

GEOTECHNICAL DESIGN REPORT

US-395 G-1092 AND I-1093 MSE ABUTMENT WALLS RENO, NEVADA

EA 74107

JANUARY 2023



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MATERIALS DIVISION
GEOTECHNICAL SECTION

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US-395 G-1092 & I-1093 MSE ABUTMENT WALLS

RENO, NEVADA

JANUARY 2023

EA 74107

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1. Introduction

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) plans to widen US395 from Clear Acre Lane to Golden Valley Interchange. This report presents the recommendations for mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) walls supporting G-1092 and I-1093 bridge approach slabs. These recommendations were developed using NewFields' "Geotechnical Design Report Phase 1B: US395 North Valleys Washoe County, NV 2020" for the proposed widening project.

1.1 Project Description

It is our understanding that this portion of the project consists of constructing 4 MSE walls: RW16, RW17, RW18, and RW19. These MSE walls will support the new bridge approach slabs. RW16 & RW17 are located on the south and north side, respectively, of G-1092 (Panther Valley UPRR Bridge). RW18 & RW19 are located on the south and north side, respectively, of I-1093 (Panther Valley Interchange Bridge).

1.2 Purpose and Scope of Work

The purpose of this report is to evaluate the suitability of the project site from a geotechnical perspective, for the proposed retaining walls. The main objectives of the analysis were to perform engineering analyses, develop geotechnical recommendations for design and construction, and document our findings and recommendations in this report.

The scope of our geotechnical design includes the following:

- Perform engineering analyses to develop geotechnical design criteria and recommendations for the proposed project
- Preparation of this report

1.3 Limitations

This report has been prepared by Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) Geotechnical Section under the supervision of those whose signatures appear herein. The interpretation of data, findings, and recommendations presented in this report were developed from a consultant's geotechnical investigation.

If the proposed project is modified or relocated, or if the subsurface conditions found during construction differ from those described in this report, NDOT Geotechnical Section should be contacted immediately to assess the new information or changed conditions and determine if additional recommendations are required.

2. Field Exploration and Site/Subsurface Exploration

The geotechnical exploration was conducted by NewFields and completed in August of 2020. The report is titled *Geotechnical Design Report Phase 1B: US395 North Valleys Washoe County, Nevada* and can be found in the contract documents and on the NDOT website.

3. MSE Wall Recommendations

3.1 General

Design recommendations for the proposed MSE retaining walls RW-16, RW-17, RW-18, and RW-19 are included. The proposed MSE walls vary in height from a minimum of about 10 feet to a maximum of approximately 32 feet. External stability analysis was performed for each wall in accordance with AASHTO 2020 including sliding, bearing resistance, overall global stability, and eccentricity. The walls were also evaluated at the service limit state for settlement.

The minimum length of soil reinforcement for MSE walls perpendicular to mainline is 70 percent of the wall height as measured from the leveling pad. Portions of the MSE walls which are parallel to the mainline have a minimum reinforcement length of 110 percent of the wall (see project plans for details). In no case should the minimum reinforcement length be less than 8 feet.

A minimum embedment depth to the bottom of the reinforced soil mass (top of leveling pad) should be 2 feet for level top and toe slopes. The minimum embedment depth for walls constructed with 1.5H:1V toe slopes should be 4.5 feet.

Resistance factors for MSE walls on this project were designed using a sliding resistance factor of 1.0 and a bearing resistance factor of 0.65 for the Strength Limit State.

An evaluation of internal stability or compound global stability of the MSE walls was not included in our investigation. An assessment of the internal stability and compound global stability will be required by the MSE wall designer or a qualified geotechnical engineer during the design of the walls per Section 642 of the Special Provisions.

3.1.1 External Stability

An external stability analysis was performed for each wall. The failure mechanisms of sliding, bearing resistance and eccentricity were evaluated using the computer software program MSEW 3.0 (ADAMA Engineering 2019). The length of soil reinforcement required to meet the capacity demand ratio for each failure mechanism was determined in accordance with AASHTO LRFD (2020 edition) Bridge Design Articles 11.10.4 and 11.10.5. The results of the analysis are presented in Appendix B. Based upon our analysis, the walls meet the minimum capacity demand ratios for each failure mechanism provided the walls are constructed in accordance with the Specifications and the recommendations herein.

3.1.2 Global Stability

The overall global stability of the retaining walls was analyzed using Slide 2018 (Rocscience version 8.0). This software program evaluated each retaining wall using the two-dimensional limiting equilibrium method. The purpose of the analysis was to identify potential failure planes and to derive factors of safety for each wall configuration. A seismic load of 0.25g horizontal acceleration was used in the seismic analysis, and a traffic surcharge load of 250 psf was added to the top of each wall. The 0.25g is one half of the PGA of 0.5g for the site.

Both the Spencer and the Modified Bishop method of slices were used in the program. The Spencer method considers both the moment and force equilibrium of each slice, whereas the Modified Bishop considers the vertical equilibrium of each slice. Compound failure (where failure surfaces pass through portions of the reinforced soil mass) was not considered in the scope of this report but will be evaluated by the wall designer

as part of the internal stability analysis. Consequently, the strength parameters in the reinforced soil zone were set to infinite strength to force the failure surfaces outside the reinforced soil zone. Shear strengths in the retained and foundation soil zones are based on the Mohr-Coulomb strength parameters using the results of our laboratory testing. The following table summarizes the strength parameters used for the MSE walls:

Table 1: Strength Parameters for MSE Walls

Material	Moist Unit Weight (pcf)	Friction Angle, ϕ (degrees)	Cohesion, c (psf)
Reinforced Soil	135	Infinite Strength	Infinite Strength
Retained Soil	125	34	0
Foundation Soil (Native)	120	35	100

The results of the global stability analysis revealed that all the walls perpendicular to mainline are stable with the minimum reinforcement length of 0.7H. A minimum length of 1.1H is required for walls parallel to mainline to achieve a minimum factor of safety of 1.5 for static, 1.1 for pseudo-static, and 1.2 for the temporary construction condition. The walls parallel to mainline require a larger reinforcement length due to the proposed toe slopes. Based upon the above criteria, the following table summarizes the results of the analysis:

Table 2: MSE Wall Portions Perpendicular to Mainline Design Results

Bridge	MSE Wall ID	Foundation Soil	Maximum Wall Height (ft)	Minimum Reinforcement Length for Maximum Wall Height Section (ft)	Static Global Stability Factor of Safety (FS)	Pseudo-Static Global Factor of Safety (FS)
G-1092	RW-16	Native	30	21	2.0	1.3
	RW-17	Native	30	21	2.0	1.3
I-1093	RW-18	Native	26	18.2	2.1	1.3
	RW-19	Native	32	22.4	2.1	1.3

Table 3: MSE Wall Portions Parallel to Mainline Design Results

Bridge	MSE Wall ID	Foundation Soil	Maximum Wall Height (ft)	Minimum Reinforcement Length for Maximum Wall Height Section (ft)	Static Global Stability Factor of Safety (FS)	Pseudo-Static Global Factor of Safety (FS)
G-1092	RW-16	Native/Fill	28	30.8	1.9	1.2
	RW-17	Native/Fill	22	24.2	2.0	1.2
I-1093	RW-18	Native/Fill	26	28.6	1.8	1.1
	RW-19	Native/Fill	30	33	1.7	1.1

4. References

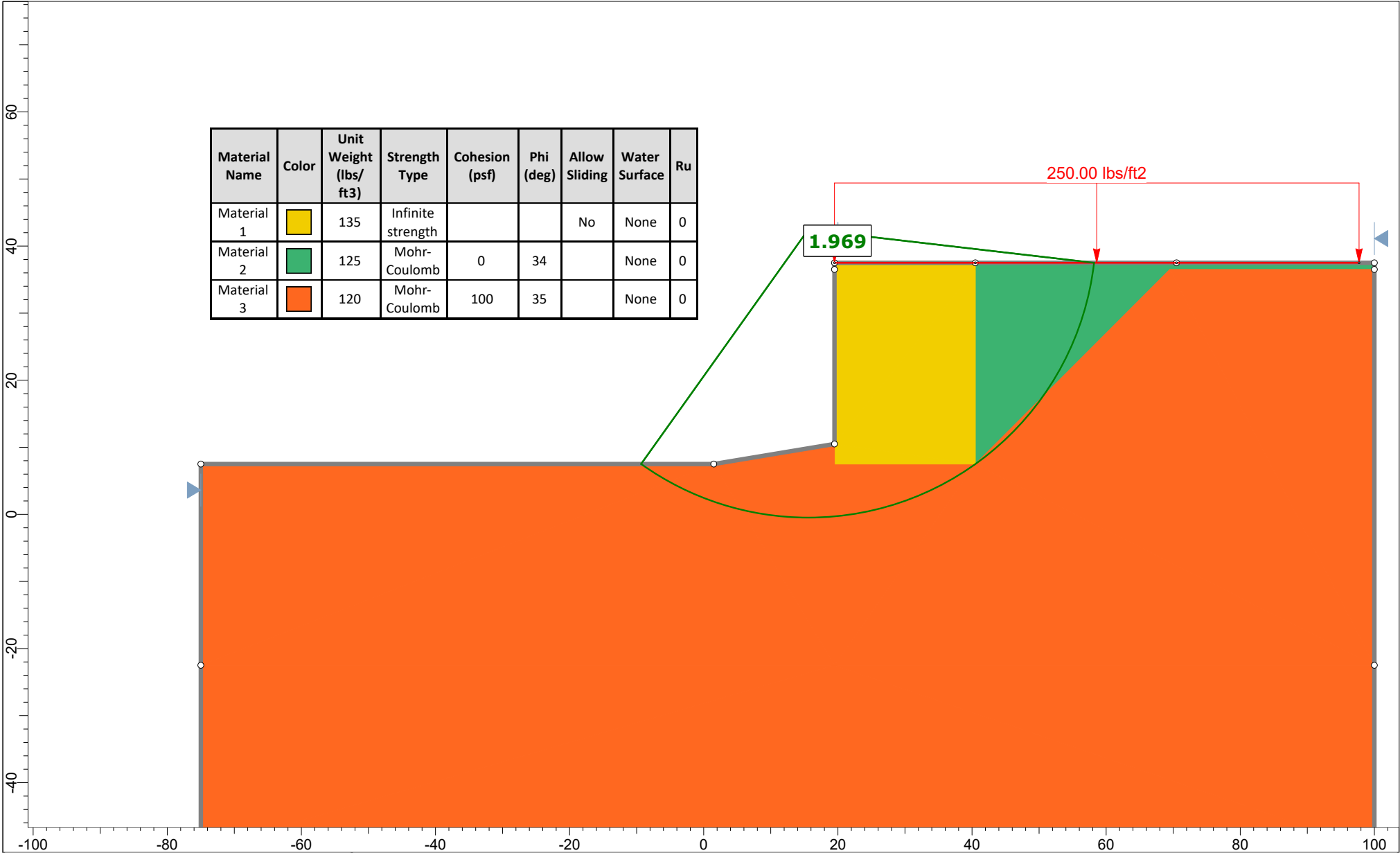
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), 2020, "LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, 9th Edition"

Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), 2014, "Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction"


NewFields, 2020, "Geotechnical Design Report Phase 1B: US395 North Valleys Washoe County, Nevada"

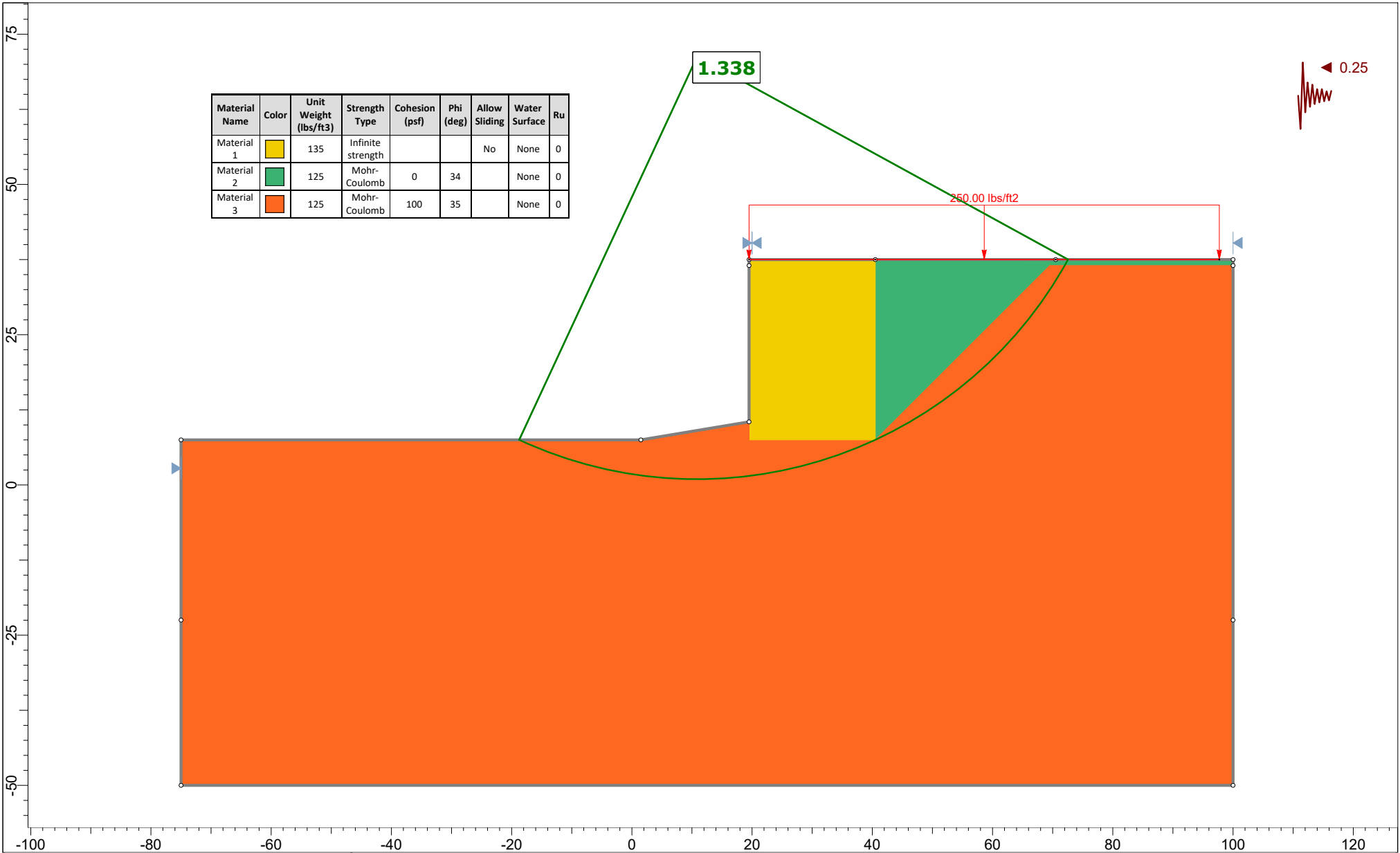
Rocscience, Inc., SLIDE Version 8.0, 54 Saint Patrick St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Appendix A
Global Stability Results




Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft3)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	125	Mohr-Coulomb	0	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	120	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0

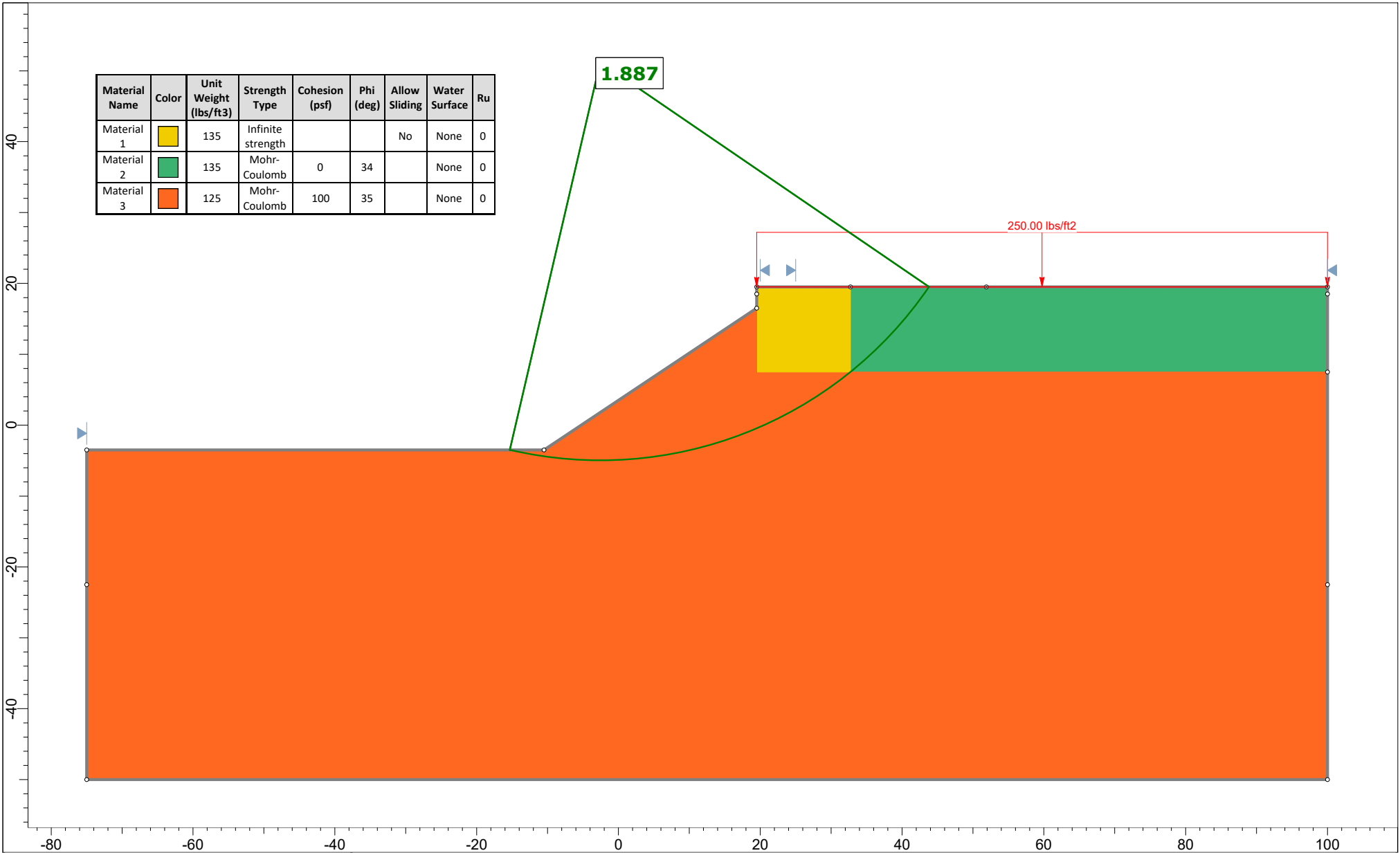
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	<i>Group</i> Group 1	<i>Scenario</i> Master Scenario
	<i>Drawn By</i>	<i>Company</i>
	<i>Date</i> 6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	<i>File Name</i> G-1092 - Perpendicular Main Section Static.slmd




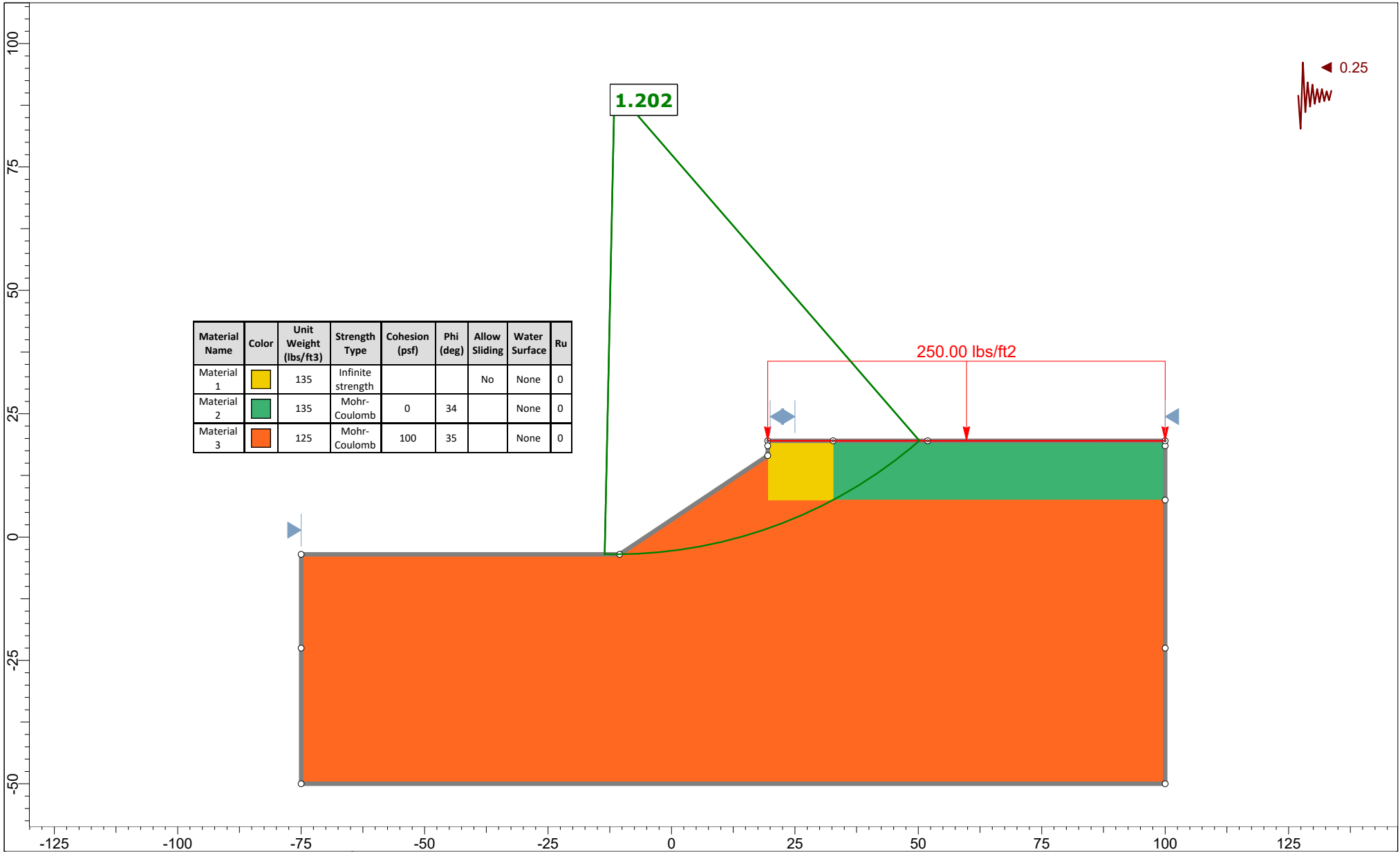
Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft3)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	125	Mohr-Coulomb	0	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0

	Project		SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
	Group		Group 1	Scenario Master Scenario
	Drawn By			Company
	Date		6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	File Name G-1092 - Perpendicular Main Section Pseudo-Static.slmd
	SLIDEINTERPRET 9.019			


Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft3)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	135	Mohr-Coulomb	0	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0



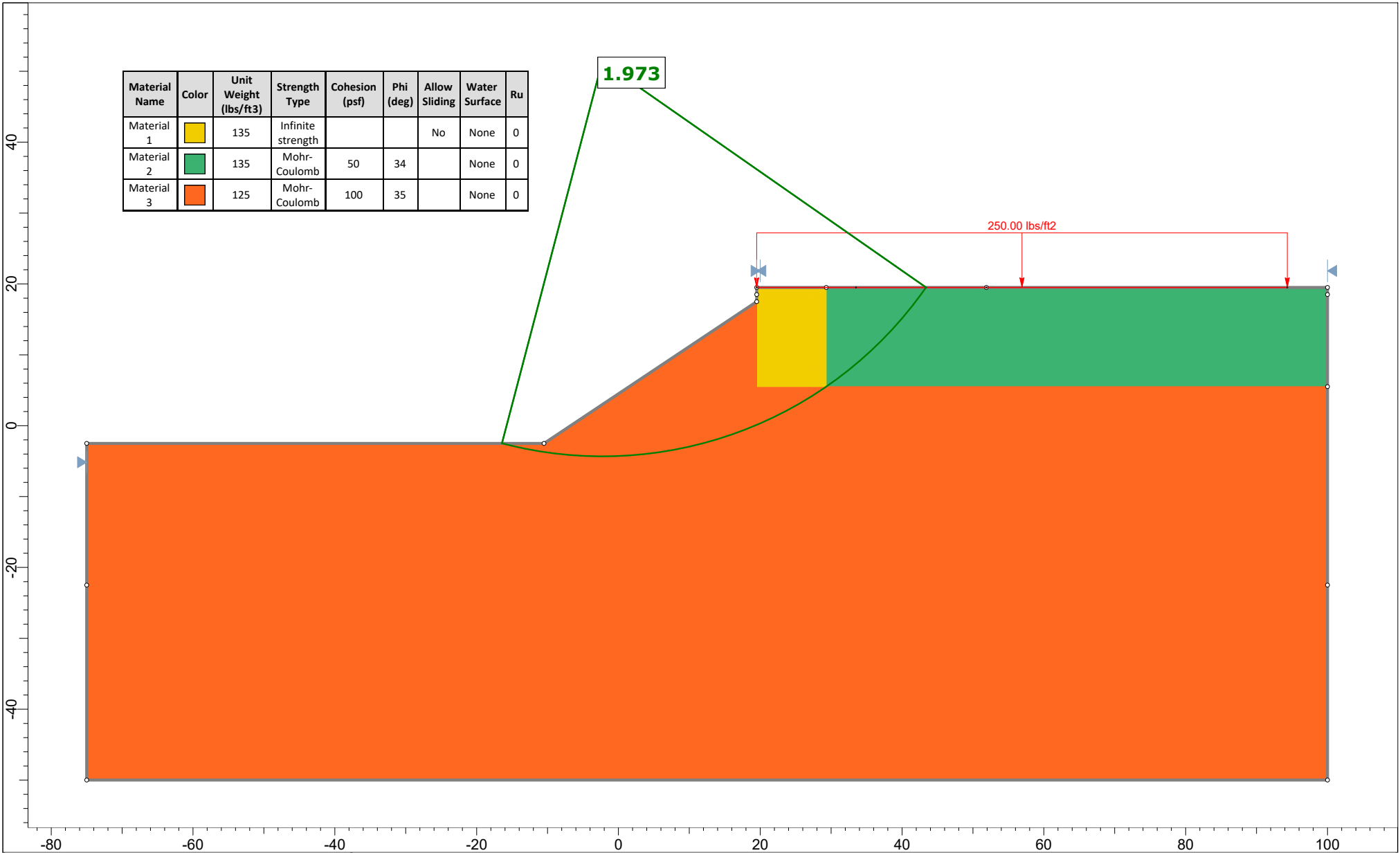
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	Group		Group 1	Scenario
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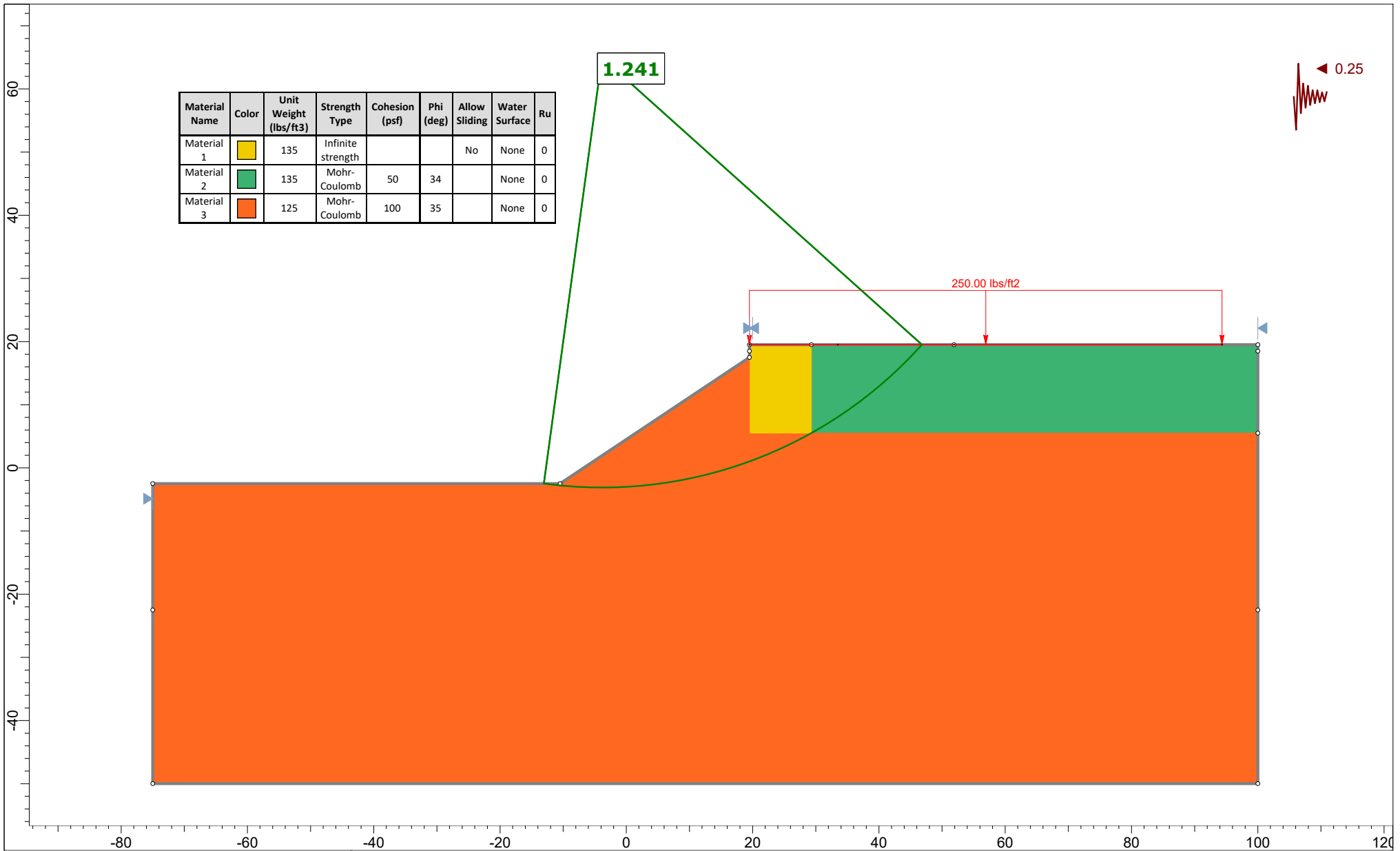
Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft3)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	135	Mohr-Coulomb	0	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0

	Project		SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
	Group		Group 1	Scenario
	Drawn By			Company
	Date		6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	File Name
				G-1092 - RW16 Parallel Critical Section Pseudo-Static.slmd


Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft ³)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	135	Mohr-Coulomb	50	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0

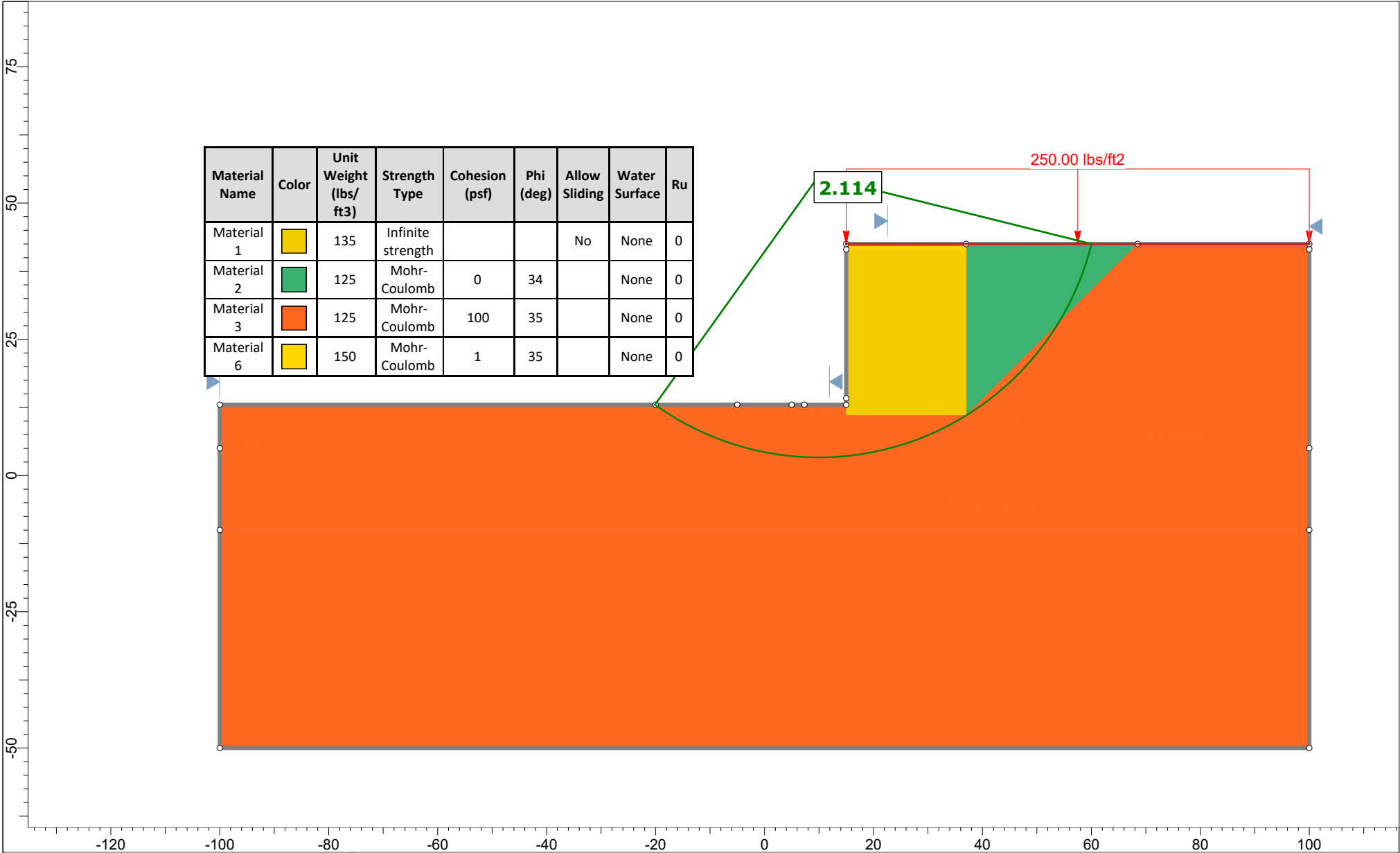



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	Drawn By			Company
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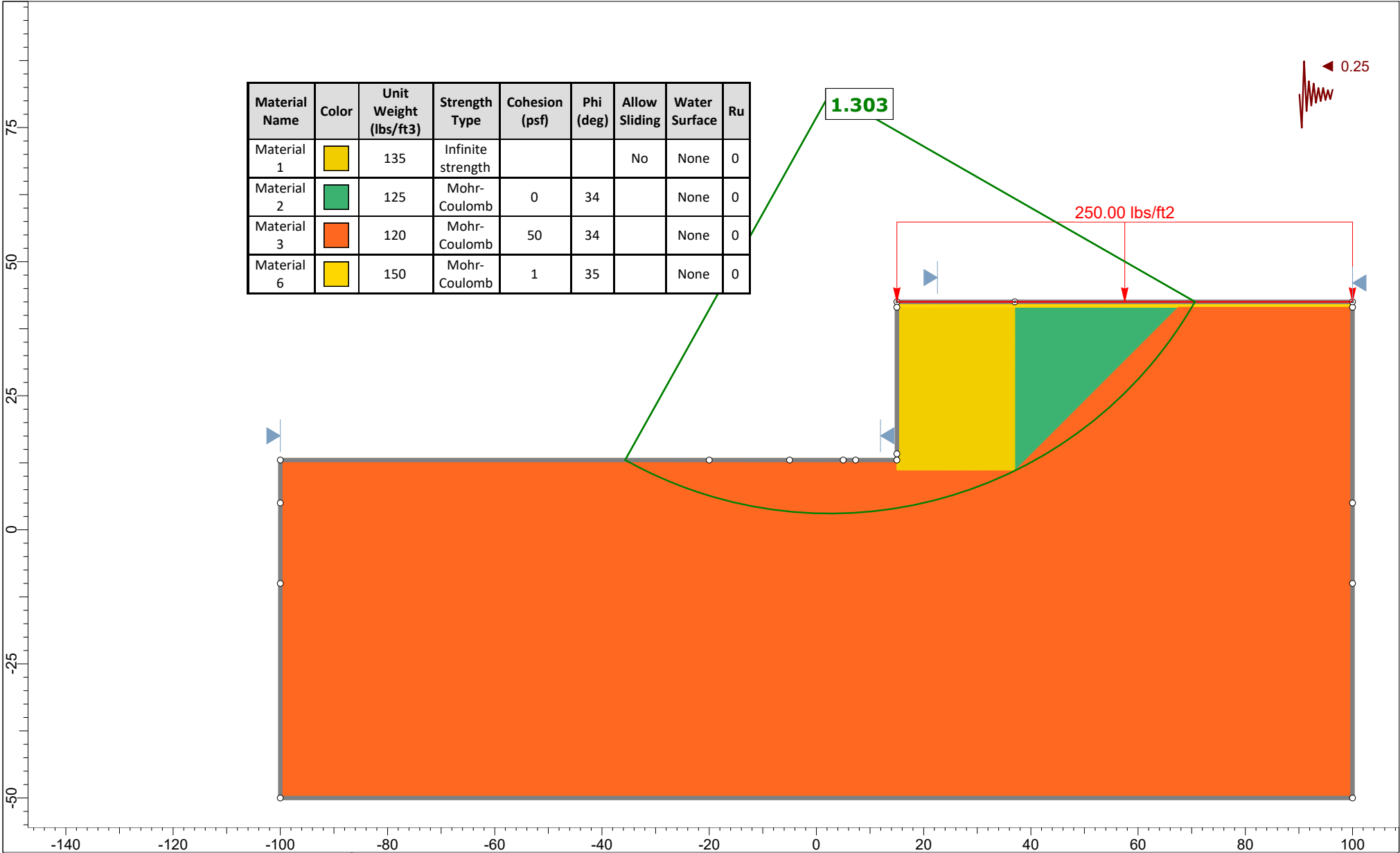



Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft3)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	135	Mohr-Coulomb	50	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0

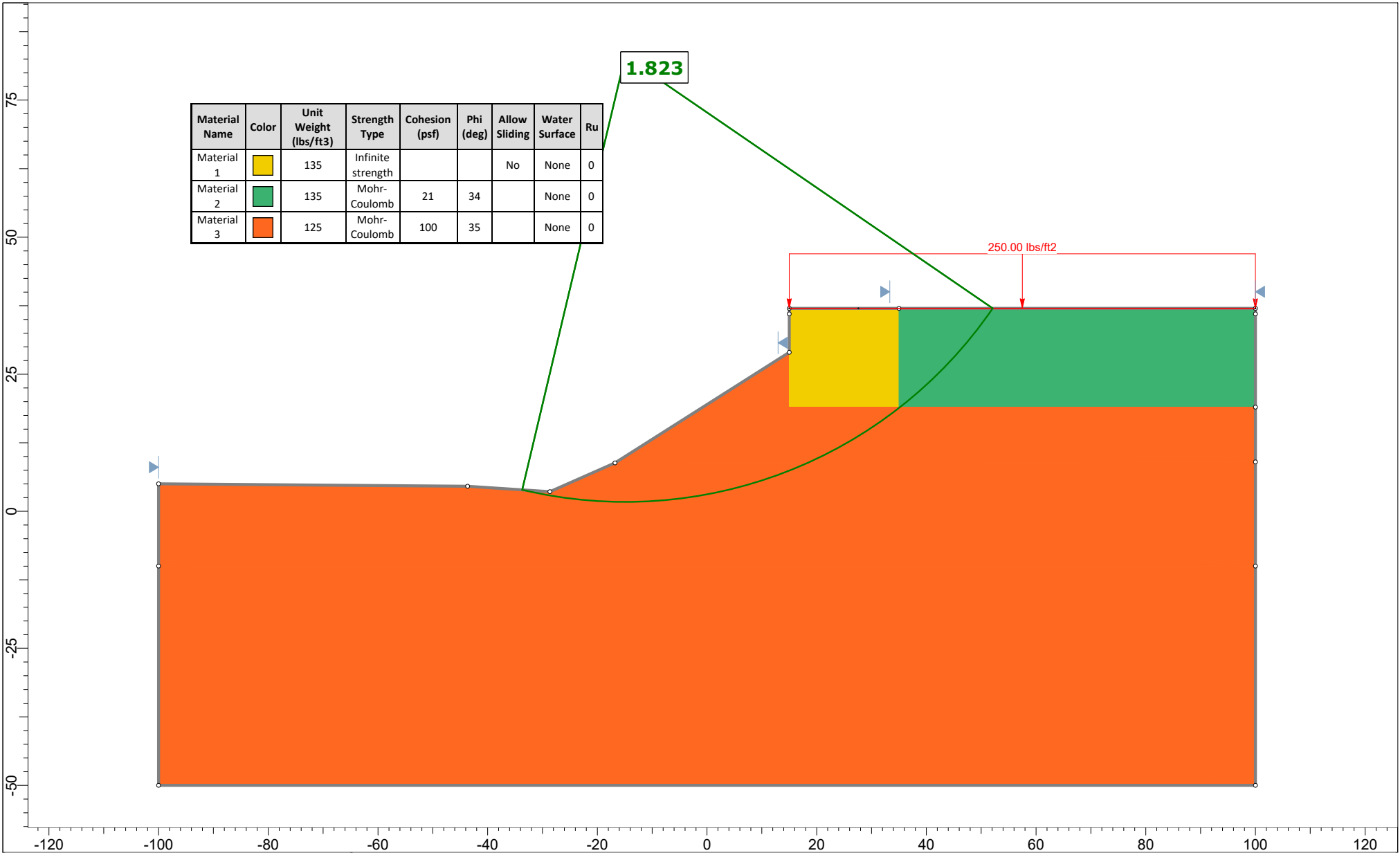
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	<i>Group</i> Group 1	<i>Scenario</i> Master Scenario
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	<i>Project</i> SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
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	<i>Drawn By</i>	<i>Company</i>
	<i>Date</i> 6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	<i>File Name</i> I-1093 - Perpendicular Main Section Static.slmd

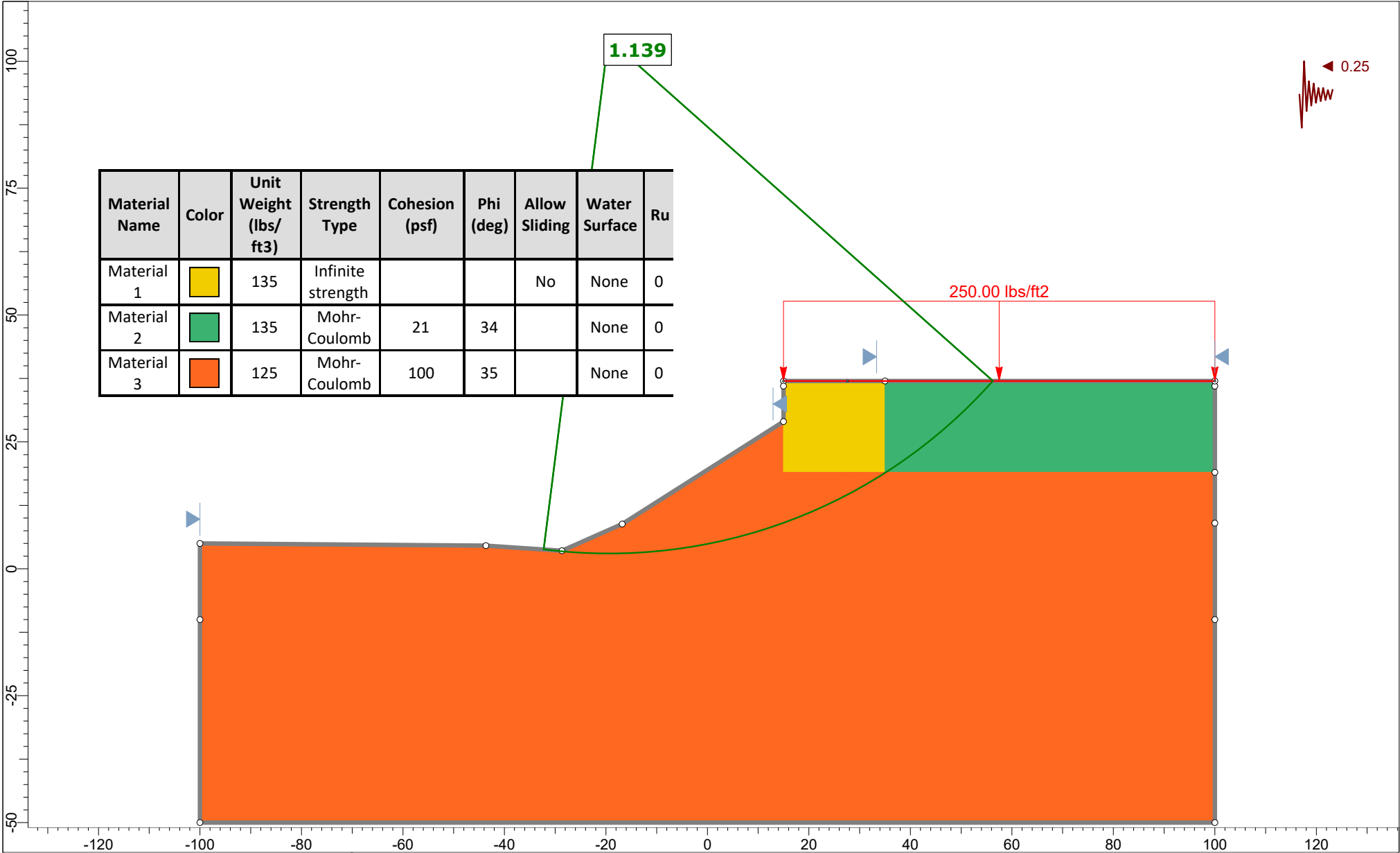





	Project		SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
	Group		Group 1	Scenario
	Drawn By			Company
	Date		6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	File Name
			I-1093 - Perpendicular Main Section Pseudo-Static.slmd	




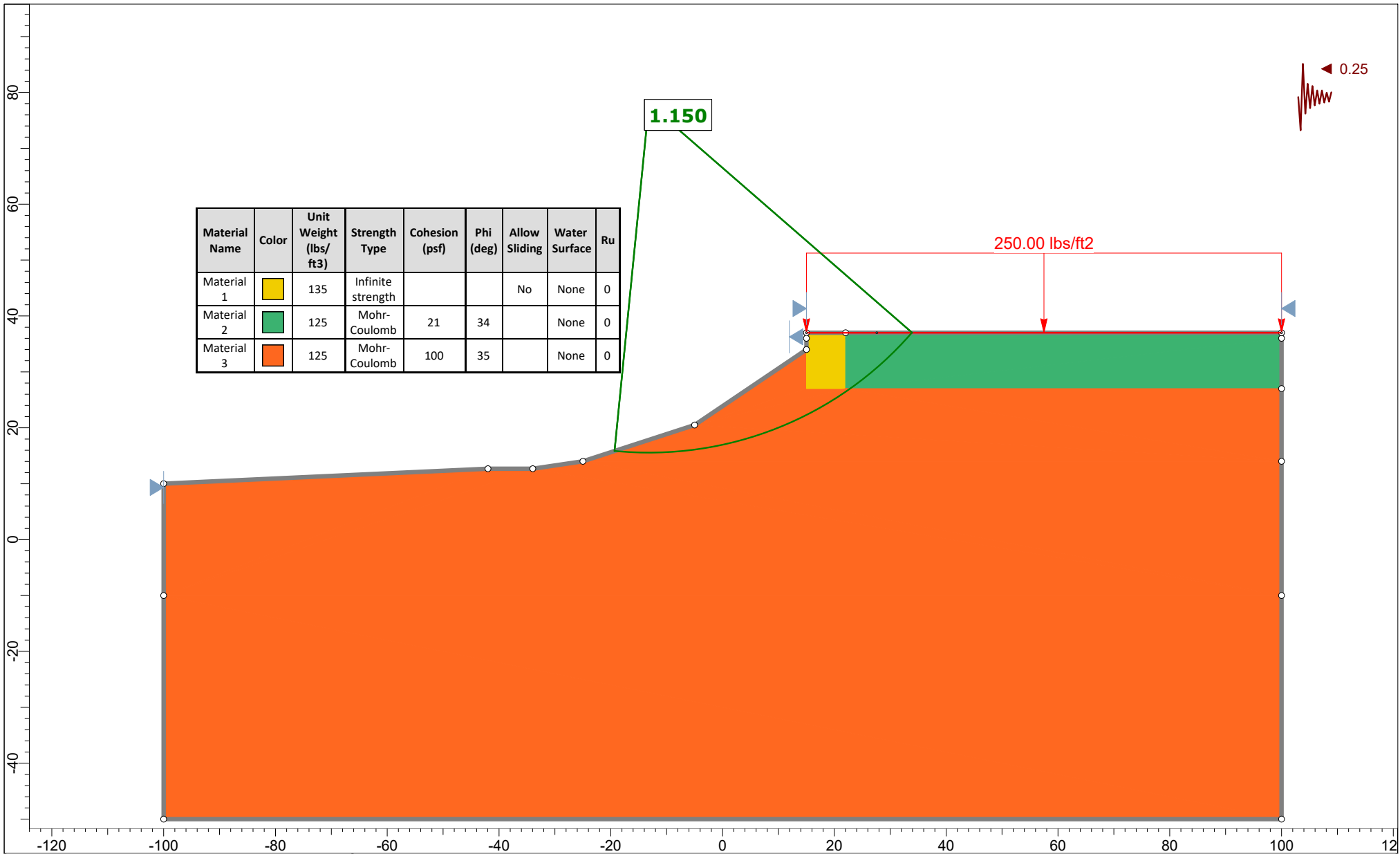
Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft3)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	135	Mohr-Coulomb	21	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0


	Project		SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
	Group		Group 1	Scenario
	Drawn By			Company
	Date		6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	File Name
				RW18 Parallel Critical Section Static.slmd

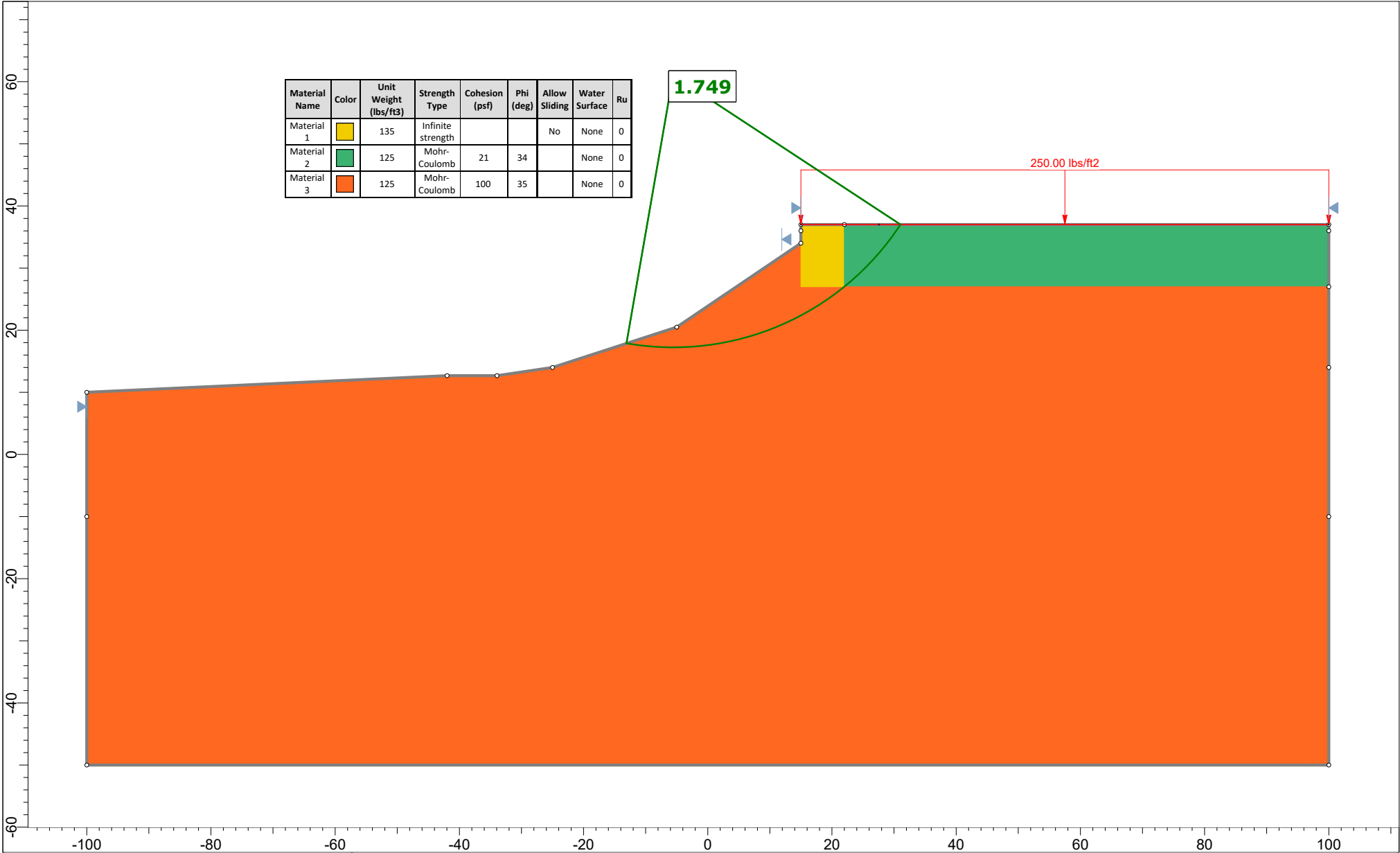


Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft3)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1		135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2		135	Mohr-Coulomb	21	34		None	0
Material 3		125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0

	<i>Project</i> SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
	<i>Group</i> Group 1	<i>Scenario</i> Master Scenario
	<i>Drawn By</i>	<i>Company</i>
	<i>Date</i> 6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	<i>File Name</i> RW18 Parallel Critical Section Pseudo-Static.slmd




	<i>Project</i> SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
	<i>Group</i> Group 1	<i>Scenario</i> Master Scenario
	<i>Drawn By</i>	<i>Company</i>
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Material Name	Color	Unit Weight (lbs/ft ³)	Strength Type	Cohesion (psf)	Phi (deg)	Allow Sliding	Water Surface	Ru
Material 1	Yellow	135	Infinite strength			No	None	0
Material 2	Green	125	Mohr-Coulomb	21	34		None	0
Material 3	Orange	125	Mohr-Coulomb	100	35		None	0

1.749

250.00 lbs/ft²

	Project		SLIDE - An Interactive Slope Stability Program	
	Group		Group 1	Scenario
	Drawn By			Company
	Date		6/13/2022, 1:58:23 PM	File Name
				RW19 Parallel Critical Section Static.slmd

Appendix B
External Stability Results

AASHTO 2017-2020 North Valleys G-1092 MSEW+: Update # 2021.14

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title: North Valleys G-1092
Project Number: RW 16 & 17 Perpendicular
Client: NDOT
Designer: George Helgerson
Station Number:

Description:

Company's information:

Name: NDOT
Street:

Telephone #:
Fax #:
E-Mail:

File path and name: \\datsrv1\028GeoTechnical\00 Projects\74107 395 North V.....
.....SEW\MSEW G-1092.BENp

Original date and time of creating this file: Tue Jun 28 13:17:19 2022

PROGRAM MODE:

ANALYSIS
of a SIMPLE STRUCTURE
using METAL STRIPS as reinforcing material.

AASHTO 2017-2020 North Valleys G-1092 MSEW+: Update # 2021.14

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title: North Valleys G-1092
Project Number: RW 16 Parallel
Client: NDOT
Designer: George Helgerson
Station Number:

Description:

Company's information:

Name: NDOT
Street:

Telephone #:
Fax #:
E-Mail:

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Original date and time of creating this file: Tue Jun 28 13:17:19 2022

PROGRAM MODE: ANALYSIS
of a SIMPLE STRUCTURE
using METAL STRIPS as reinforcing material.

AASHTO 2017-2020 North Valleys G-1092 MSEW+: Update # 2021.14

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title: North Valleys G-1092
Project Number: RW 17 Parallel
Client: NDOT
Designer: George Helgerson
Station Number:

Description:

Company's information:

Name: NDOT
Street:

Telephone #:
Fax #:
E-Mail:

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Original date and time of creating this file: Tue Jun 28 13:17:19 2022

PROGRAM MODE: ANALYSIS
of a SIMPLE STRUCTURE
using METAL STRIPS as reinforcing material.

AASHTO 2017-2020 North Valleys I-1093 MSEW+: Update # 2021.14

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title: North Valleys I-1093
Project Number: RW-19 Perpendicular
Client: NDOT
Designer: George Helgerson
Station Number:

Description:

Company's information:

Name: NDOT
Street:

Telephone #:
Fax #:
E-Mail:

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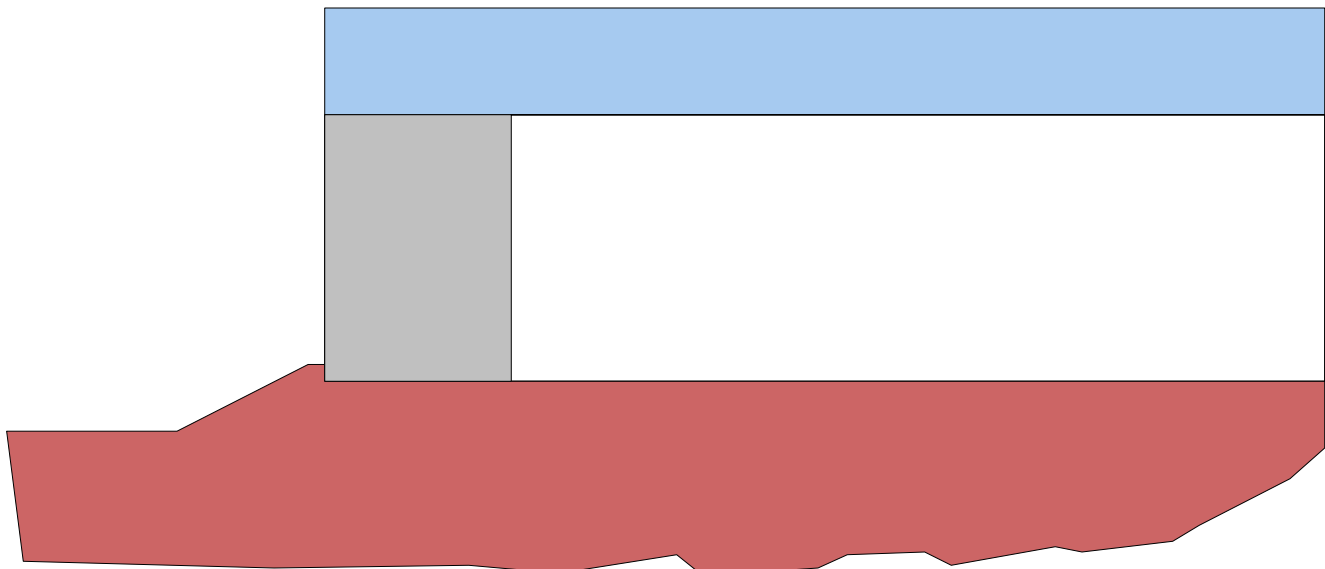
PROGRAM MODE: ANALYSIS
of a SIMPLE STRUCTURE
using METAL STRIPS as reinforcing material.

BEARING CAPACITY for GIVEN LAYOUT – Using AASHTO 2017-2020 method

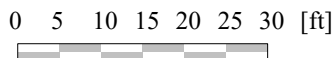
	STATIC	SEISMIC	UNITS
(Water table does not affect bearing capacity)			
Factored bearing resistance, q_n	15368	11965	[lb/ft ²]
Factored bearing load, σ_v	8082.6	10523	[lb/ft ²]
Eccentricity, e	2.51	4.53	[ft]
Eccentricity, e/L	0.112	0.202	
CDR calculated	1.90	1.14	
Base length	22.40	22.40	[ft]

Unfactored applied bearing pressure = (Unfactored R) / [L - 2 * (Unfactored e)] =

Static: Unfactored R = 102367.93 [lb/ft], L = 22.40, Unfactored e = 2.24 [ft], and Sigma = 5711.77 [lb/ft ²]
 Seismic: Unfactored R = 102367.93 [lb/ft], L = 22.40, Unfactored e = 4.83 [ft], and Sigma = 8030.53 [lb/ft ²]



SCALE:



DIRECT SLIDING for GIVEN LAYOUT (for METAL STRIPS reinforcements)

Along reinforced and foundation soils interface: CDR-static = 2.099 and CDR-seismic = 1.414

#	Metal strip Elevation [ft]	Metal strip Length [ft]	CDR Static	CDR Seismic	Metal strip Type #	Product name
1	0.98	22.40	2.146	1.448	1	---
2	3.44	22.40	2.305	1.561	1	---
3	5.91	22.40	2.490	1.693	1	---
4	8.37	22.40	2.706	1.850	1	---
5	10.83	22.40	2.964	2.038	1	---
6	13.29	22.40	3.287	2.277	1	---
7	15.75	22.40	3.679	2.572	1	---
8	18.21	22.40	4.170	2.948	1	---
9	20.67	22.40	4.811	3.454	1	---
10	23.13	22.40	5.685	4.170	1	---
11	25.59	22.40	6.948	5.260	1	---
12	28.05	22.40	8.931	7.121	1	---
13	30.51	22.40	12.500	11.021	1	---

ECCENTRICITY for GIVEN LAYOUT (for Simplified Method)

At interface with foundation: e/L static = 0.1628, e/L seismic = 0.2933; Overturning: CDR-static = 3.07, CDR-seismic = 1.70

#	Metal strip Elevation [ft]	Metal strip Length [ft]	e / L Static	e / L Seismic	Metal strip Type #	Product name
1	0.98	22.40	0.1538	0.2771	1	---
2	3.44	22.40	0.1325	0.2383	1	---
3	5.91	22.40	0.1126	0.2023	1	---
4	8.37	22.40	0.0944	0.1693	1	---
5	10.83	22.40	0.0778	0.1393	1	---
6	13.29	22.40	0.0627	0.1121	1	---
7	15.75	22.40	0.0493	0.0878	1	---
8	18.21	22.40	0.0374	0.0664	1	---
9	20.67	22.40	0.0271	0.0479	1	---
10	23.13	22.40	0.0184	0.0323	1	---
11	25.59	22.40	0.0112	0.0196	1	---
12	28.05	22.40	0.0056	0.0097	1	---
13	30.51	22.40	0.0016	0.0028	1	---

AASHTO 2017-2020 North Valleys I-1093 MSEW+: Update # 2021.14

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title: North Valleys I-1093
Project Number: RW 18 Parallel
Client: NDOT
Designer: George Helgerson
Station Number:

Description:

Company's information:

Name: NDOT
Street:

Telephone #:
Fax #:
E-Mail:

File path and name: \\datsrv1\028GeoTechnical\00 Projects\74107 395 North V.....
.....SEW I-1093 RW18.BENp

Original date and time of creating this file: Tue Jun 28 13:17:19 2022

PROGRAM MODE: ANALYSIS
of a SIMPLE STRUCTURE
using METAL STRIPS as reinforcing material.

INPUT DATA: Geometry and Surcharge loads (of a SIMPLE STRUCTURE)

Design height, Hd 18.00 [ft] { Embedded depth is E = 10.00 ft, and height above top of finished bottom grade is H = 8.00 ft }

Soil in front of wall is inclined at 33.7°, Hs = 20.00 ft. and bs = 1.00 ft.

Batter, ω 0.0 [deg]

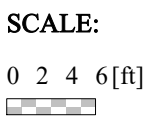
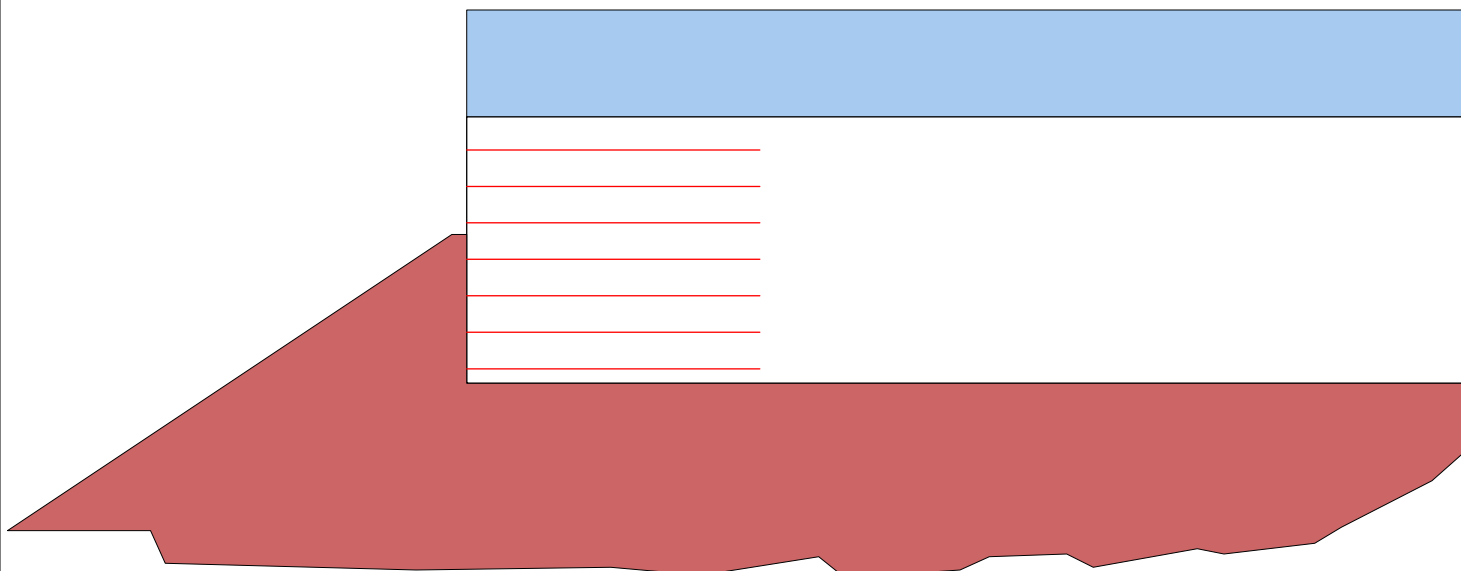
Backslope, β 0.0 [deg]

Backslope rise 0.0 [ft] Broken back equivalent angle, I = 0.00° (see Fig. 25 in DEMO 82)

UNIFORM SURCHARGE

Uniformly distributed dead load is 0.0 [lb/ft ²], and live load is 250.0 [lb/ft ²]

ANALYZED REINFORCEMENT LAYOUT:



AASHTO 2017-2020 North Valleys I-1093 MSEW+: Update # 2021.14

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title: North Valleys I-1093
Project Number: RW 19 Parallel
Client: NDOT
Designer: George Helgerson
Station Number:

Description:

Company's information:

Name: NDOT
Street:

Telephone #:
Fax #:
E-Mail:

File path and name: \\datsrv1\028GeoTechnical\00 Projects\74107 395 North V.....
.....SEW I-1093 RW19.BENp

Original date and time of creating this file: Tue Jun 28 13:17:19 2022

PROGRAM MODE:

ANALYSIS
of a SIMPLE STRUCTURE
using METAL STRIPS as reinforcing material.

AASHTO 2017-2020 – Load and Resisting Factors

EXTERNAL STABILITY

Load factor for vertical earth pressure, EV		Static	Combined Static/Seismic
Sliding and Eccentricity	γ_{p-EV}	1.00	γ_{p-EQ} 1.00
Bearing Capacity	γ_{p-EV}	1.35	γ_{p-EQ} 1.35
Load factor of active lateral earth pressure, EH			γ_{p-EH} 1.50
Load factor of active lateral earth pressure during earthquake (does not multiply P_{AE} and P_{IR}):			$(\gamma_{p-EH})_{EQ}$ 1.50
Load factor for earthquake loads, EQ (multiplies P_{AE} and P_{IR}):			γ_{p-EQ} 1.00
Resistance factor for shear resistance along common interfaces		Static	Combined Static/Seismic
Reinforced Soil and Foundation	ϕ_{τ}	1.00	1.00
Reinforced Soil and Reinforcement	ϕ_{τ}	1.00	1.00
Resistance factor for bearing capacity of shallow foundation		Static	Combined Static/Seismic
	ϕ_b	0.65	0.65

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Materials Division

Geotechnical Section

1263 Stewart St, Carson City, NV 89712