

**MANUEL E. OCHOA-LAVERGNE, MSCE, PE**  
**Geotechnical Engineer**

**EDUCATION**

Master of Science in Civil Engineering, 2007  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 2006  
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus

**PROFESSIONAL  
REGISTRATION**

Licensed Professional Engineer (No. 22275)  
Commonwealth of Puerto Rico

**AFFILIATIONS**

Colegio de Ingenieros y Agrimensores de Puerto Rico (CIAPR)

**SHORT COURSES/  
SEMINARS**

Nuclear Gauge Certification and HazMat for Radiation Certification, 2005

The American Red Cross First Aid and CPR Training – Houston, TX, 2009

GRL & Associates, Inc. – CAPWAP Seminar (3-day course) –  
Cleveland, OH, 2009

Leadership in Safety Workshop (ExxonMobil 1.5-day course) –  
Fort McMurray, Alberta, CA, 2010

Advanced Course on Computational Geotechnics (3-day PLAXIS Seminar) –  
Polytechnic Institute of NYU, 2012

**PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE**

From 1997 to 2000, Mr. Ochoa worked at GMTS during the summer time as a laboratory technician. His duties mainly included performing soil and material testing.

In summer of 2004, Mr. Ochoa returned to GMTS for a summer internship after three years of college education at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez. This time he worked both as a field and laboratory technician.

In 2005, Mr. Ochoa obtained an internship position at the University of Rhode Island as a geotechnical laboratory assistant. His main duty was

performing direct simple shear testing on organic and inorganic silts of Rhode Island for undrained shear strength determination.

In August 2006, after graduating from the University of Puerto Rico, Mr. Ochoa decided to pursue a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering (MSCE) at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) under the supervision of Dr. Thomas Brandon, Dr. James M. Duncan, and Dr. James K. Mitchell. During this time, Mr. Ochoa was also employed by Dr. Brandon as a research assistant, as a teaching assistant for the advance laboratory testing course, and as a geotechnical consulting assistant on a variety of interesting, unique, and challenging projects. He graduated top of his class on December 2007.

In June 2008, after completing his MSCE degree, Mr. Ochoa was employed by Fugro Consultants, Inc., worldwide leader in geotechnical engineering services, as a full-time Project Professional. His responsibilities included, but were not limited to, project planning and execution, engineering analyses, report and proposal writing, field and laboratory program development, project budgeting and invoicing, and client interaction. While at Fugro, he worked in both domestic and international projects. His international experience includes projects located in Algeria, Brazil, Canada, and Colombia.

From June 2010 to June 2011, Mr. Ochoa was employed by Trendsetter Engineering, Inc. as a full-time Geotechnical Engineer. During this period, he was subcontracted to the ExxonMobil Development Company and Imperial Oil Resources Limited. He spent most of his time working onsite on Phase I of the Kearl Oil Sands Project in Northern Alberta, Canada, a 13-billion dollar phase, as the field Geotechnical Piling Lead for the project. In addition, he aided in the development of the Auger Anchor Pile System used for subsea anchor installation, a Trendsetter patent.

In July 2011, Mr. Ochoa returned to GMTS, Corp. as a full-time Geotechnical Engineer. His responsibilities include coordination and supervision of drilling operations, monitoring earthwork operations, performing and supervision of geotechnical and materials laboratory and field tests, evaluation and analysis of data, and preparation of geotechnical reports.

## **KEY PROJECTS**

Geotechnical Engineering consultant for URS Caribe, LLP for the Scouring Evaluation of Various Bridges in Puerto Rico Project, 2011 to present

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Geotechnical Engineering consultant for SMPC, for the installation of driven pile foundations and surcharge monitoring at Bernardino Cordero Bernard Vocational School, Ponce, Puerto Rico, 2011 to 2012

Geotechnical Engineering consultant for Empresas Fonalledas on various projects at Plaza Las Americas and Plaza del Caribe, 2011 to present

Piling Lead / Geotechnical Representative for the Kearl Oil Sands Project Initial Development (Phase I), Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada, 2010-2011

Geotechnical study with on-site management (Site Manager) for the Kearl Oil Sands Project pile design and installation phases, Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada, 2009-2010

Geotechnical study with field QA/QC inspection for the Dow Chemical Guarujá Facility, Guarujá, Sao Paolo, Brazil, 2009

Field QA/QC inspection for the Cartagena Refinery Expansion, Mamonal, Colombia, 2009

Dynamic pile monitoring at the Shell-Motiva Crude Expansion Project, Port Arthur, Texas, 2008

Static and dynamic pile testing at the New LNG Train Project, Skikda, Algeria, 2008

Pile installation monitoring at the Puerto Rico Convention Center District, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2004

Geotechnical consulting assistant for the Four Seasons Phase II residential community owners consulting board in conjunction with URS at Prince William County, VA, 2007

Geotechnical consulting assistant for the remedial consulting board of Oahe Dam in South Dakota, 2007