PERFORMANCE OF GEOSYNTHETIC REINFORCED SLOPES AT FAILURE, CLOSURE

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Abstract: The discussed paper and its companion (Zornberg et al. 1998) provide much needed insight into limit equilibrium design of geosynthetics reinforced steep slopes. It uses well-focused experimental work. The purpose of this discussion is to add a perspective. This perspective is relevant only in the context of design. It can be postulated that the main objective of design is to produce safe and economical structures. In light of this postulate, the following three points, all related to the discussed paper, are examined:

1. Use of peak shear strength rather than residual
2. Redistribution of reinforcement force
3. Modes of failure

Full reference:

Zornberg, J.G., Sitar, N., and Mitchell, J.K. (2000). "Performance of Geosynthetic Reinforced Slopes at Failure, Closure." *Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering*, ASCE, Vol. 126, No. 3, pp. 281-286.

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