Geocomp
Trusted to help mitigate risk

PROJECT BRIEF

Tren Urbano Rail System GeoTesting

PROJECT PROFILE

CLIENT:
Puerto Rican Department of Transportation and Public Works

LOCATION:
San Juan, PR

VALUE:

- Fast turnaround, high quality results supporting timely decision making
- Supported multiple firms while retaining strict chain of custody and data integrity

SERVICES PROVIDED:

- A full suite of soil tests (strength, compression, shear, permeability)

GEOTESTING

GeoTesting Express (GTX)'s challenge was to provide rapid, high-end geotechnical testing services, as well as engineering support for various engineering firms working on this project. GTX conducted testing, including various strength determinations (consolidations; UU, CU and CD triaxial shears; unconfined compressions; and direct shears) and permeability tests in support of design efforts. Throughout this project, testing results were required to be on an immediate basis. Despite being over 2,000 miles away, six different engineering firms in Puerto Rico turned to GeoTesting Express because of its fast turnaround times and ability to consistently produce quality results that our clients trust and upon which they could base their engineering decisions. Our clients also benefited from our professional technical support, assisting them in dealing with complex aspects of the unique soils encountered on the job.

BACKGROUND

Due to the ever spiraling traffic congestion problems faced by San Juan and surrounding urban areas, the Puerto Rican Department of Transportation and Public Works initiated its first-ever public transportation project in 1996. This project involved building a 10.7-mile (17.2-km), 16-station heavy rail system connecting San Juan and the urban vicinity. Electric trains operate on a series of above-ground, below-ground, and surface tracks. The Tren Urbano metro system opened to the public in December 2004.