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Michel Aubertin is a full Professor in the Department of Civil, Geological and Mining Engineering at École Polytechnique de Montréal. He obtained his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Université de Sherbrooke. He then went on to do a master's degree in geotechnique and a Ph.D. in geomechanics at École Polytechnique.

Professor Aubertin worked as a Project Engineer for a consulting firm specialized in geotechnique and materials testing from 1979 to 1983. In 1984, he joined the Department of Applied Sciences at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (UQAT) as an Assistant Professor. He later became in charge of the undergraduate engineering program (offered in collaboration with École Polytechnique) and was also Director-Founder of the Unité de recherche et de service en technologie minérale (URSTM). A professor at École Polytechnique since 1989, he became an Associate Professor in 1992, and a full Professor in 1996. From 1994 to 1999, he was in charge of the undergraduate program in mining engineering — a bilingual cooperative program, with paid work terms, jointly runs with McGill University.

In June 2001, he was appointed to the Industrial NSERC Polytechnique-UQAT Chair in Environment and Mine Wastes Management. This Chair involves the participation of two universities (École Polytechnique and UQAT), as well as mining companies, specialized consulting firms and government agencies. The mandate of the Chair was renewed in June 2006 for a second phase that will end in December 2012.

Professor Aubertin's teaching and research activities are focused on mining geotechnics and hydrogeology, including constitutive and numerical modelling of the behaviour of geomaterials, the stability of surface and underground structures, mining wastes management techniques, and the reclamation of waste disposal sites, including those producing acid mine drainage. Over the years, Professor Aubertin has directed or co-directed more than 85 graduate students, including 24 PhD candidates and 9 post-doctoral fellows. In addition to teaching at École Polytechnique, he has provided a number of professional development courses on various geotechnical topics, specifically for the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS), the Association minière du Québec, the Ministère des ressources naturelles du Québec, the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM), the Canada Centre for Mineral and Energy Technology (CANMET), and the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec. His teaching contributions include creating the first French-language undergraduate and graduate courses in mine waste management in Canada. He is also co-author of the manual *Environnement et gestion des rejets miniers* (in CD-ROM format), published in December 2002 by Presses internationales Polytechnique. This is the first French-language publication on the subject

worldwide. As a researcher, Professor Aubertin is mainly recognized for his contributions on the mechanical behaviour of rocks, unsaturated flow in groundwater and waste, the design of covers with a capillary barrier effect to control acid mine drainage, and the environmental management of mining wastes. Over the years, his research projects have received substantial funding from a number of agencies (NSERC, FQRNT, IRSST, MEND-CANMET), government departments (Natural Resources, Environment, Science and Technology), and private companies.

Professor Aubertin was director of the rock mechanics division of the Canadian Geotechnical Society, going on to become one of the Society's two vice-presidents (1997-1998). He co-edited the proceedings of the 1st Canadian Conference on Environmental Geotechnics (1991), was President and Editor of the 2nd North American Rock Mechanics Symposium (NARMS '96), and was President of the 4th Conference on the Mechanical Behaviour of Salt (MECASALT IV 1996), for which he also edited the proceedings. He was Associate Editor of the Canadian Geotechnical Journal (for 5 years), and was on the editorial board of the Pergamon-Elsevier International Journal of Plasticity (for 7 years). He continues to be involved in the organization of a variety of congresses, seminars, and national and international conferences, and regularly acts as a reviewer for scientific committees, technical journals, and funding agencies such as the NSERC Civil Engineering Grant (GSC 06, Committee member and Chair) the FCAR-NATEQ Young Researchers Program, the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI, Chair, Expert panel on Environment-Water), and the NSERC Selection Committee for the E.W.R. Steacie Grants. He chaired the Canadian Geotechnical Research Board for 4 years. He is the 2009-2010 President of the Canadian Geotechnical Society (www.cgs.ca).

A member of numerous professional associations, including the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec, CIM, ASCE, CGS, CSCE, SME-AIME, and IAH, Professor Aubertin is the author of more than 200 papers published in scientific journals and refereed conference proceedings. He has also written over 100 articles and technical reports. He has acted as a technical consultant for several organizations and consulting firms. He was awarded a number of prizes for his teaching and research activities. These include Fellow of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineers (1999), the J.A. Franklin and T. Stermac prizes from the Canadian Geotechnical Society (1999), the R&D Award of Excellence from the North American Geosynthetics Society (NAGS, 1999), the ASCE Journal of Environmental Engineering Editor's Award (2001), the Mérite géoscientifique du Québec (2001), and the Réseau Environnement Arnold Drapeau award (2001). In 2003, Professor Aubertin was named Fellow by the Canadian Academy of Engineering (FCAE) and the Engineering Institute of Canada (FEIC). In 2005, he received the John B. Sterling medal from the EIC for his leadership and professional contributions. In 2008, he was invited to present the Cross Canada Lecture Tour by the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS).