

The 24th World Dredging Congress & Exposition

# WODCON XXIV

"Dredging Towards a More Resilient Future"

Hosted by WEDA

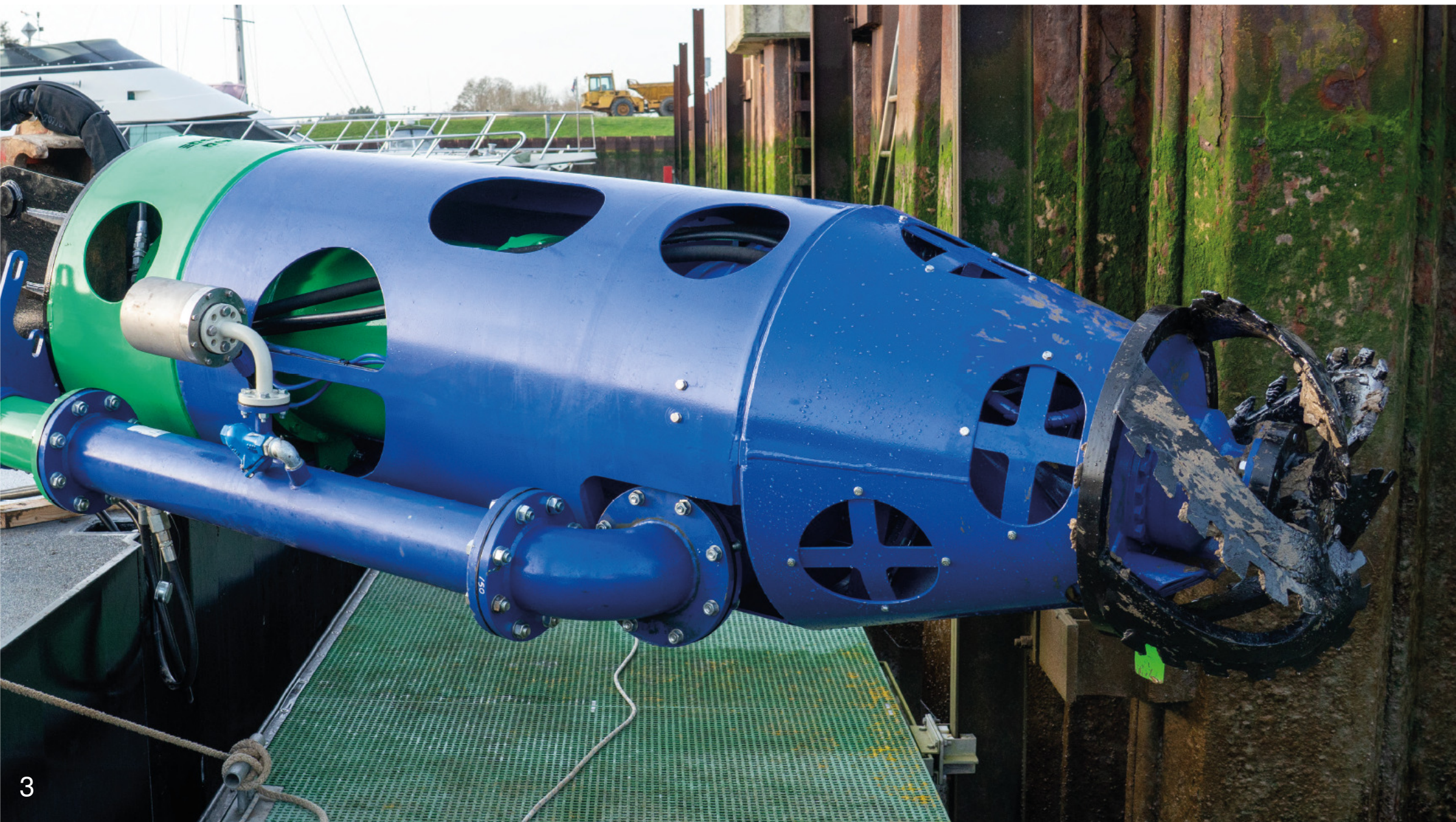


# The Cutting of Clay:

## Different Methods to Predict Clogging the Cutter Head

Mark Winkelman, Dingena Schott, Rudy Helmons







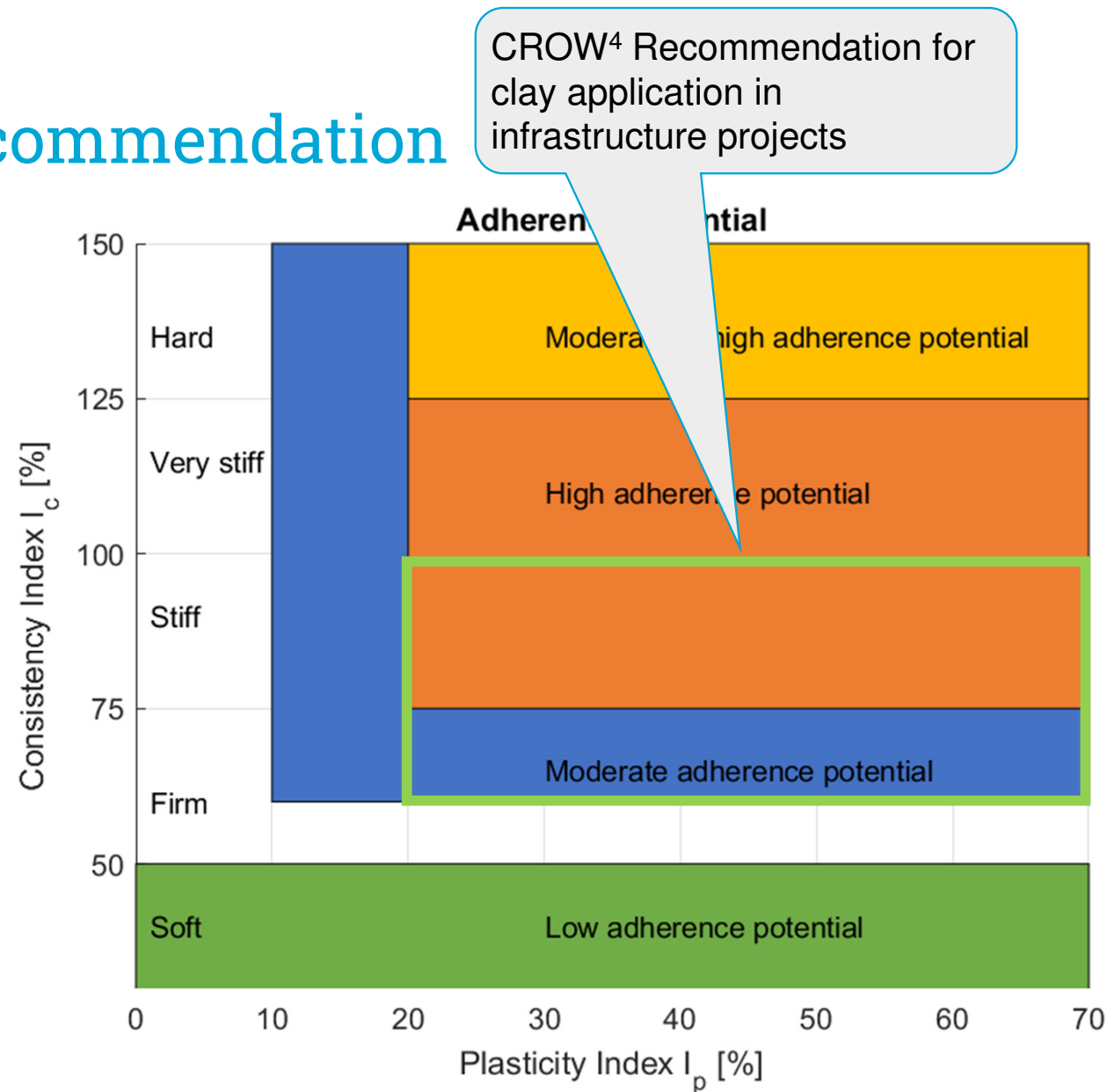




# Adherence Potential Recommendation

- Recommended by PIANC<sup>1</sup>
- Supported by CEDA<sup>2</sup>/IADC<sup>3</sup>
- PI: mineral dependent
- CI: local condition
- Static soil conditions

1. World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure
2. Central Dredging Association
3. International Association of Dredging Companies
4. Center for Legislation in Infrastructure

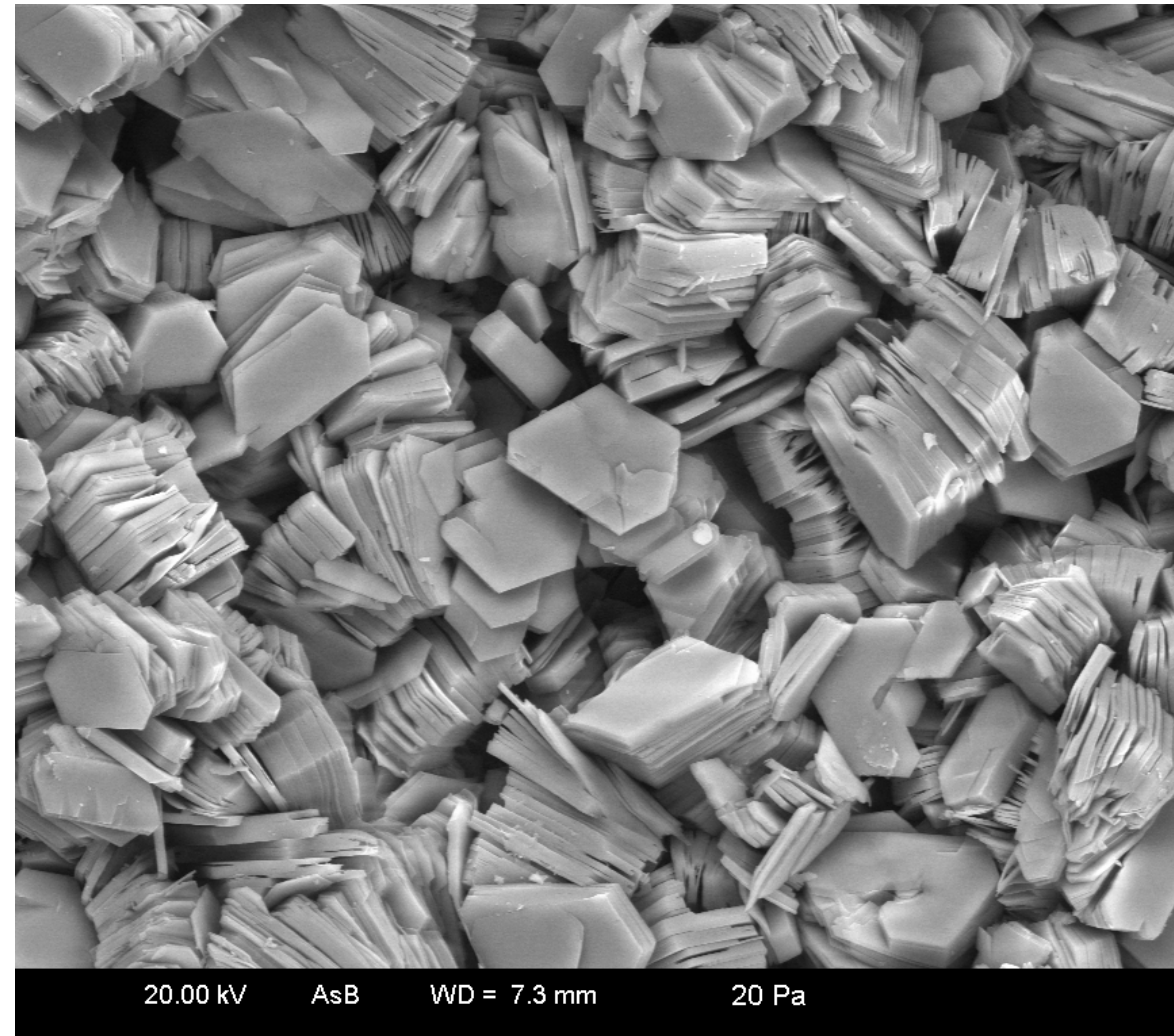


# Research Questions on the Adherence Potential

- Why is adherence potential not always accurate?
- Are there other estimations?
- Any other recommendations?
- Applicable for the dredging industry?

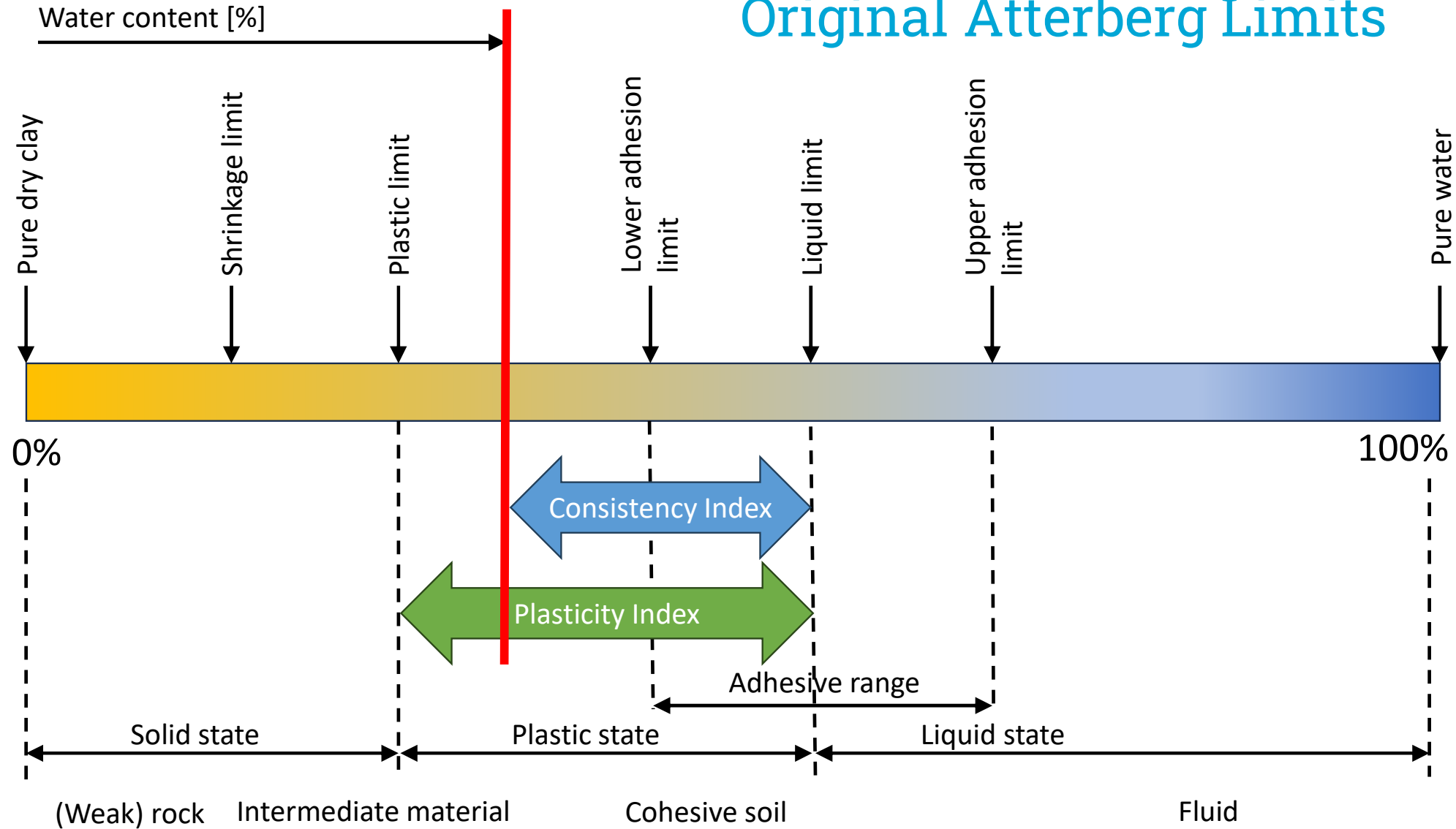
# Clay minerals: chemical and physical properties

- Hexagonal discs
- Very small ~2nm (Mesh 7000)
- Charge distribution
- Stacks of discs
- Plasticity
- Good water absorption
- Adherence to surfaces



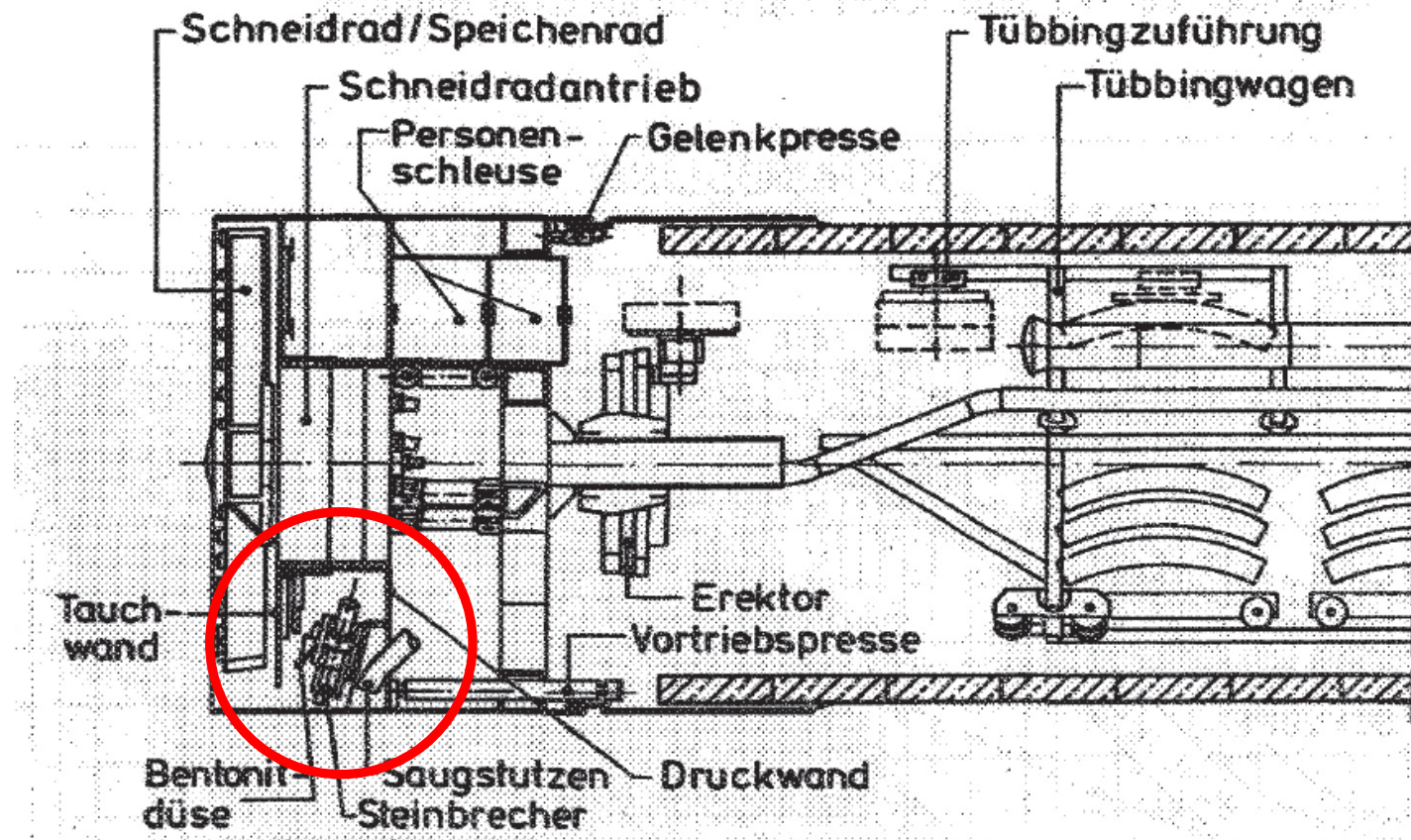


# Original Atterberg Limits



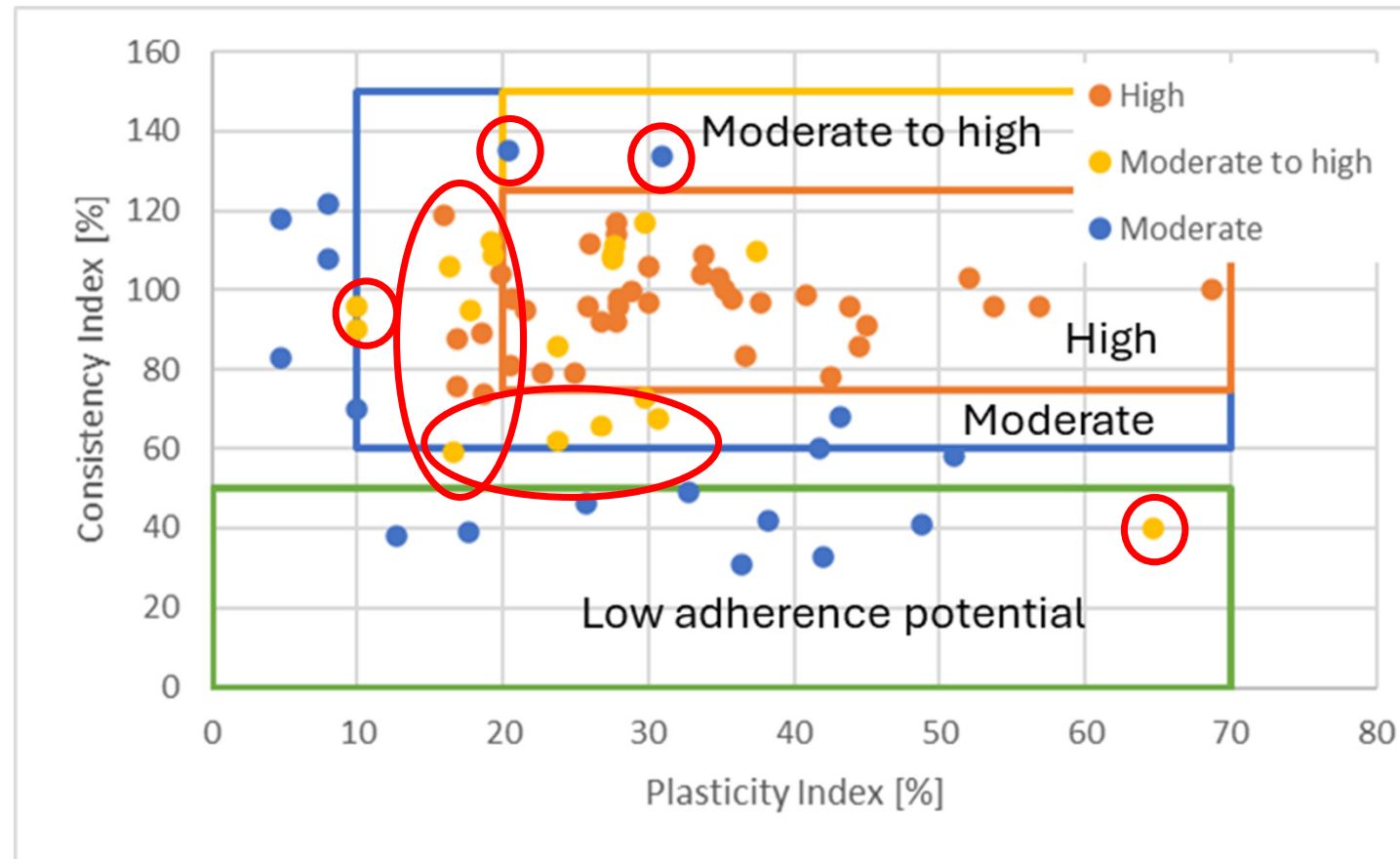
# PIANC Origin of the Adherence Potential: Tunneling

- Thewes (1999)
- Tunnel boring
- Suction problem
- Internal adherence
- Also, just literature review



# Literature Data Plotted in the Adherence Recommendation

- Data from Schlick, 1989
- Classed by Thewes, 1999
- Large spread
- Creative grouping...









# Bit Balling

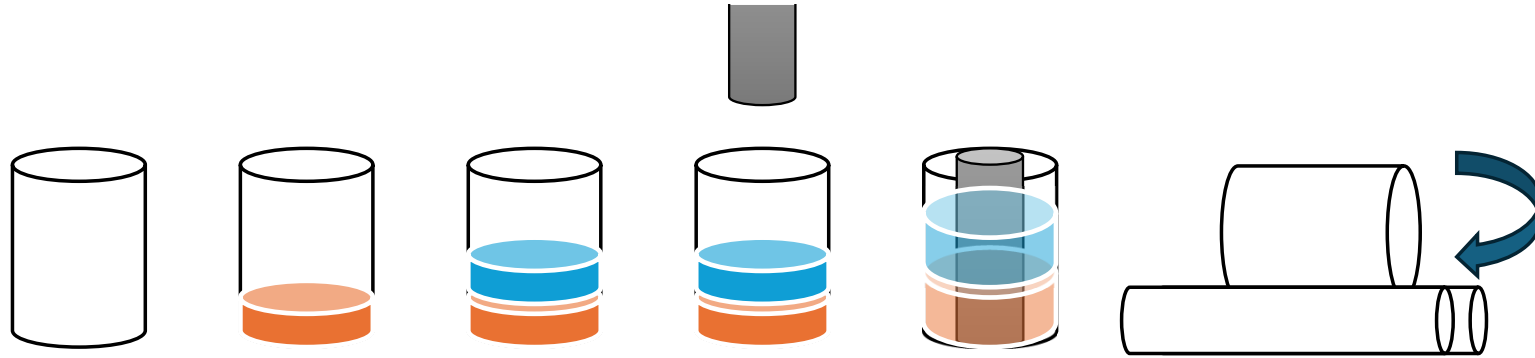
- Oil drilling industry
- Other parameters
- Different solutions
- Only qualitative



## Rolling bar test

- AADE\* procedure
- 50gr (1.7637oz) sample
- Match conditions  
(water content, temperature,  
pressure, materials, coatings,  
lubricants)
- Adherence to bar
- Prolonged churning
- Measure over time
- Plot series

\*American Association of Drilling  
Engineers





## Rolling bar test

- Churning aligns particles
- Squeezes out pore water
- Changes local water content
- Changes adherence
- Past lower adhesion limit: clean rod

$$Acc = \frac{W_3}{\left(\frac{100 - M_i}{100}\right) W_1} 100\%$$



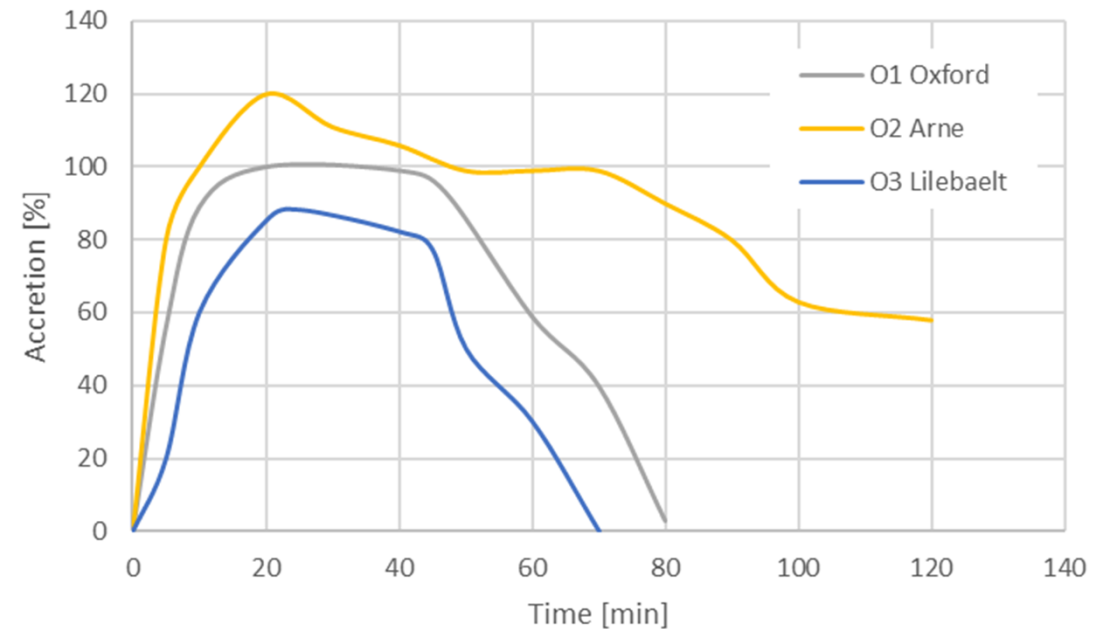
5      10      20      40      60      80

Rolling Time in Minutes

# Accretion Test Results (Mettah, 2011)

ID	Sample	Provided		Analysed		AADE	PIANC
		w(%)	I <sub>p</sub> (%)	I <sub>l</sub> (%)	PI(%)		
1	Oxford	3.4	25.7	40.9	15.2	246.7	Low
2	Arne	26.5	36.3	73.2	36.9	126.6	High
3	Lilebaelt	20.5	26.5	41.5	15.0	140.0	Low

- >100% due to formula (includes water content)
- Accretion depends on time
- Oxford & Lilebaelt clean up
- Arne stays stuck to rod
- No cleaning: bit balling!



# Observations on PIANC and AADE Procedures

- Flow conditions not included in both procedures
- Time scales of clogging processes are different, check applicability of rolling bar test for dredging
- Investigate initial rate of accretion for fast cutting process
- Test teeth material in stead of stainless-steel 315
- Correlate dredging rolling bar with field results



## Conclusions

- Clay recommended for construction (CROW) is also clay with highest adherence potential (PIANC)
- PIANC does not work for highly active clay, different adhesion ratio and does not include dynamic behaviour
- Rolling bar test is sensitive to more parameters (adhesion ration, Cation Exchange Capacity, shear rate, pressure)
- Propose rolling bar test for dredging in contract negotiations

# References

- PIANC (2016): PIANC Report No. 144 - C.2.1 Trailing Suction Hopper Dredger (TSHD)
- CROW (2009): Materialen in (constructieve) ophogingen en aanvullingen; Richtlijn ter beoordeling van alternatieven voor zand
- Thewes (1999): Bodenmechanik und Grundbau, Bericht - Nr.21, Juli 1999
- Schlick (1989): Institut für Maschinenwesen im Baubetrieb, Universität Karlsruhe, 1989, Heft F39
- Mettah (2011): The Prevention and Cure of Bit Balling in Water-Based Drilling Fluids



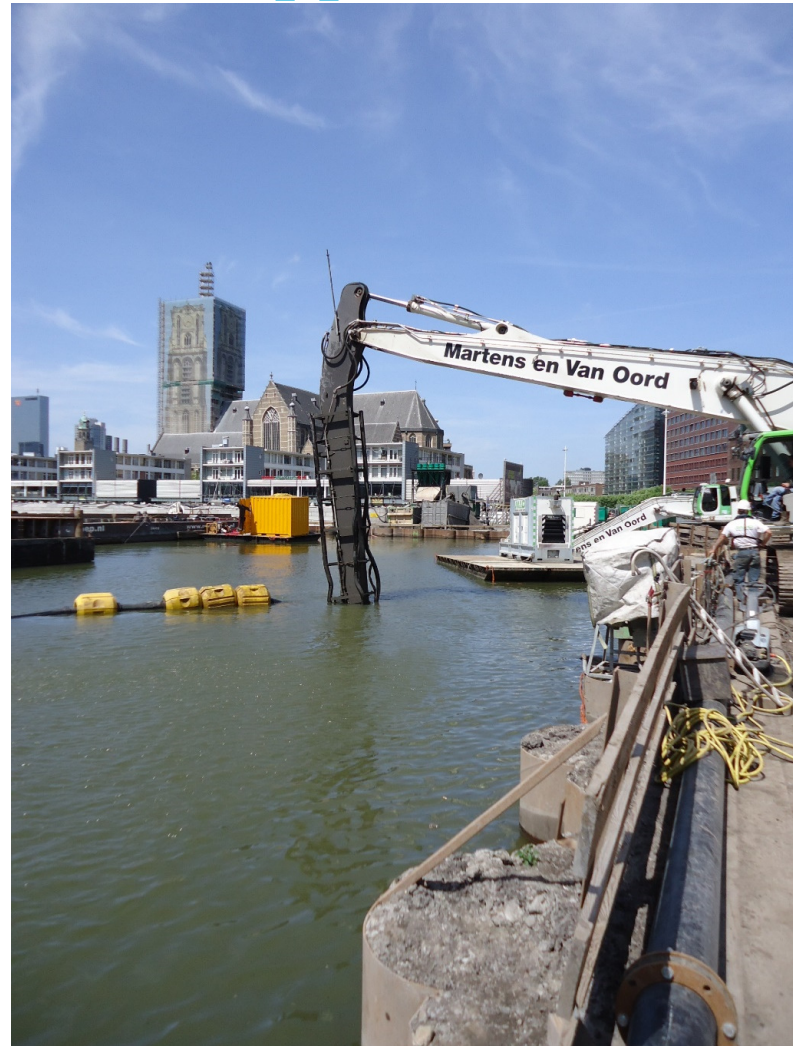
**Improvise. Adapt. Overcome**







# Plastic Clay in the Foundation: DOP application





## Working With Nature: Apply Adhesion



Thank you for your attention

Booth #200



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