

VITA

Jesús Emilio Gómez was born in Los Teques, Venezuela, on March 27, 1964. He received a degree in Civil Engineering from Universidad Católica Andrés Bello in 1984. He received a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1996.

Mr. Gómez has been active in the area of Geotechnical Engineering since 1985, having worked for geotechnical consulting and construction companies in Venezuela. He also held the position of Instructor for the course in Soil Mechanics Laboratory at Universidad Católica Andrés Bello since 1987 until 1995. Presently, he is a geotechnical advisor for Franki Pile Venezuela and frequently teaches in courses and seminars in Venezuela.

Mr. Gómez initially enrolled in the Civil Engineering Department at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1995 to pursue a Master degree. Subsequently, he stayed at Virginia Tech as a doctoral candidate. He was employed by the University as a teaching and research assistant.

Mr. Gómez has accepted a position as a senior engineer at Schnabel Engineering in West Chester, Pennsylvania, beginning August, 2000.