



# E-LETTER

THE OFFICIAL E-MAIL NEWSLETTER OF  
THE PILE DRIVING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

**SEPTEMBER 2008**

## **DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF COST-EFFICIENT PILE CONFERENCE**

**EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2008**  
**REGISTER TODAY!**

The PDCA of the Gulf Coast chapter and PDCA (national) have scheduled the 2008 Design and Installation of Cost-Efficient Pile (DICEP) conference in New Orleans, LA. The one-day conference will be held on Friday, September 12, 2008.

The DICEP conference will feature 6 presentations primarily designed for civil, geotechnical, and structural engineers, presenting the lectures from an engineering perspective on the advantages of driven pile. However, the conference is also intended to provide a positive learning experience for contractors and other firms or individuals who support, conduct business or are associated with the pile driving industry.

This conference will feature presentations on "Cost Components of Driven Pile Foundations" (Van Komurka, Wagner Komurka Geotechnical Group), "Spun Cast Cylinder Pile – Manufacture and History" (Don Theobald, Gulf Coast Pre-Stress), Overview of New Technologies in Driven Pile" (Mike Justason, Birmingham Foundation Solutions), "Driven Pile Setup Prediction Using Dynamic Testing" (Paul Bullock, GRL Engineers, Inc.), "PDCA Installation Specifications for Driven Pile – Private Work" (Dale Biggers, Boh Bros.), "Value Engineered Changes to Driven Piles Provides Benefits to Owners" (Panel Discussion).

Subash Kulkarni, Kulkarni Consultants, APC will provide the keynote presentation on ethics, titled, "Can an Engineering Firm Conduct Business and Still Be Ethical?"

The conference will provide 7 PDH's towards the State of Louisiana Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board requirements for engineering license renewal. PDH's will include the required one-hour course on "Ethics".

The PDCA has set up an Exhibitor area that will provide an opportunity for suppliers and manufacturers to spend some quality time with engineers and contractors in a focused setting.

The exhibit area is adjacent to the meeting rooms and will be the location of the continental breakfast and the AM and PM breaks. Additional time to network will be provided following the luncheon.

Currently, the PDCA has seventeen of the nineteen table top booths sold. Exhibitors include GRL Engineers, L. B. Foster Company, Essev Tech, McFarland Cascade, Cox of Alabama, Birmingham Foundation Solutions, Koppers, Piling Products, Interpipe, Sun Piledriving Equipment, Consolidated Pipe and Supply, Cajun Deep Foundations, International Construction Equipment, Emeca/SPE USA, DYWIDAG Systems International, PDCA and PDCA Chapters.

Limited sponsorships are also available. The only remaining sponsorships available are two each for the Continental Breakfast and Luncheon. See the DICEP brochure on the PDCA website for more information.

Current Sponsors include:

**Continental Breakfast** – L. B. Foster Company, Geokon, Inc., Mississippi River Equipment

**Luncheon** – Herbert F. Darling, Inc., Foundation Constructors, Inc., Gulf South Piling and Construction

**Continental Breakfast** – Pile Dynamics, Inc. Koppers, Inc., Cox of Alabama, Parker Marine, Pileco, Inc., Specialty Piling Systems, Inc., Consolidated Pipe and Supply

The conference location is the InterContinental New Orleans. PDCA selected the InterContinental New Orleans because it is a AAA four-diamond award winning hotel, it reputation for quality service, outstanding facilities and its location. The InterContinental New Orleans is located on historic St. Charles Street and Poydras in the heart of downtown New Orleans. The hotel is located just three blocks from the Mississippi River and French Quarter, two blocks from Harrah's Casino and within walking distance to almost anything this unique town, with its European, African, Caribbean, and Hispanic culture has to offer.

For those attending the conference and needing overnight accommodations, the PDCA has secured a block of rooms for just \$139.00 a night. Reservations can be made by calling the InterContinental New Orleans at 800-445-6563. When making reservations, be sure to identify yourself as a participant in the Pile Driving Contractors DICEP conference and use reservation code PD2.

You can download the conference brochure to register as a participant, exhibitor or sponsor by going to the PDCA website, [www.piledrivers.org](http://www.piledrivers.org) or call the PDCA office with questions or assistance.

### **PDCA ANNOUNCES "PROJECT OF THE YEAR" AWARD**

The PDCA is proud to announce the 2009 "Project of the Year" award competition.

The PDCA is dedicated to acknowledging the hard work, ingenuity and commitment that goes into each project where driven piles are used in a deep foundation or earth retention system or utilized to solve foundation problems. This esteemed PDCA tradition recognizes excellence in

driven pile projects completed by PDCA members in good standing.

Through the "Project of the Year" award, the PDCA has the distinguished opportunity to continue its long-standing and consistent commitment to recognize those PDCA members who demonstrate excellence in the process of providing solutions, services and products to the needs of the deep foundation and earth retention environment.

Project entries must feature projects completed in 2008. The PDCA Market Development Committee has expanded the dollar volume and project categories for 2009. Project entries will be awarded in three dollar volume categories this year, which are "Less than \$500,000.00", "\$500,000.00 - \$2 Million", and "Greater than \$2 Million". Price ranges are based solely on the dollar volume of the piling contract associated with the project. The two entry categories are distinguished between "Land-based" and "Marine-based" projects.

The PDCA is asking each of its members to consider submitting a project worthy of this symbolic PDCA award. Entry Forms can be found on the PDCA website, [www.piledrivers.org](http://www.piledrivers.org). The **2009 Project of the Year Award** entry deadline is **December 12, 2008**.

Winning entries will be announced during the IFCEE '09 Conference in Orlando, FL during the PDCA Business Luncheon on March 18, 2009. PDCA will **NOT** reveal the winning entries prior to the luncheon.

### **PDCA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS MEET WITH AASHTO**

The ASCE Geo-Institute is soliciting abstracts for technical papers to be considered for inclusion in the Geotechnical Special Publication (GSP) honoring Clyde N. Baker, Jr., P.E., S.E. Hon.M.ASCE. The GSP will be titled: *The Art of Foundation Engineering Practice*, Mohamad Hussein, J. Brian Anderson, and William Camp, III - Editors; and will be published in 2010 during the Geo-Institute's annual meeting. Technical papers covering all aspects of foundation engineering: research, (structural and geotechnical) design, construction practices, testing, and performance will be considered. Papers documenting case histories are particularly welcome. Deadline for abstract submission is November 30, 2008.

Please e-mail (300 to 400 words) abstracts to: [ClydeBakerGSP@uncc.edu](mailto:ClydeBakerGSP@uncc.edu); GSP website: [www.ce.uncc.edu/gidfc/CBaker.html](http://www.ce.uncc.edu/gidfc/CBaker.html)

### **PDCA TO HOLD STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING**

The PDCA Technical Committee completed its review and revisions to the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications, Section 10 – Foundations, 10.5 and 10.7. On August 8, 2008, members of the PDCA Technical Committee meet in Washington, DC with representatives from AASHTO's T-15 Committee to review the revisions the PDCA is proposing.

PDCA Technical Committee Chair, Dale Biggers (Boh Bros.) and committee members Garland Likins (Pile Dynamics, Inc.), George Goble (George Goble Consulting & Engr.), Billy Camp (S&ME), and Steve Hall (PDCA Executive Director) meet with T-15 Committee Chair, Jawdat Siddiqi (Ohio DOT), Jerry DiMaggio (FHWA), Silas Nichols (FHWA), Scott Anderson (FHWA) and via conference call with Tony Allen (Washington DOT). During the 6 hour meeting, the PDCA presented the revisions to both 10.5 and 10.7, to the AASHTO T-15 representatives for comment. Subsequent to that meeting, the PDCA Technical Committee has

met two more times on additional changes. During the meeting, the PDCA and T-15 agreed upon a timeline for responses prior to the AASHTO Mid-Year meeting. The timeline includes comments by T-15 on PDCA proposed revisions by September 15, 2008. PDCA will then respond back to T-15 on their review by October 1, 2008. PDCA will walk through the changes with all T-15 committee members during the AASHTO Mid-Year meeting, scheduled around November 1, 2008. PDCA will be notified of the final language around February 15, 2009.

The PDCA is grateful to the Technical Committee, who has worked so diligently on these revisions. Regardless of the final outcome, the PDCA members can be proud of what has been accomplished throughout the revision process and the professional manner in which the members of the Technical Committee conducted themselves throughout this process and in face-to-face meetings with T-15.

### **PROFESSORS' DRIVEN PILE INSTITUTE RETURNS TO USU IN '09**

The Pile Driving Contractors Association (PDCA) will sponsor the fifth biennial Professor's Driven Pile Institute (PDPI) for Geotechnical faculty next June 14 - 20, 2009 at Utah State University. Full time faculty members teaching Foundation Engineering courses are encouraged to apply. All expenses, exclusive of travel to the USU campus will be paid by the PDCA. Classroom instruction will be carried out on campus in the newly constructed Engineering complex at USU, "students" will stay on campus at our University Inn; and the field events will be held at the USU's nearby test site.

The curriculum consists of topics that should be covered in undergraduate and/or graduate level classes in Foundation Engineering. Tentative classroom topics will include:

- Static analysis, axial and lateral, or single and pile groups
- Common pile types and driving equipment
- Geotechnical considerations
- Load distributions (t-z, q-w curves)
- Pile driveability
- Economic analysis
- Pile dynamics and dynamic testing

The tentative "hands on" computer laboratory sessions will include experience with:

- DRIVEN
- GRLWEAP
- CAPWAP
- LPILE
- FB-PIER

The field portion of the workshop involves driving a test pile and performing a dynamic load testing (PDA) SASW field techniques will be demonstrated. Static axial and lateral load tests will also be performed; and "students" will be involved with the data collection. The field data and classroom presentations will be made available to PDPI participants for subsequent use in your classrooms.

### **PDCA LOGOS**

The PDCA encourages its members to display the PDCA LOGO.



PDCA Logos can be used on your letterhead, office stationary, business cards or downloaded for other types of artwork. Displaying the PDCA logo identifies you as a member of a professional trade association and further identifies your commitment to excellence in the deep foundations and earth retention systems industry.

PDCA logo artwork can be obtained from the PDCA office in a .JPEG format, but PDCA can acquire it other formats as well. Contact the PDCA office for more information.

### **PDCA SHIRTS AND HATS ON SALE**

The PDCA has 100% Oxford Cotton, Short Sleeve logoed dress shirts available through the PDCA office and online. Colors are RED, LIGHT BLUE AND BUTTER. Shirts are reasonably priced at \$35.00 for members and \$45.00 for non-members.

The PDCA also has logoed hats for sale. Hats are stone washed in texture, ball cap style, with the PDCA logo embroidered on the front. Caps come in solid colors or cap and brim colors mixed. Hats are priced at \$15.00 for members and \$25.00 for non-members.

Contact the PDCA office at 888-311-PDCA (7322) for more information. You can view pictures of all PDCA products on the website at [www.piledrivers.org](http://www.piledrivers.org).



### **2009 International Foundation Congress and Equipment Exposition '09 Program is Set (IFCEE '09)**

The Pile Driving Contractors Association (PDCA), the Geo-Institute of ASCE, and the ADSC: The International Association of Foundation Drilling will be conducting the largest geotechnical engineering and geo-construction Congress ever held from March 15-19 in Orlando Florida. The organization partners report that the technical program has now been set and that all exhibit spaces, both outdoor and indoor have been sold out. The Keynote presenter for the Congress will be the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Major General Don Riley, the Deputy Commanding General, and Deputy Chief of Engineers. Major General Riley is the second in command of the U.S. Army Corps of engineers which has over 31,000 employees and manages a yearly budget of over \$30 billion. One of the Congress's main themes will focus on the condition of the U.S. infrastructure. Major General Riley is at the forefront of defining and addressing a plan to deal with what is clearly one of the most pressing issues confronting the United States.

The Congress will bring together the world's leading designers and constructors of foundation systems presenting state-of-the-art-and-practice papers and panel discussions in 21 separate technical tracks presented in 57 sessions. Subjects will range from design theory through construction practice with special sessions for construction professionals focusing on best business practices including Contracts and Risk Management, Safety, and Equipment Purchase and Maintenance. The prestigious Terzaghi and Peck Lectures will be presented as well as annual awards from the three co-sponsoring organizations. The PDCA, G-I, and ADSC will conduct their Annual Members Meetings during the week long Congress.

The equipment exhibition will feature construction equipment from around the world displayed in an outdoor setting. Every conceivable type of foundation installation rig, tooling, cranes, and like equipment will be on display. The indoor exhibit hall will house providers of design services, materials, testing equipment, as well as construction services.

Fifteen Cooperating Organizations from around the world will be on hand to share information about their respective programs. These organizations include the Association of Engineering Geologists, ASFE, American Rock Mechanics, the Canadian Geotechnical Society, Geotechnical Society of Singapore, the Deep Foundations Institute, Florida Department of Transportation, the FHWA, Japanese Geotechnical Society, National Association of Geosynthetics, OSHA, Russian Geotechnical Association, the Structural Engineers Institute of ASCE, and USUCGR.

For detailed information about the IFCEE visit the Congress website at: [www.ifcee09.org](http://www.ifcee09.org), or contact the PDCA at [marian@piledrivers.org](mailto:marian@piledrivers.org).

### **PDCA TO HOLD STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING**

The Strategic Planning Committee will meet at the InterContinental New Orleans, New Orleans, LA on Wednesday, September 10, 2008 and again on Thursday, September 11, 2008 for the purposes of creating the next PDCA strategic plan.

The Strategic Planning Committee will be Chaired by PDCA Immediate Past President, Mark Weisz (C. S. Marine Constructors), the members of the Executive Committee; Board of Director members Buck Darling (Herbert F. Darling, Inc.) and Mike Justason (Birmingham Foundation Solutions); and Stevan Hall, PDCA Executive Director.

The Strategic Planning Committee will prepare a preliminary report to present to the PDCA Board of Directors, which will meet Thursday evening, September 11, 2008, prior to the DICEP Conference, which is being held the next day. A formal report will be prepared by the committee and adopted by the Board for implementation in 2009. Once approved, the strategic plan will be available for viewing on the PDCA website, [www.piledrivers.org](http://www.piledrivers.org).

### **CORRECTIONS TO THE PDCA 2008 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

As mentioned in last months E-Letter, the PDCA does miss placing information in the directory or places information in the directory that is incorrect. If your listing is incorrect, please contact the PDCA to have the error corrected. The PDCA will reprint the correct version in the E-Letter and PileDriver magazine and indicate that it is a corrected listing. If you have changes in your contact information, but have not notified the PDCA, please do so by contacting the office at 888-311-PDCA (7322).

The following companies had errors in their listings. Corrections are as follows. Please make these notes in your membership directory.

Atlantic Piling, Inc.  
Jeff Merlette  
142 Bamm Hollow Road  
Middletown, NJ 07748  
USA  
732-957-0818  
732-957-0817  
[Piledriver2005@aol.com](mailto:Piledriver2005@aol.com)  
Sheet Pile, Pipe Pile, Timber Pile, Concrete  
Pile, H-Pile, Pile Driving  
CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, NH, NJ, NY,  
PA, RI, SC, VA

IHC Hydrohammer B. V.  
Egbert van't Hooft  
Smitweg 6, 2961 AW Kinderdijk  
PO Box 26, 2960 AW Kinderdijk  
Netherlands  
+31 (0)78-69 10 302  
+31 (0)78-69 10 304  
[Info.hh@ihcmerwede.com](mailto:Info.hh@ihcmerwede.com)  
[www.ihchh.com](http://www.ihchh.com)  
Design, manufacture and sell offshore and  
onshore pile driving hammers and equipment  
Global

Pile and Piling Supplies (Eastern) LTD.  
Kevin Brady  
PO Box 44178, 1658 Bedford Highway  
Bedford, N.S. B4A 3Z8  
Canada  
Phone: 902-835-6158  
Fax: 902-835-6079  
[kbrady@pipe-piling.com](mailto:kbrady@pipe-piling.com)  
Supplier of US-made H-Piles and  
Manufacturer of Spiralweld Steel Pipe and  
Piling Pipe from 6 5/8"OD, lengths up to 128  
ft.  
All States, Canada

Junttan Oy  
Miika Eskelinen / Ari Kuikka  
PO Box 1702  
Kuopio 70700  
Finland  
Phone: +358 17 287 4400  
Fax: +358 17 287 4411  
[www.junttan.com](http://www.junttan.com)  
[miika.eskelinen@junttan.com](mailto:miika.eskelinen@junttan.com)  
[ari.kuikka@junttan.com](mailto:ari.kuikka@junttan.com)  
Design, manufacture and sell offshore and  
onshore pile driving hammers and equipment  
Global

### **MEMBERS ON THE MOVE**

"Members on the Move" is a section of the PDCA E-Letter that allows PDCA members to announce specific company achievements, honors, promotions, project awards and completions, community, civic or industry awards and other accolades. Submit your information to the PDCA, Members on the Move, via email to <mailto:marian@piledrivers.org>.

### **PDCA CHAPTER UPDATES**

**PDCA of the Gulf Coast Chapter** - The PDCA of the Gulf Coast Chapter is busy helping organize and promote the upcoming DICEP conference. PDCA is grateful for their assistance in what is expected to be a tremendous program.

The PDCA of the Gulf Coast Chapter next dinner meeting will be back a Messina's Restaurant, 2722 Williams Blvd., Kenner, LA on August 21, 2008. For more information or to make reservations for the meeting, contact chapter President, Michael Kelly, Gulf South Piling and Construction, 504-834-7791. For information on additional chapter activities or membership, contact Robert Baker (Baker Piledriving & Site Work, LLC) at 985-792-5001 or via email at [bakerlandmarine@bellsouth.net](mailto:bakerlandmarine@bellsouth.net) or Michael Kelly (Gulf South Piling) at 504-834-7791 or via

email at [gspmichael@bellsouth.net](mailto:gspmichael@bellsouth.net).

**PDCA of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter** - The chapter's next dinner meeting will be on September 25, 2008, at Paul's on the River, in Riva, MD. Guest speakers will be Hamid Riahi, Vice President, and Derrick Shelton, Senior Engineer from Haley Aldrich. They will make a presentation on the installation of precast concrete piles at the Marine Corps Helicopter Hanger at Quantico, VA.

**PDCA of California** - PDCA is expecting to begin conversations with the PDCA of California Chapter regarding the collaborative efforts of holding the 2009 DICEP in the San Francisco area. PDCA is moving DICEP around to all chapters on a rotating basis and is looking forward to working with the California chapter to host this program in 2009.

### **PDCA NEW MEMBERS**

#### **ASSOCIATES**

Emeca/SPE USA  
Beth Webb  
200 10th Street  
Laurel, DE 19956  
Ph: 302-875-0760  
Fax: 302-875-0761  
[beth@spe-usa.net](mailto:beth@spe-usa.net)

Hammer Cushions, Pile Cushions, Pile Points  
& Splicers  
All States, Canada, Mexico, Central And  
South America

Interpipe  
Gene Repa  
3320 Miles Road  
Mt. Hope, ON  
Ph: 905-679-6999  
Fax: 905-679-6544  
[gene@interpipe.com](mailto:gene@interpipe.com)  
[www.interpipe.com](http://www.interpipe.com)  
Steel Pipe Piles, Structural Steel  
All States

### **COEUR D'ALENE RESORT SELECTED AS 2010 CONFERENCE SITE**

The PDCA has selected Coeur d'Alene Golf and Spa Resort as the site for the 14th Annual International Conference and Exposition in 2010. The conference dates are May 6-8, 2010.

The conference will present excellent educational programs, social activities, Companion's program, exhibitors with plenty of receptions, dinners, awards, golfing and fun. PDCA is especially excited about an evening reception/dinner cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene

With plenty of time for prior planning, this will be a conference you will NOT want to miss.

Pictures of the Lake Coeur d'Alene Golf and Spa Resort, Lake Coeur d'Alene and surrounding area are shown below.



***A DRIVEN PILE IS A TESTED PILE!***

