

# PIANC Mediterranean Days and Conference «Port of the future» by Cerema 25 to 27 october 2023 in Sete France

## Vibro-Replacement technique for the seabed of Salerno port

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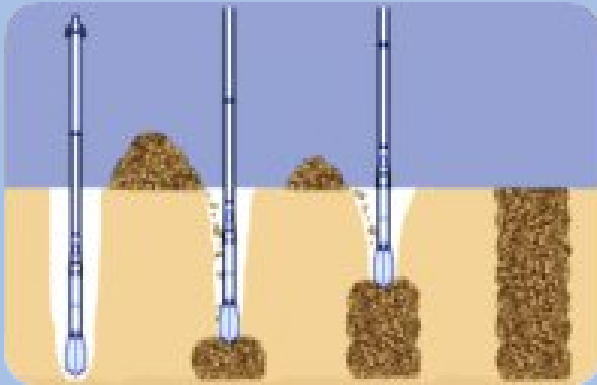
Massimo Ramondini, *University of Naples Federico II (Naples, Italy)*

Mario Calabrese, *University of Naples Federico II (Naples, Italy)*

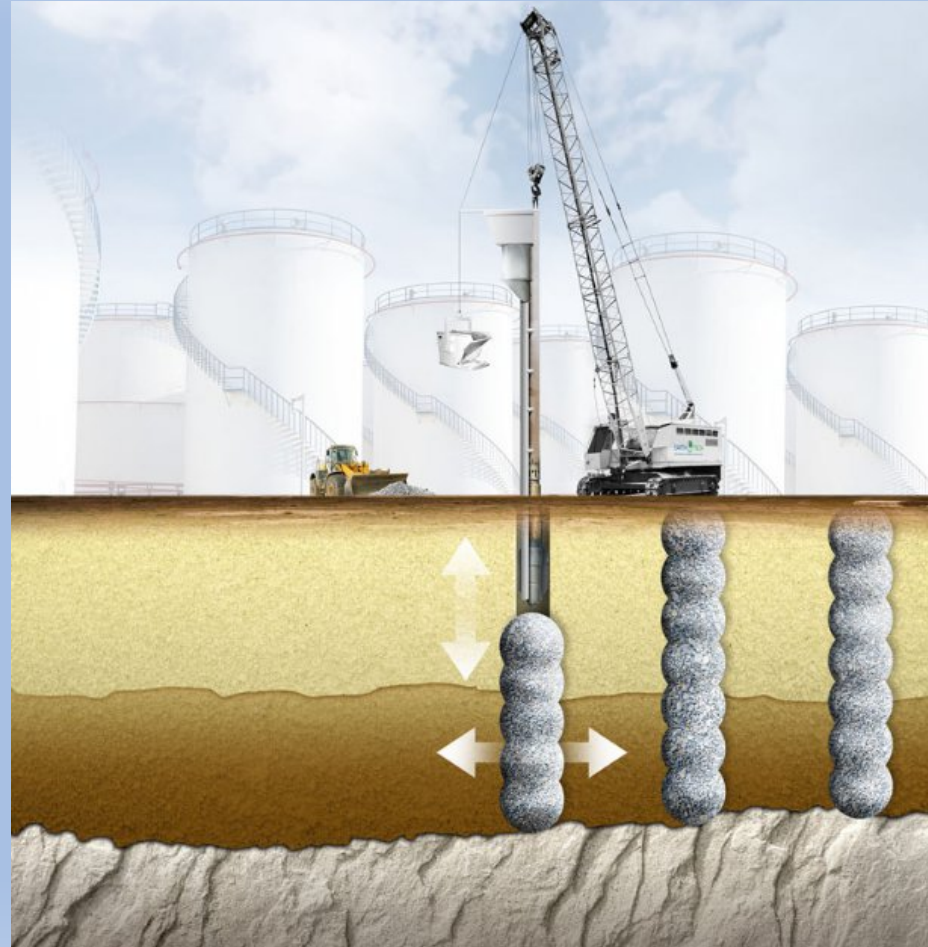
# A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF VIBRO-REPLACEMENT TECHNIQUES

**Vibro Replacement** is the process of densifying granular soils and reinforcing cohesive soils with stone columns constructed with the use of specialty down the hole Vibro-Probes.

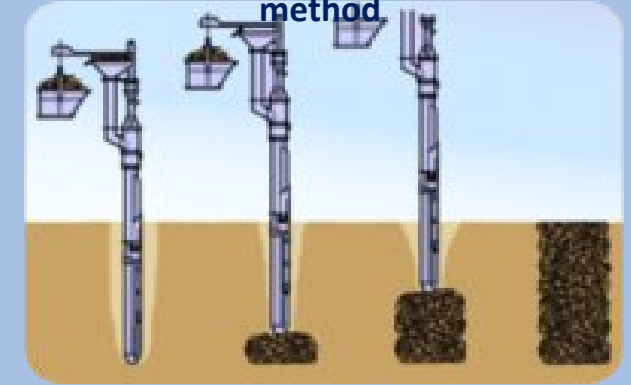
wet top feed installation method



In this method, the Vibro-Probe is hung from a crane and penetrates to the treatment depth under its own weight, vibratory force and water jetting.



dry bottom feed installation method

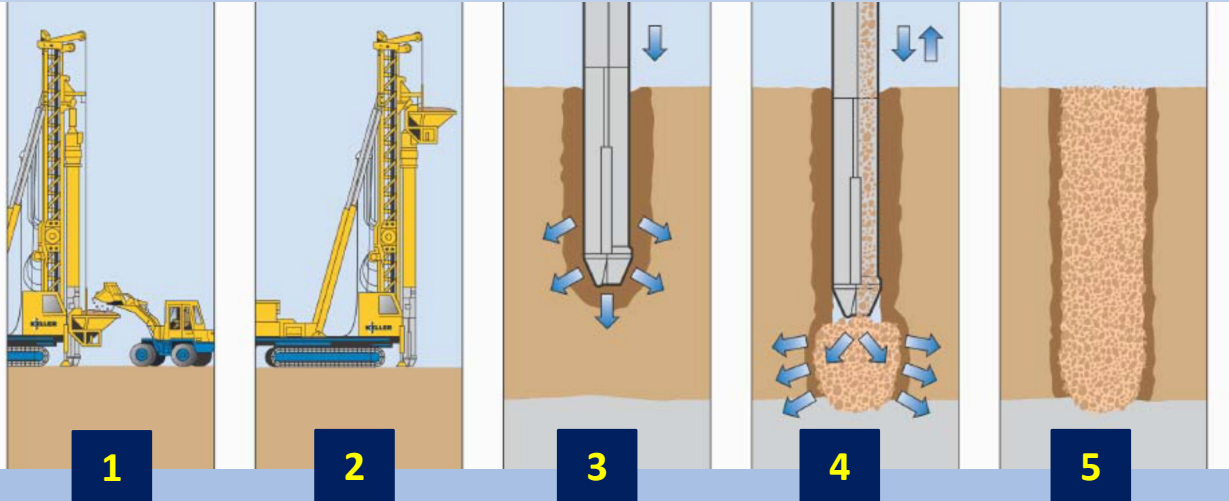


In this method, a specialty built stone feed tube system delivers the rock backfill to the tip of the Vibro-Probe under compressed air.



# A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF VIBRO-REPLACEMENT TECHNIQUES

## Construction Sequence – Bottom Feed Process



1

2

3

4

5

With the vibrocrane stabilised on hydraulic outriggers, the leaders are elevated to the vertical and the vibrator located on the ground at the stone column position. The skip is charged with stone

The skip travels up the leaders and automatically discharges stone into the reception chamber at the top of the vibrator

The vibrator penetrates the weak soils to the design depth under the action of the vibrations, compressed air and pull down winch facility

At the required depth, stone is released and compacted by small upward and downward movements of the vibrator, the pull-down being employed on the downward compacting action

With stone being added to the system as necessary at any stage of the construction procedure, a stone column of very high integrity, tightly interlocked with the surrounding soil, is built up to ground level

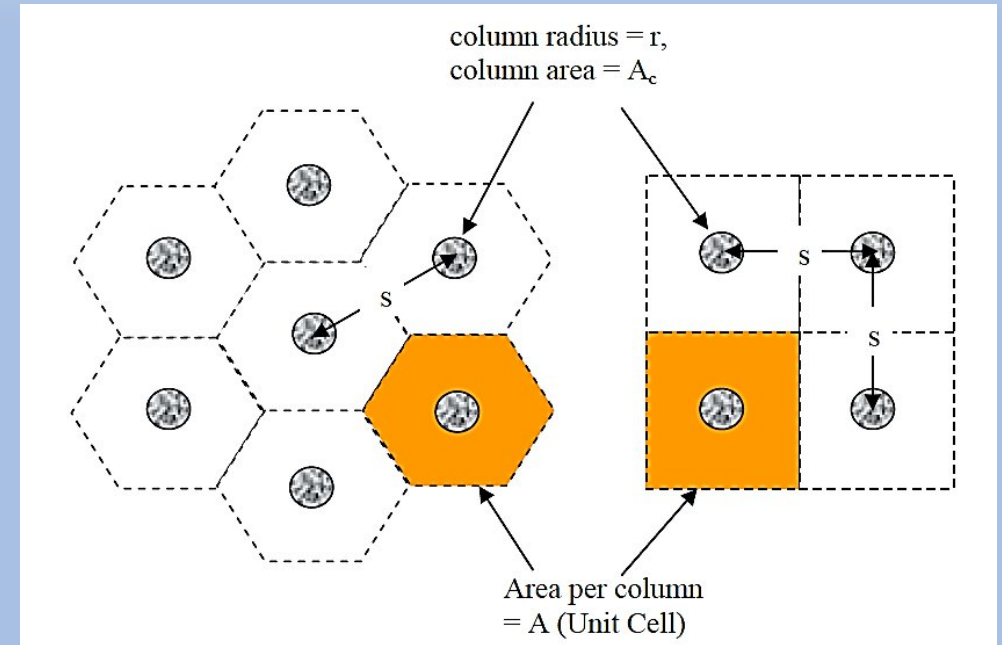
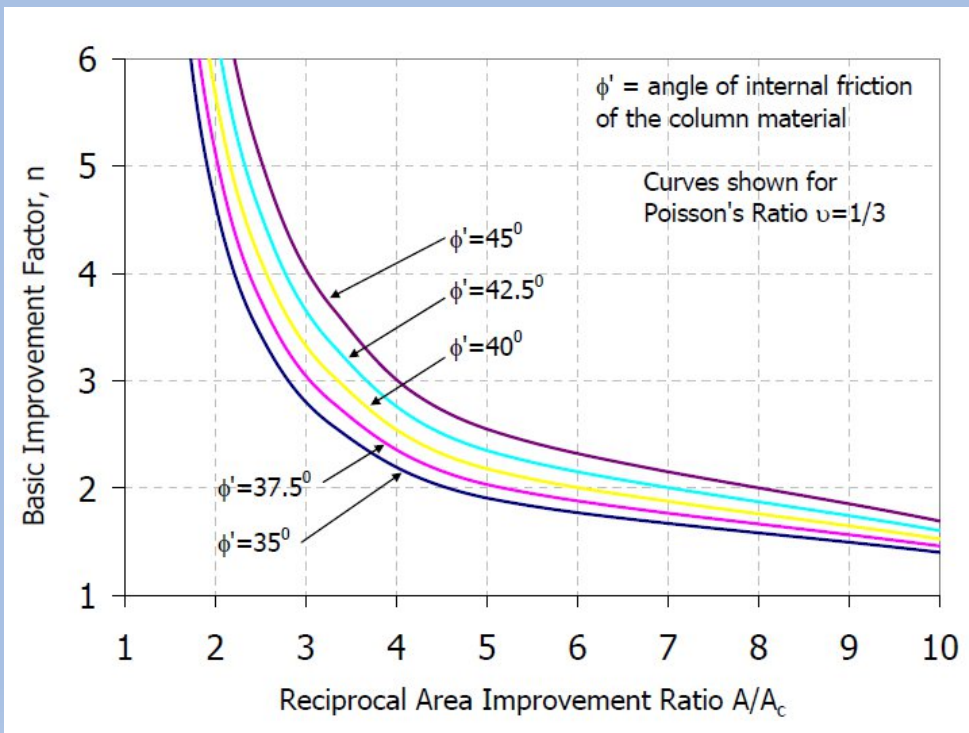


# DESIGNING VIBRO-STONE COLUMNS

Absolute and differential settlement restrictions usually govern the length and spacing of columns, and the preferred method of estimating post-treatment settlement in European practice was developed by Priebe (1995) based upon CCET

## Priebe's basic improvement factor

$$n = \frac{\text{settlement without treatment}}{\text{settlement with treatment}} = \frac{s}{si}$$



## Reciprocal Area Improvement Ratio (RAIR)

$$\frac{A_c}{A} = k \left( \frac{r}{s} \right)^2$$



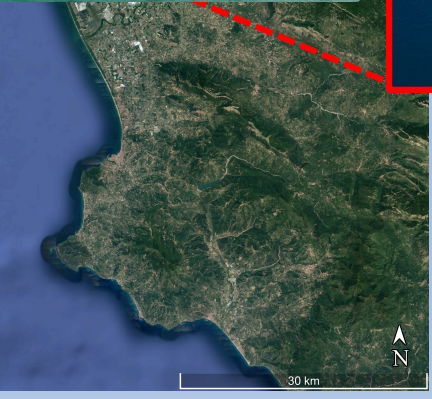
# SALERNO PORT ADAPTATION PROJECT



**SALERNO**

**Largest mega container ships in 2022**

	Ever Ace	23,992 TEUs
	HMM Algeciras	23,964 TEUs
	HMM Oslo	23,792 TEUs
	MSC Gulsun	23,756 TEUs
	MSC Mina	23,656 TEUs
	CMA CGM Jacques Saadé	23,000 TEUs
	OOCL Hong Kong	21,413 TEUs
	COSCO Shipping Universe	21,237 TEUs
	CMA CGM Antoine De Saint Exupery	20,954 TEUs
	Madrid Maersk	20,000+ TEUs



**FUNCTIONAL  
TECHNICAL  
ADAPTATION  
OF THE PORT**

*Ing. Margherita Carmen Ciccaglione  
Vibro-Replacement technique for the seabed of Salerno port*





# SALERNO PORT ADAPTATION PROJECT



**FUNCTIONAL  
TECHNICAL  
ADAPTATION  
OF THE PORT**

**excavation of the seabed in  
the harbour basin and the  
harbour access channel**

**modification of  
the port mouth**

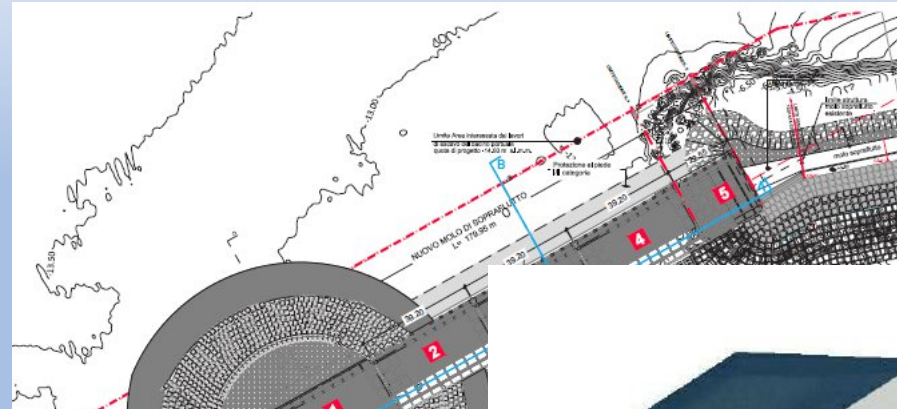
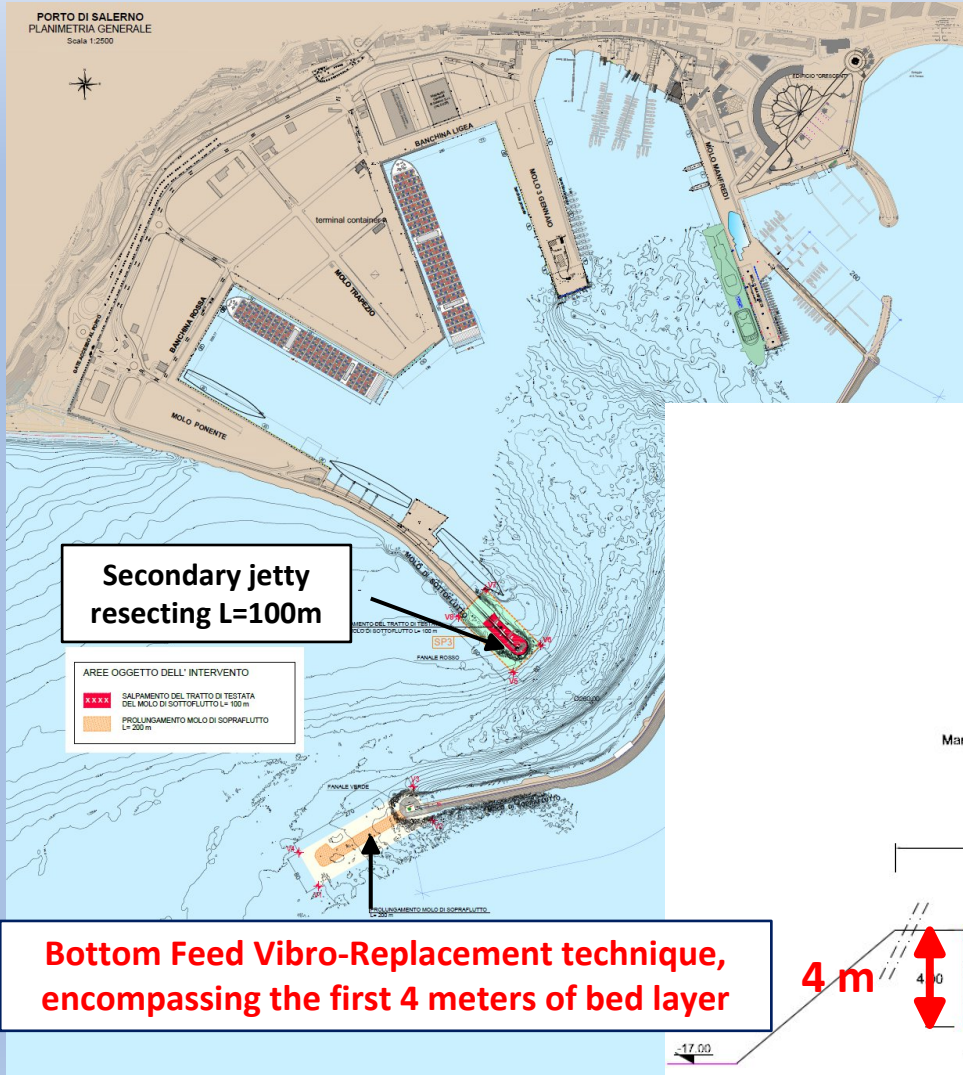


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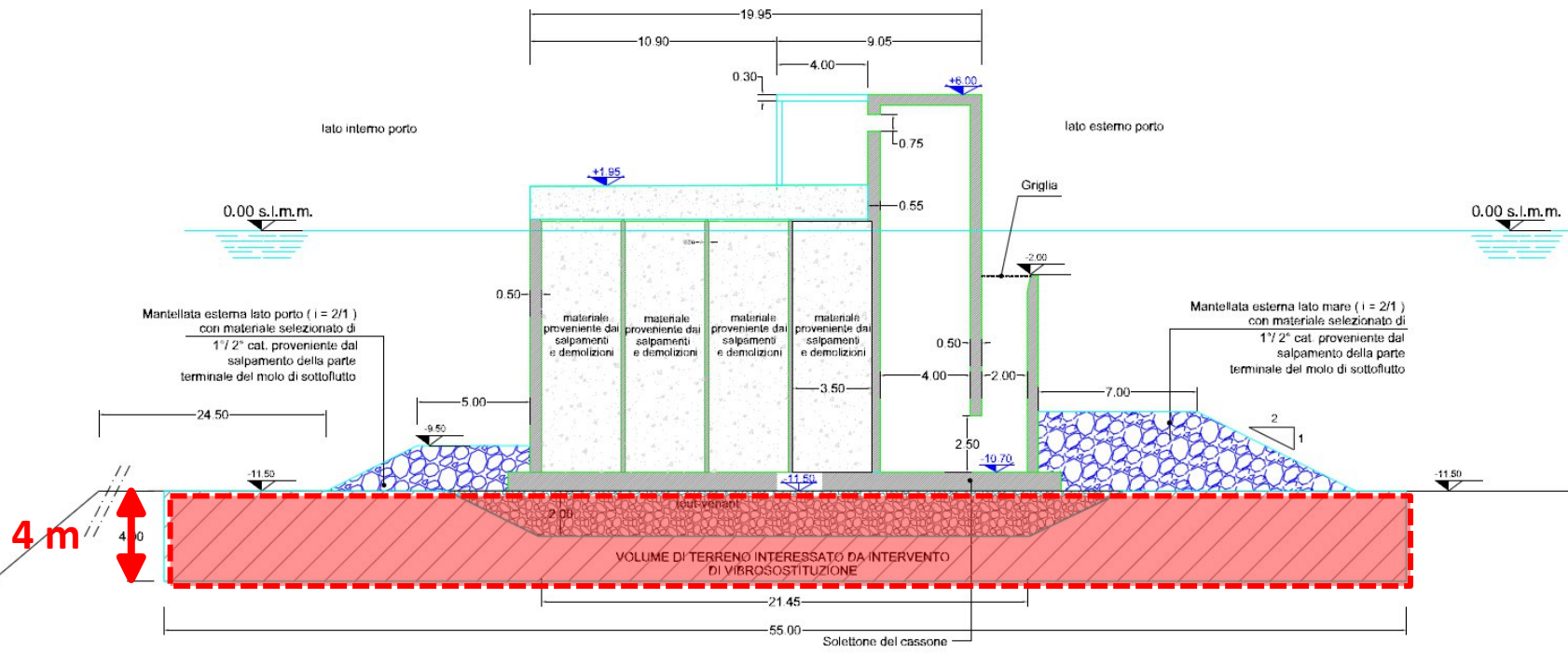




# SALERNO PORT ADAPTATION PROJECT



**REWEC3®-type caissons  
(Boccotti, 2012)**

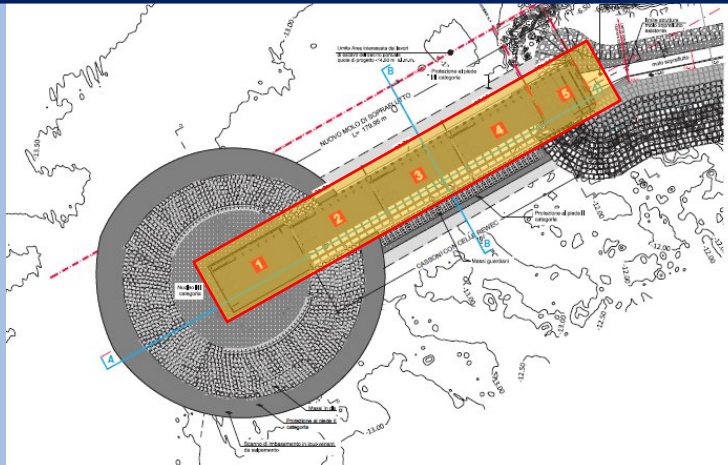




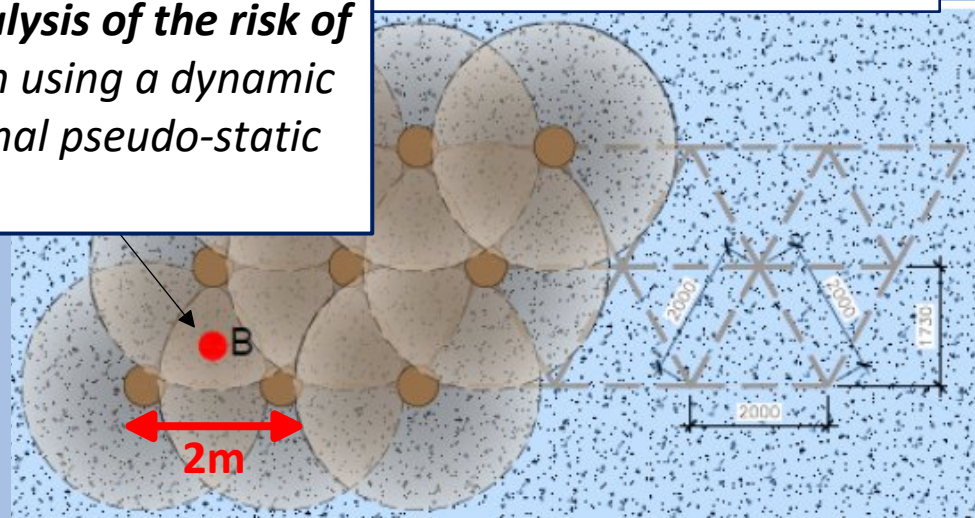
# PROJECT UPGRADES

## CTA suggestions:

“perform a thorough **probabilistic analysis of the risk of collapse of the breakwater-foundation** using a dynamic approach in addition to the conventional pseudo-static stability verification”



stone columns injected using a pontoon-mounted rig following the FEM optimized positioning using a **regular mesh with a side length of 2 m**



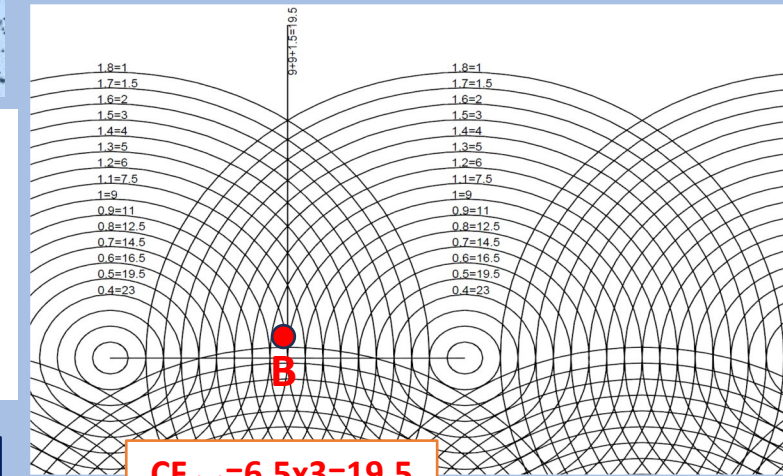
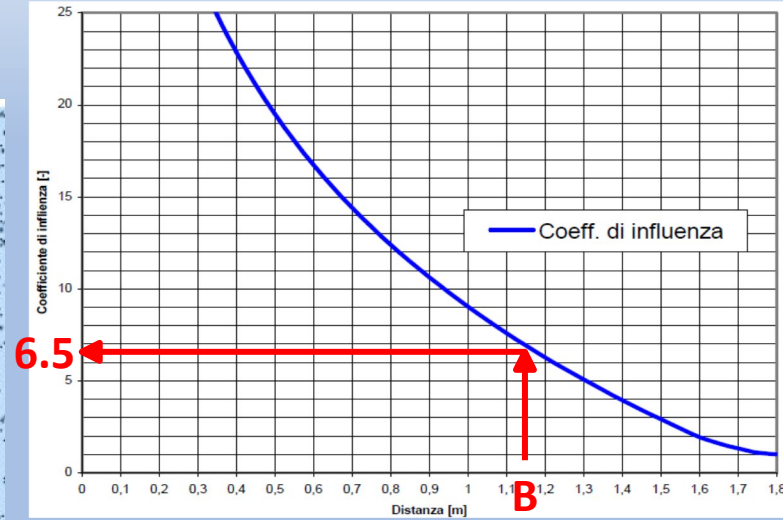
### Pre-treatment

$N_{spt}=21$   
 $N'_{spt}=18$   
 Angle of friction =  $31^\circ$   
 Young's modulus = 14.12 Mpa  
 Relative density = 98%

### Post-treatment

$N_{spt}=56$   
 $N'_{spt}=35$   
 Angle of friction =  $38^\circ$   
 Young's modulus = 27.65 Mpa  
 Relative density = 137%

Expected increase in the geotechnical parameters of the soil, resulting in a reduction of absolute settlements and a homogenization of differential settlements among the various caissons.

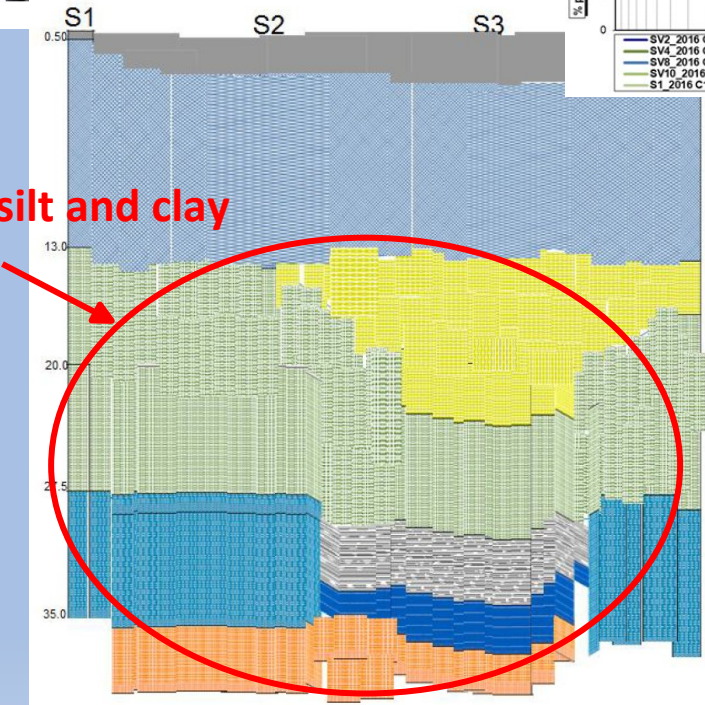
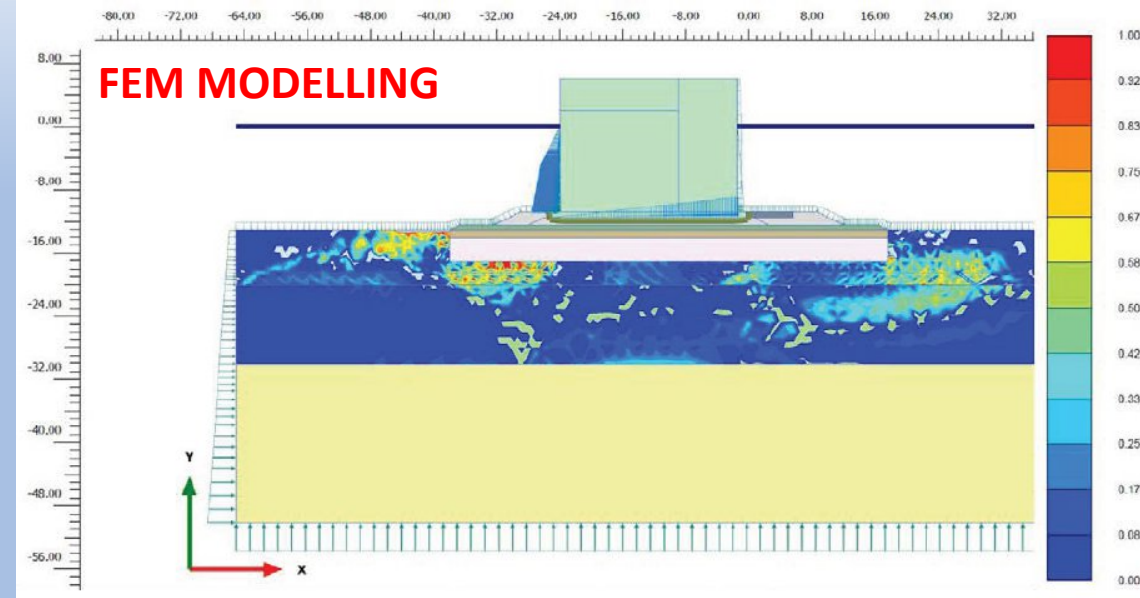
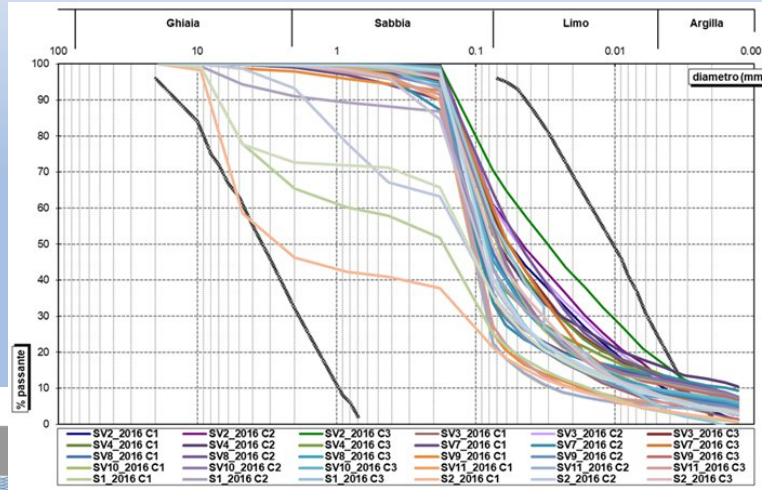


$CF_{tot}=6.5 \times 3=19.5$

$D_{rf} = D_{r0} + 2 CF$



# SALERNO PORT ADAPTATION PROJECT



*Geotechnical model of the seabed*

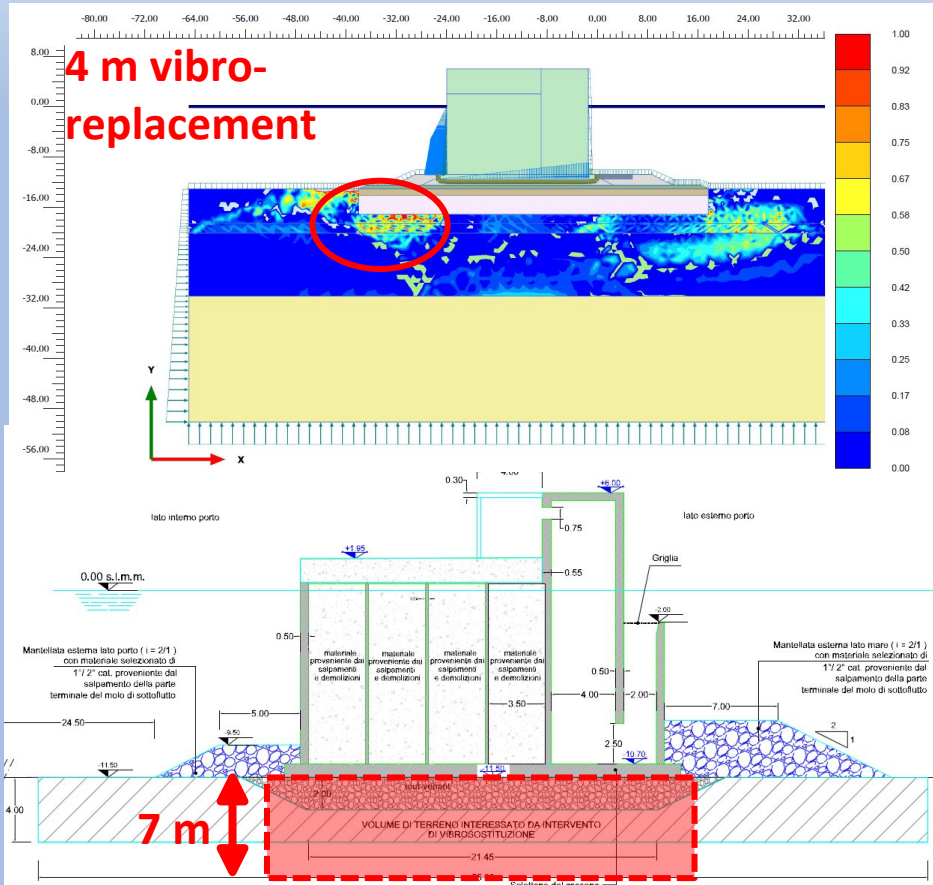
*Mathematical model (Plaxis)*

Layer	Soil	Layer top (s.l.m.m.)	Layer bottom (s.l.m.m.)	Layer thickness	Unit volume weight $\gamma$	Friction angle $\phi$	Relative density $D_r$	Effective cohesion $c'$	Young Modulus $E$
		(m)	(m)	(m)	( $\text{kN/m}^3$ )	( $^\circ$ )	(%)	(kPa)	(MPa)
I	Sand	-12.5	-20.0	7.5	19	30÷32	33	0÷5	10÷20
II	Sand	-20.0	-30.0	10.0	19	32÷37	41	0÷5	20÷30
III	Silt	-30.0	---	---	17	22	---	50	6

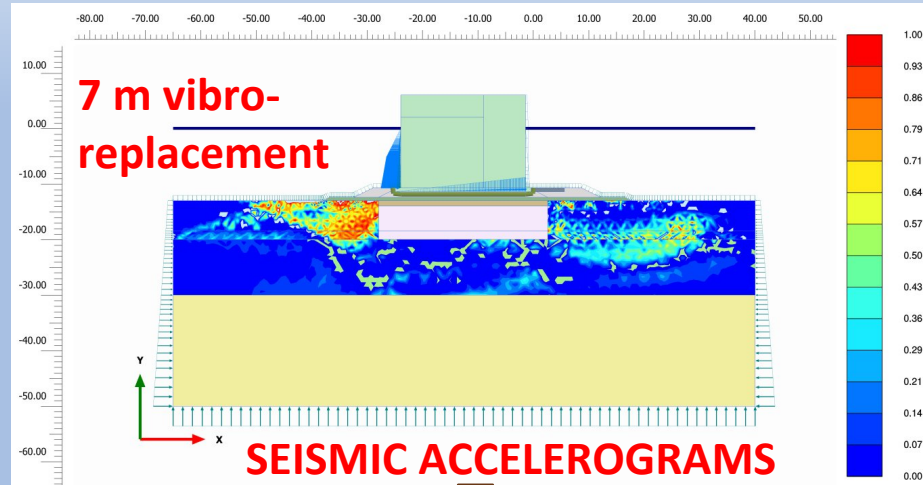
investigate the cyclic movement of the foundation soils (reinforced with the replacement technique) resulting from **earthquake** and **wave actions** (each considered separately).

# PROJECT UPGRADES

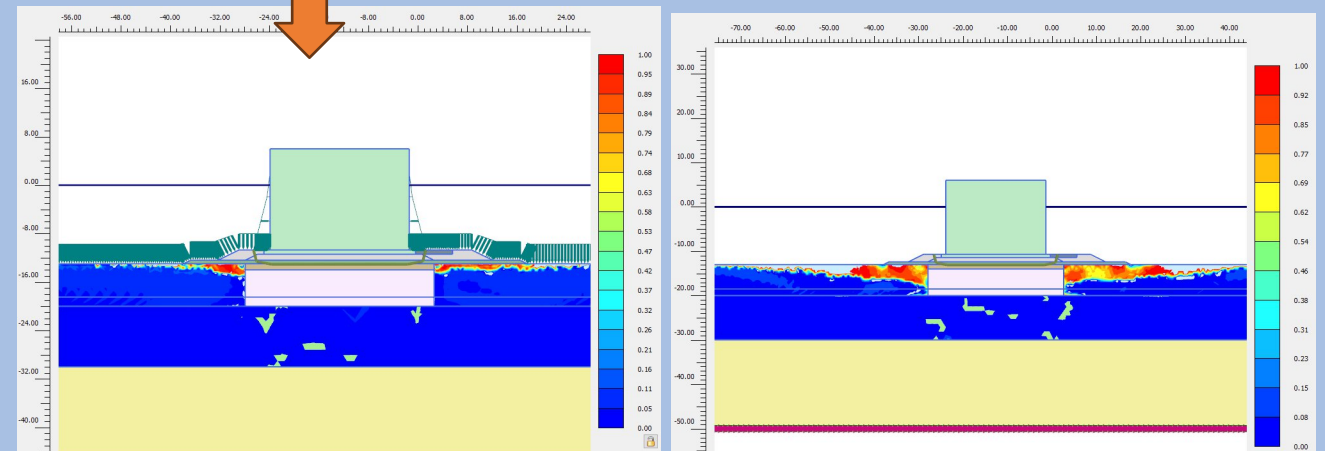
## WAVE ACTION



## WAVE ACTION



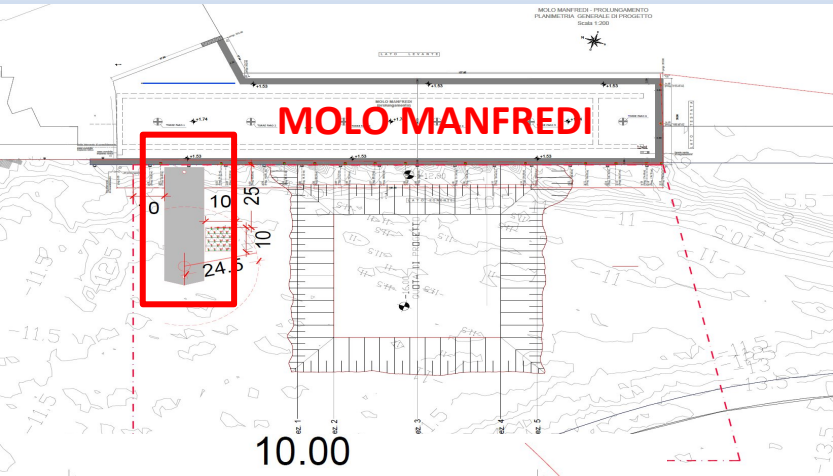
the zone affected by the cyclic mobility phenomenon lies outside the influence area of the concrete caisson's pressure bulb



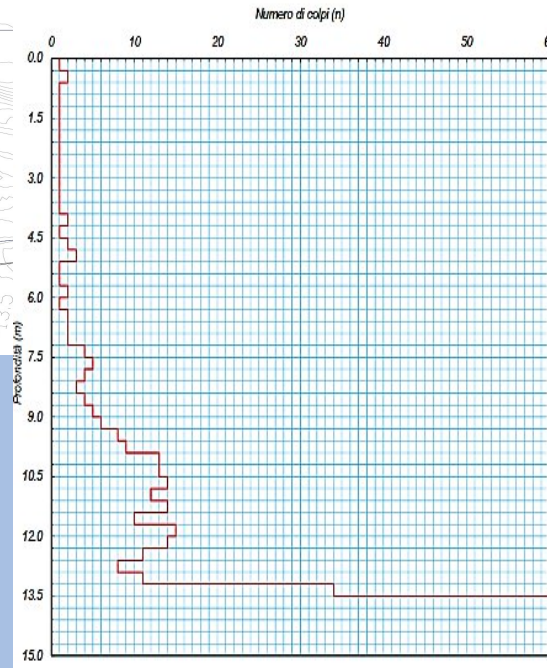
To prevent the onset of **liquefaction beneath the treated area**, it was preferred to deepen the intervention to a depth of 7 meters, reducing its width to only the area relevant to the reinforced concrete caisson.



# TEST FIELD

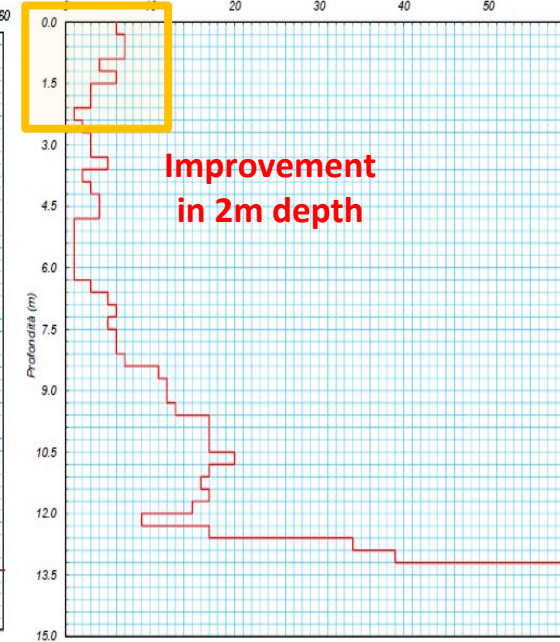


Pre-treatment measurement



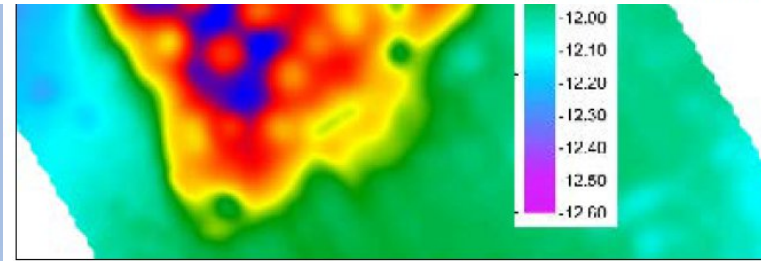
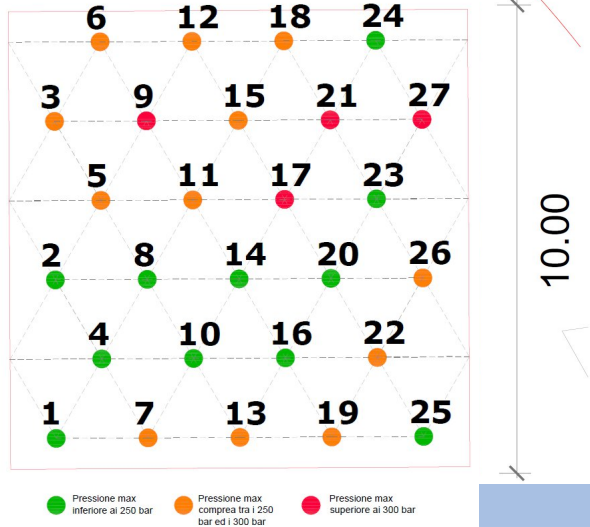
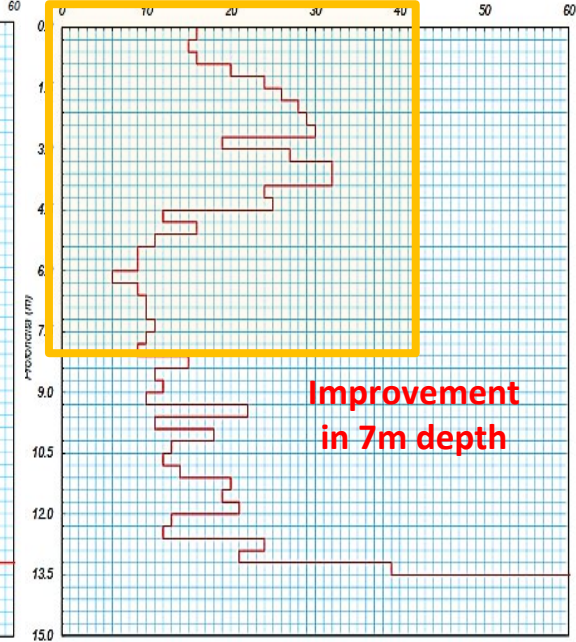
Post-treatment measurement

Top feed replacement



Post-treatment measurement

Bottom feed replacement







**TEST FIELD VIBRO-REPLACEMENT AT THE SALERNO PORT**



# Vibro-Replacement technique for the seabed of Salerno port

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PIANC French Section

