

About the authors

Dr Arild Palmström is a senior adviser with 40 years of experience in the fields of rock engineering and engineering geology. He has an MSc from the Norwegian Technical University of Norway, and gained his PhD from Oslo University. He has been involved with numerous hydropower projects and subsea tunnel projects in Europe, Asia and South America, and has written more than 50 journal articles, conference papers and book chapters and, in addition, two handbooks on rock engineering and excavation works.

Dr Palmström is a member of the Norwegian National Group of the ITA (International Tunnelling Association), the Norwegian National Group of the ISRM (International Society of Rock Mechanics), the Norwegian National Group of the IAEG (International Association of Engineering Geologists) and the Norwegian National Group of the ISSMFE (International Society for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering), and has participated in the Norwegian group for geotechnical design (CEN/TC 250/SC 7) of the European Committee for Standardisation 1998–2010.

Dr Palmström's professional activities include the presidency of the Norwegian National Rock Mechanics Group of the ISRM (1995–1997) and the secretaryship of the Norwegian national committee for definitions and terminology of rock mechanic terms, from which came the books *Handbook in Rock Engineering* (in Norwegian) and *Handbook in Engineering Geology and Rock Engineering*.

Professor Dr Håkan P. Stille has been involved with geotechnical engineering works for more than 40 years in Europe, Africa, Asia and South America. He has published more than 50 special reports, book chapters and journal articles, and has authored/co-authored over 100 papers and publications for professional journals, conferences and seminars. Professor Dr Stille is a professor emeritus of soil and rock mechanics at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm, and has worked extensively in both industry and academia.

Professor Dr Stille is a member of the Swedish National Group of the ISRM (International Society of Rock Mechanics) and the Swedish National Group of the ISSMFE (International Society for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering). His professional activities include the vice-presidency of Skanska technique and a professorship in soil and rock mechanics at the Royal Institute of technology in Stockholm. He has been involved in the Swedish group for geotechnical design (CEN/TC 250/SC 7) and Evaluation Group 13 (rock mechanics) of the European Committee for Standardisation, and is the chairman of ISRM's commission on rock grouting.