



E – LETTER

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

NOVEMBER 2007

WHAT'S IN A NAME

In the October 2007 E-Letter, the PDCA announced we had selected the Pointe South Mountain Resort as the site for the 12th Annual International Conference and Equipment Exposition. The PDCA is pleased to inform you that the Pointe South Mountain Resort has changed their name to the Arizona Grand Resort. What does this mean to the PDCA, our conference and conference participants? Absolutely nothing! The Arizona Grand Resort staff informed the PDCA of the name change when we first met with them back in July 2007. However, they knew the name change would not be effective until November 1, 2007, so PDCA used the existing name to avoid any early confusion for those wishing to find out more about the resort in anticipation of attending the conference in February 2008.

Simply stated, the Arizona Grand Resort name change is just that – a name change. The existing management, competent staff and luxurious accommodations remain the same and in no way impacts the PDCA's conference. The Arizona Grand Resort remains a Four-Diamond all-suites luxury resort and their new name is intended to reflect that honor more precisely.

SO – WHAT ABOUT THE PDCA 12TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION

The 12th Annual International Conference and Exposition is moving ahead with vigor and enthusiasm. This year's conference will feature contractor-focused presentations, exhibit hall, industry roundtable, committee meetings, companion's program, Phoenix tours, receptions, themed dinner, breaks, golf and tennis tournaments, plenty of social and networking time and a whole lot more!

Presentations will include case studies on pile driving projects utilizing value engineering and compressed construction schedules to meet demanding owner requirements; unique driving platforms to expedite construction and minimize site logistics; advanced techniques in driving sheet pile in difficult soil conditions; transportation policy and funding changes as a result of the Minneapolis bridge collapse; and other programs designed to offer you insight to the advantages of driven pile for deep foundations and earth retention systems not offered by other foundation methods.

Exhibitors will be invited to display throughout the conference in 44 - 8' x 10' booths, utilizing approximately 7500 sq.ft. of exhibitor floor space. All continental breakfasts, AM and PM

breaks and receptions will be conducted in the exhibit area, increasing conference traffic to exhibitor booths. PDCA is offering an Exhibitor early reservation program for exhibitors who want to reserve booth space. The Exhibitor early reservation program can be used by filling out the Exhibitor Registration Request Form located at the end of this E-Letter.

The Companion's Program will return this year with an exciting schedule for all spouses and guests. The Companion's Program will include a visit to Cosanti, in Paradise Valley, the residence and sculpture studio of Paolo Soleri who makes the famous Soleri Bronze Bells. The program will also feature a shopping trip to Old Town Scottsdale with its eclectic boutiques, galleries, specialty retail shops and cultural attractions, lunch at the Quilted Bear restaurant, and a visit to the Desert Botanical Gardens. When in Phoenix, you can't leave without some kind of spa treatment, so on Saturday morning the ladies will be treated to a Tea Breakfast with accompanying manicures and pedicures provided by the resort's spa technicians – the first stage of primping before the Annual Dinner later that night.

The PDCA will hold its 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at the Phantom Horse Golf Club on South Mountain located onsite at the resort. Coming off a recent makeover, Phantom Horse is one of the most unique courses in the state with a traditional front nine and desert back nine. The layout of the course is different from many others in the area and each hole bares a different name representative of both the layout and the surrounding area.

For those who don't play golf, the PDCA will hold its first tennis tournament. The tennis courts are located onsite at the resort and just a few steps from the resort's water park.

Did someone say, "Harley-Davidson" and poker? Yes, the Annual Dinner will be a casual affair with a Harley-Davidson theme and a poker night. So come dressed in your jeans, riding boots, do-rag, vest and sunglasses. After the reception and buffet dinner (with an open bar, of course), plan on dancing to *Young Country*, a local Phoenix band and playing blackjack, roulette, craps and Texas Hold 'Em with chips provided by the PDCA.

Mark your calendar and don't miss this exclusive driven pile conference. The conference brochure and registration information is now available on the PDCA web site, www.piledrivers.org.

PDCA SEEKS SPONSORS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PDCA is seeking sponsors for the 12th Annual International Conference and Exposition. Sponsors will be listed in all forthcoming E-Letters, on the PDCA web site, in all conference articles, in the PDCA *PileDriver* magazine and throughout the conference. PDCA will post all sponsors – both individually and collectively on signs during the conference and announce your support throughout the conference. Sponsorships committed to prior to years end may also create a tax advantage for your company, but PDCA encourages you to discuss this with your tax advisor. If you or your firm is interested in helping the PDCA make the conference a truly special event with a financial contribution, please consider one of the sponsoring opportunities below.

- **Platinum - \$2500** – Major Conference Sponsor. One conference registration, one golf registration, acknowledgment at the Annual Dinner, and company name displayed throughout the conference

- **Gold - \$1500** – Conference Sponsor. Acknowledgment at the Annual Dinner, and company name displayed throughout the conference
- **Companion's Program - \$1500** – Sponsors the Companion's Program tours, luncheon, and transportation. Includes one Companion's registration, acknowledgement at the Annual Dinner and company name displayed throughout the conference
- **Casino Night - \$1000** – Sponsors the Casino Night at the Annual Dinner, acknowledgement at the Annual Dinner and company name displayed throughout the conference
- **Annual Dinner and Band - \$1000** – Sponsors the Annual Dinner and Band with name displayed at the Annual Dinner, acknowledgement at the Annual Dinner, and company name displayed throughout the conference
- **Receptions - \$1000** – Sponsors all three receptions, company name displayed at the receptions and throughout the conference
- **Golf - \$1000** – One golf registration, name displayed at the Phantom Horse Golf Club during play, company name displayed throughout the conference
- **Name Badges - \$1000** – Sponsors conference attendees name badges. Includes company name and logo on the badges for conference attendees, companions and guests. Only one available.
- **Continental Breakfasts - \$750** – Sponsors all three continental breakfasts, company name displayed at the Continental Breakfasts
- **AM and PM Breaks -\$500** – Sponsors all conference breaks, company name displayed at all AM and PM Breaks
- **Golf Hole - \$200** – Sponsors a hole on the Phantom Horse Golf Club during PDCA tournament play

PDCA TO OFFER PILE DRIVING INSPECTOR CERTIFICATION COURSE

The PDCA Education Committee, in conjunction with the Geotechnical Society of Edmonton will offer a Pile Driving Inspectors Certification Course in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada on January 28, 2008. The Education Committee first considered providing the course as a result of a dire need by the pile driving industry in and around the Edmonton area for certified pile driving inspectors. The Province of Alberta has seen dramatic increases in the use of driven piles, placing a premium on pile driving inspectors of which there is a critical shortfall. The PDCA plans on holding a one-day condensed program, with instructors from both the U.S. and Canada. Anyone from the U.S. interested in attending the course must have a current passport, which takes up to ten weeks to secure. Tentatively, the PDCA Education Committee believes the cost of the program will be \$290.00 per person, which will include all materials, continental breakfast and lunch. Further arrangements will be announced on the PDCA website and in upcoming E-Letters.

PDCA ANNOUNCES 2008 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 systems. To do this, the PDCA created the Project of the Year Award Competition. 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.

The PDCA is asking each of its members to consider submitting a project worthy of this symbolic PDCA award. Projects completed in 2006 or 2007 will be considered and all entries must be received by the PDCA no later than **December 31, 2007**. Entry Forms are available on the PDCA web site, www.piledrivers.org. Winning entries will be announced and presented their award during the PDCA Annual Conference Awards Luncheon in February 2008.

PDCA TO MEET WITH AASHTO T-15

Members of the PDCA Technical Committee will meet with the American Association of State Highway Transportation Official (AASHTO) Subcommittee on Bridges and Structures Technical Committee T-15 on Tuesday, December 4, in Olympia, WA during their 2007 Mid-Year meeting. The PDCA Technical Committee has been reviewing and making suggested changes to the AASHTO LRFD Driven Pile Design Specifications, Section 10.5 and 10.7. PDCA Technical Committee Chair, Dale Biggers (Boh Brothers), along with other committee members will present PDCA's proposed revision to the specifications to the T-15 Committee members during this meeting.

PDCA SEEKS ENVIRONMENTAL PAPERS

The PDCA Environmental Committee has been working on programs that will educate PDCA members and the driven pile industry on important environmental issues. Their most notable accomplishment has been their efforts in creating an extensive noise and vibration database, which is available on the PDCA web site.

The PDCA is dedicating a separate page on the web site in support of the committee's efforts. The left-hand column tab, titled, "Environmental" will eventually have six drop down menus for Noise, Vibration, Marine Life, Lubricants / Fluids, Brownfield Sites, and the Noise and Vibration Database.

PDCA is requesting assistance from anyone interested in providing papers and / or presentations that can be uploaded to the site under the appropriate headings for viewer to read and gain additional information on selected environmental issues that will help them in their project and business operations.

If you or someone you know has produced a paper or presentation on environmental issues and would like to contribute to the new PDCA web site please contact the PDCA office at 888-311-PDCA (7322) or John Linscott (H.B. Fleming), Environmental Committee Chair, at 207-799-8514.

PDCA PARTNER IN 2009 INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION CONGRESS AND EQUIPMENT EXPOSITION

The Pile Driving Contractors Association (PDCA), the Geo-Institute of ASCE, and the ADSC will act as joint partners in presenting what could turn out to be the largest Geotechnical Engineering and Geo-Construction conference ever held. This Congress will focus on foundations and will include related geo-engineering and geo-construction technologies.

This mega-event will take place in March 15 - 19, 2009, in Orlando, Florida. The 2009 event will include a full technical program and a very large international foundation equipment exposition. It is anticipated that the massive outdoor equipment expo, which will be augmented by an equally large indoor exhibition, will attract attendees from around the world. A significant international presence is expected.

The Conference Chairman is Mohamad Hussein, P.E. Chairman of the G-I's Deep Foundations Committee, and GRL Engineers, Inc., Orlando, Florida. The Technical Chairman is Brian Anderson, PhD, P.E., University of North Carolina. Stevan A. Hall, PDCA Executive Director will serve on the Organizing Committee, Management Committee and Co-Chair the Exposition Committee.

Recently, the Japanese Geotechnical Society has become a Cooperating Organization for the *ASCE's Geo-Institute / PDCA / ADSC IFCEE '09*. The JGS now joins other Cooperating Organizations including the Association of Engineering Geologists, the ASFE: The Best People on Earth, the Deep Foundations Institute, and ASCE's Structural Institute. For detailed information contact PDCA Executive Director, Stevan A. Hall at execdir@piledrivers.org.

PDCA MEMBER NEWS

Pacific American Commercial Company (PACO) – PACO, a PDCA member based out of Seattle, WA announces the addition of Michael Hagy. Mike joined PACO as the West Coast Sales Agent and will be based out of Ventura, CA. Mike has been involved in the foundation construction industry for fifteen years, primarily working in the sales and product distribution areas. You can contact Mike at 805-746-6965.

Junttan – Junttan has delivered its 1000th hydraulic hammer. The hammer was assembled to a Junttan PM20UFC piling rig, which is headed for the United States and delivery to Underpinning & Foundation Skanska, Inc., a PDCA member.

Junttan manufactured its largest ever impact hammer with a ram weight of 55,115 pounds (25000 Kg) and a total weight of 99,208 pounds (45000 Kg) at the beginning of 2007. The hammer was launched at the Bauma exhibition in Munich, Germany at the end of April 2007.

To have information on your firm included in the PDCA Member News submit your release to the PDCA via email at execdir@piledrivers.org.

PDCA CHAPTER NEWS

PDCA of the Gulf Coast Chapter - The PDCA of the Gulf Coast Chapter hosted their third quarterly meeting Thursday September 20, 2007, at Smile's Restaurant in Harahan, LA.

The meeting was sponsored by national and chapter member T.R. Miller Mill, represented by Jim McCracken and Dan Cox; and by Arch Wood Protection, a producer of chemical wood preservatives. A "Meet and Greet" cocktail reception was followed by a buffet dinner and presentation by Tim Carey of Arch Wood Preservatives who addressed the group on the history of wood piles and their preservative treatment and an open forum discussion on the latest accepted EPA preservatives and their application for piling and timbers.

The meeting was attended by 39 members and guests, representing eight local area contractors, two engineering/testing firms, nine timber and sheeting suppliers, as well as several equipment suppliers. It was agreed that future efforts would be made to try to attract additional representation from the engineering community and that a future program would be tailored to attract greater engineering participation.

Chapter President Paul Tassin closed the meeting with an announcement that the fourth quarter meeting date and place would be announced shortly and that all would be notified. A topic to this meeting will be the election of chapter officers for the coming year.

PDCA of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter – The PDCA of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter will hold its fourth quarterly meeting on November 8, 2007, at Paul's on the South River, Riva, MD. The meeting begins with a social at 4:00 PM, followed by dinner and an industry presentation. For more information or to register, contact chapter Secretary, Rob Braden (Skyline Steel) at 703-978-2500.

The PDCA's 8th **Annual Design and Installation of Cost-Efficient Piles (DICEP)** Conference was held on Thursday, September 27, 2007, at the Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, MD with over 105 registered for the program. This year's conference was hosted by the PDCA of Mid-Atlantic Chapter in conjunction with PDCA national. The PDCA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Officers and members did a fantastic job to make sure this conference was an exceptional value and great experience for all participants. PDCA is grateful for your support and participation.

PDCA of South Carolina - PDCA of South Carolina's Chapter dinner meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2007, at the Town & Country Inn, Highway 17 S., Charleston, SC. The dinner meeting begins at 6:30 PM. Chapter Elections will be held during the meeting. Contact John King, Chapter President at 843-763-7736 to register or for more information.

PDCA of South Carolina will conduct a driven pile demonstration to students and faculty at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC on November 19, 2007. Sarah Gassman, Associate Professor, DCEE at USC is helping to coordinate the program between PDCA and USC. Sarah is a past participant in the PDCA Professors' Driven Pile Institute.

The PDCA of South Carolina has scheduled their 3rd Driven Pile Seminar on March 28, 2008, at The Citadel in Charleston, SC. For more information contact John Parker at 843-853-7615.

PDCA of California Chapter – The PDCA of California Chapter will hold their Annual Luncheon on Friday, November 30, 2007 at the Hotel Mac, Point Richmond, CA. The luncheon

begins at 11:00 AM, with the chapter's traditional "Jokes" beginning at 12:00 noon. For more information or to register contact Charlie Gibson (Manson Construction) at 510-232-6319.

PDCA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

CONTRACTORS

MG Forge Construction, LLC
Gene Merlino
125 Pompton Plains Crossroads
Wayne, N.J. 07470
973-831-5970
973-831-5974 (fax)
genem@mgforge.com

Commerce Construction Corp.
Terry L. Zettle
603 Heron Drive (PO Box 662)
Bridgeport, N.J. 08014
856-241-0300
856-241-2460 (fax)
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Alpha Construction Company, Inc.
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Atlantic Pile, Inc.
Jeff Merlette
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732-957-0818
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TECHNICAL AFFILIATE

Kyle Miller – Charlotte, NC

**SCROLL DOWN FOR PDCA 12TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND
EQUIPMENT EXPOSTION**

EXHIBITOR'S RESERVATION REQUEST FORM

PDCA 12TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION

ARIZONA GRAND RESORT
PHOENIX, AZ

FEBRUARY 20 – 23, 2007

EXHIBITOR'S RESERVATION REQUEST FORM

Exhibitors wishing to reserve an 8'x10' booth at the PDCA 12th Annual International Conference and Exposition can do so by filling out their company's information below and returning the completed form to the PDCA by fax at 904-264-9531 or mail to PDCA, PO Box 66208, Orange Park, FL 32065. Early Bird registration for the booth is \$1200.00 for PDCA members and \$1600.00 for non-members.

Companies submitting this form will be guaranteed the Early Bird rate as noted above for a booth at the PDCA 12th Annual International Conference and Exposition, Phoenix, AZ, from February 20-23, 2008 providing the company submits an Official PDCA Conference Registration Form prior to January 11, 2008.

Company Name _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Contact Person _____

Email _____

Signature _____

DON'T MISS OUT. RESERVE YOUR BOOTH TODAY!