



**INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON MICROPILES
DOUBLETREE INN, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
SEPTEMBER 26-28, 1997**

**INTRODUCTORY REMARKS FROM DR. DONALD A. BRUCE
ECO GEOSYSTEMS, INC.**

Good Morning, Ladies and Gentlemen. Thank you for being with us this morning and for having traveled so far to join us in this great experiment. This is the first international workshop on micropiles and we very much hope it will be the first of many annual events. We have participants from Japan, the U.S., France, Germany, Finland, Wales, and Scotland. They represent Government, consultants, contractors, suppliers, universities, and research facilities.

Our great thanks to FHWA and JAMP for funding this meeting and to DFI for acting as its sponsor. It is a real pleasure to see so many specialists gathered together under one roof - even if it is quite a small roof - at one time. This is truly a landmark meeting.

Over the next few days we will be working hard - this is a workshop, not a conference, and not a seminar. However, for the next hour or so, we will focus on some welcomes and introductions. I will also cover some practical/housekeeping matters before we break for coffee at 9:30 AM. So once again, welcome to the workshop, and I hope you have a most enjoyable and rewarding time.

Firstly, I'd like to call on Dr. DiMillio, on behalf of the Federal Highways, to say a few words.