



E - LETTER

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

GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER SELECTED AS SITE OF 2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



The Pile Driving Contractors Association has selected the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Conference Center, Nashville, Tennessee as the site for the 11th Annual PDCA International Conference and Exposition. The conference will be held from Wednesday, March 28, 2007 through Saturday, March 31, 2007.

The 2007 Annual Conference will boast a new format that is intended to provide participants with not only quality educational and industry informative programs, but also the opportunity to do more socializing, networking and just enjoying the sites and sounds of Nashville.

PDCA plans on only having half day industry programs on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, with one afternoon reserved for a PDCA Golf Tournament, an afternoon on your own, an evening at the Grand Ole Opry, and receptions and dinners in the evening throughout the conference.

One morning will be reserved for a Hammer Manufacturers Forum, allowing all hammer manufacturers (PDCA member firms only) to present the benefits of their products (from specs, improvements in exhaust and noise emission, reliability, adaptability, cost and other significant features) to a focused group of pile driving contractors that will attend as the manufacturers exclusive audience. This program will be followed by an informal luncheon where all participating manufacturers can visit with contractors.

The PDCA's 1st Annual Golf Tournament will be held at the Gaylord Springs, the premiere course of the Gaylord Opryland. Carved from the banks of the Cumberland River by former US Open and PGA Champion, Larry Nelson, the Springs has secured its place among the nations best Scottish links-style courses. Voted "Best Places to Play" by Golf Digest (2004), you won't want to miss this PDCA event. PDCA invites its members to consider donating company logo items for inclusion into the tournament "goodie" bags or as prizes for the various events.

The conference will also provide companies the opportunity to exhibit during the conference, so if you want to get your name and/or products in front of PDCA members and conference guests, you should block these days on your calendar as a great marketing opportunity.

PDCA is seeking sponsors for the following programs:

Conference - Continental Breakfasts ♦ Mid-morning and afternoon breaks ♦ Receptions ♦ Annual Dinner ♦ Music (the band) ♦ Companion's (Spouse/Guest) Program ♦ Luncheons.

Golf Tournament – Tournament Sponsors (similar to a hole sponsor) ♦ Golf Luncheon ♦ Long Drive ♦ Closest to the Hole ♦ Beverage Cart ♦ Awards.

If you are interested in sponsoring a program, contact the PDCA at 1.888.311.7322.

The conference will also feature a pre-conference program on Wednesday, March 28, titled “Deep Foundation Design, Construction, Testing and Quality Control”, presented by Jerry DiMaggio and Peter Osborn of the FHWA.

PDH’s will be available for engineers – 8 for the pre-conference and 6-7 for the annual conference.

PDCA SEEKS PRESENTATIONS FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The PDCA is seeking abstracts for consideration at the 11th Annual PDCA International Conference and Exposition in Nashville, TN. The PDCA is requesting interested individuals submit an abstract to the PDCA Technical Committee for consideration as potential topics for an expanded presentation during the association’s conference (see attached Memorandum, dated October 20, 2006).

The PDCA is seeking presentations that support the use of driven piles in deep foundations and earth retention systems. The conference will be attended by a variety of individuals representing a broad spectrum of companies associated with the driven pile industry, but is intended primarily for contractors. Therefore, presentations should focus on project issues and resolutions that will have a direct and positive impact on contractor practices. Examples could include presentations describing how driven piles were selected over other foundation alternatives, cost savings resulting from the use of driven pile, foundation challenges overcome through innovative construction techniques using driven pile, excellence in client services or project management, new materials, exceptional designs or innovative engineering. Additionally, presentation could discuss the quality control and quality assurance aspects associated with driven pile applications making them an exceptional choice over other foundation methods.

All submittals must be in MS Word and submitted in an electronic format to the PDCA office. Submittals must be in the PDCA office by December 11, 2006. The PDCA Technical Committee will review all submittals and notify authors by December 22, 2006 if they have been selected to make a presentation.

If selected, presenting authors will be required to submit their presentation to the PDCA in MS PowerPoint, with 3 slides per page and in black and white only no later than Friday, March 2, 2007. Alternately, a formal paper can be written and submitted in MS Word. The PDCA will incorporate all presentations or papers into a Conference Proceedings to be distributed during the conference. If you miss the publication deadline, presenters are encouraged, but not required to distribute copies of their full presentations during the conference.

Abstracts and PowerPoint presentations should be sent to the PDCA, PO Box 66208, Orange Park, Florida 32065; or emailed to the PDCA at execdir@piledrivers.org.

PDCA TO MEET WITH AASHTO T-15

The PDCA will meet on Wednesday, November 8, in Columbus, OH with the AASHTO T-15 Committee. On the AASHTO agenda is a vote by the committee on the PDCA’s revisions to the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Installation Specifications, Section 4: Driven Foundation Piles. PDCA presented the revisions for the second time to the Committee in May 2006, in Snowbird, UT, along with an explanation of the revisions by George Goble (George G. Goble Consulting and Engr.). At the conclusion

of that meeting, the PDCA requested copies of any suggested revisions to the specifications by members of the T-15 committee between the Snowbird, UT and Columbus, OH meetings. PDCA was informed by Jawdat Saddiqui, Chairman of the T-15 Committee that he had not received nor seen any correspondence that would indicate a change by the Committee members. In light of this news, the PDCA is expecting the T-15 to vote unanimously on the PDCA revisions to the specifications and forward them on to complete the approval process. PDCA expects the specifications to complete the approval process and be implemented in mid-2007. Work on this document by the PDCA Technical Committee will have a positive impact on public works driven foundation pile specifications for years to come.

After the vote on the specifications, the PDCA will be present at the same meeting to oppose new revisions to the AASHTO Design Code. Members of the PDCA have received changes to the code which will be very onerous to the pile driving industry and represent an extreme divergence from the original design code. A meeting to discuss the changes, their origin and strategies for opposing the revisions has been scheduled by the PDCA.

PDCA HAS MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

The Pile Driving Contractors Association has created a new forum for our members to announce significant events within their company. The forum, titled, "PDCA Members on the Move" is intended to recognize and promote PDCA members by encouraging them to submit short announcements to the PDCA about civic or industry awards, unique projects, new hires or promotions, anniversaries, new partnerships or anything you would like your fellow PDCA members to know about your company. Announcement will be made in each PDCA E-Letter. Submit your information to the PDCA via email at execdir@piledrivers.org.

PDCA MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

Pileco, Inc. - Pileco, Inc. and California affiliate Pilemac, Inc. have experienced unprecedented growth since merging with German-based BAUER MASCHINEN GmbH almost one year ago – and this month celebrate their 40th Anniversary in the industry.

Special events to mark the company's 40 years in the foundation industry include an open house at Pileco, Inc. Houston headquarters on October 20, featuring tours of the newest plant expansion and a tribute to Pileco founder Mr. Otto Kammerer.

Preceding the 40th Anniversary open house is a series of Dealer Meetings focusing on drilling products and diesel hammers. Guests from across the United States and abroad will attend the daylong open house and anniversary celebration.

Junttan Oy/Sun Piledriving Equipment – Junttan Oy, one of the world's leading manufacturers of hydraulic pile driving rigs has signed an agreement with Sun Piledriving Equipment, LLC (SPE). SPE is supplier of pile driving equipment in its area, having over 20 years experience in the pile driving industry. SPE will take care of Junttan product lines sales, service and spare parts in the Southeastern United States.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FHWA DRIVEN PILE FOUNDATIONS MANUAL AVAILABLE

The Pile Driving Contractors Association has the FHWA Driven Pile Foundations Manuals, Reference Manuals, Volume I: FHWA NHI-05-042 and Volume II: FHWA NHI-05-043 (NHI Reference No.

132021 and 132022) available on CD. This CD is the 2006 version of the FHWA Manual just released by FHWA and NHI. Volume I is 968 pages and Volume II is 486 pages. The CD is \$65.00 and can be shipped immediately. Contact the PDCA office for purchases at 1.888.311.7322 or email at execdir@piledrivers.org.

INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS FOR DRIVEN PILES PDCA SPECIFICATION 101-06

The PDCA has taken their revisions to the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Installation Specifications, Section 4: Driven Foundation Piles and converted them to a Private Specification, titled, "Installation Specifications for Driven Piles, PDCA Specification 101-06. This specification is the first of its kind specifically designed for private work. All participants at the 7th Annual Design and Installation of Cost Efficient Piles conference were presented with a CD of this new and exciting PDCA publication, as well as a presentation on the specs by PDCA Technical Committee member, Garland Likins.

Anyone interested in obtaining a free copy of the Installation Specs can do so by contacting the PDCA office at 1.888.311.PDCA (7322).

PDCA NEW WEBSITE AND DATABASE NEARS COMPLETION

The new PDCA website is closing in on its completion date of November 1, 2006. Surf U Soft, the PDCA website development firm, located in Jacksonville, FL is completing work on the back pages of the site, which are accessed from the home page when you "click" on a tab or move your cursor over an active link; and they are almost finished with the new data base, which will allow comprehensive searches of the membership database and member products through the "Member Search" feature or "Reference Links" tab. Searches for members, membership categories, provided services, and geographical locations can also be accomplished through an easily navigated network of "radio" buttons.

Until the new site is active, the PDCA is maintaining general information on our existing site, www.piledrivers.org. The new site will keep the piledrivers.org http.

PDCA MEMBERS TO VOTE ON 2007 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The Pile Driving Contractors Association will be distributing the Official 2007 PDCA Officers and Directors Ballot in early November 2006. This year's slate of Officers and Directors will increase the size of the Board from 11 to 13. Candidates for the Officer positions include the following: Mark Weisz, C. S. Marine (President), Van Hogan, Ed Waters and Sons Contracting Co. (Vice President), John King, Pile Drivers, Inc. (Secretary), Trey Ford, Ford Foundation (Treasurer), Harry Robbins, Palmetto Pile Driving (Immediate Past President). Candidates for Director positions include: John Linscott (HB Fleming), Rusty Signor (Signor Enterprises), Pat Hannigan (GRL Engineers), Mike Elliott (Pile Equipment), Warren Waite (Pileco), Richard Gilbert (Skyline Steel), Don Dolly (Foundation Constructors), and Irv Ragsdale (Clark Foundation, LLC).

PDCA bylaws provide for each member firm in good standing to receive one ballot to select its Board of Directors. Write-In's are acceptable, but must comply with the bylaws to be considered. Once the ballots have been distributed, they must be returned to the PDCA office by December 31, 2006. 2007 Officers and Director will assume their positions after being presented to the membership at the 2007 11th Annual PDCA International Conference and Exposition Annual Dinner in Nashville, TN.