ed., American Society for Testing and Materials, Philadelphia.
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71. Thielen, D.L. and Collin, J.G. (1993), "Geosynthetic Reinforcement for Surficial Stability of Slopes," Proceeding Geosynthetics '93, Vancouver, B.C.
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73. Gabr, M.A., Hunter, T.J. and Collin, J.G. (1992), "Stability of Geogrid-Reinforced Landfill Liners Over Sinkholes," Proceeding International Symposium on Earth Reinforcement Practice, Fukuoka, Japan.
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77. Jaber, M., Collin, J.G., and Schmertmann, G.R. (1991) "Prediction of Geosynthetic Reinforced Wall Performance Using Finite Element Analysis," Proceedings International Symposium on Geosynthetic-Reinforced Soil Retaining Walls, Denver, Colorado.
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83. Seed, R.B., Collin, J.G., Mitchell, J.K. (1986) "FEM Analyses of Compacted Reinforced Soil Walls," Proceedings of Second International Conference on Numerical Methods in Geomechanics, Ghent, Belgium.
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