

Geothermal Energy and the Foundation Industry - made for each other

Geotechnical structures are often temporary, but when they are constructed they should always be classified according to their impact on the entire life cycle. Already the design of geotechnical elements should aim to make these integral parts of a sustainable building concept. A valuable option is the use of geothermal energy via structural elements such as retaining walls, and the soil mixing technique has proven to be the ideal method for execution. In addition to reducing the carbon footprint through less material consumption, fewer transports also lead to lower noise emissions and air pollution in the immediate surroundings, thus directly contributing to further sustainability goals. In particular, the positive contact with the surrounding soil makes the mixed-in-place method a preferred sustainable technique for using geothermal energy, as the heat transfer properties are favorable. In this positive way, supporting structures, typically designed for temporary use, make a lasting contribution to the building's energy balance.