



E – LETTER

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

JANUARY 2008



**HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM ALL OF US
AT THE PDCA**

**ON BEHALF OF ALL OF US HERE AT THE PDCA,
WE WANT TO WISH ALL OF YOU A HEALTHY, SAFE AND PROSPEROUS 2008!**

[THE PDCA 12TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION](#)

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE
JANUARY 23, 2008

The PDCA has advertised the upcoming Annual International Conference and Exposition on the web site, in the E-Letter and through the mail and the responses are coming in at a furious pace. Why not start your 2008 off with the perfect resolution – “I will not procrastinate in 2008!” Get your registration form into the PDCA *TODAY*. Don’t miss the Early Bird Deadline – **January 23, 2008**. For speedy registration, download your registration form directly from the PDCA web site, www.piledrivers.org. In the center section of the PDCA home page, simply click on purple-shaded box that says, “Download the Registration”, print it out, fill it out and send it in.

PDCA CONTRACTORS

THIS CONFERENCE IS ABOUT YOU AND YOUR BUSINESS – DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

This year's conference will feature some exceptional educational programs featuring case studies on pile driving projects utilizing value engineering, compressed construction schedules to meet demanding owner requirements, LEED goal projects, overcoming challenges associated with difficult driving environments, advanced techniques in driving sheet pile in difficult soil conditions; and other programs designed to offer you insight to the advantages and practices of driven pile for deep foundations and earth retention systems. The conference will provide contractors with unique opportunities to learn more about your project environment and innovative and yet practical approaches to being more effective and efficient in your business practices. The bottom line is – if there is room for improvement (and there always is), this is the place to start.

EXHIBITORS

YOUR COMPETITION WILL BE THERE!

That's right – now matter what your business or no matter what your product, your competition will be at the PDCA Annual Conference. You can choose to go head to head with them or you can give them an exclusive audience with your existing and future clients.

As of early January, 26 of the 44 exhibitor spaces have been reserved. Others have committed to send their registration forms in within the week. Get your registration form in TODAY!

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.

CONTRACTOR AND EXHIBITORS

REGISTER TODAY!

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Sponsorships are available 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.

CURRENT SPONSOR LIST (In Alphabetical Order)

PLATINUM SPONSORS

**American Piledriving Equipment
Sun Piledriving Equipment**

GOLD SPONSORS

Naylor Pipe Company

COMPANION’S PROGRAM

Piling, Inc.

ANNUAL DINNER AND BAND

**Koppers, Inc.
Pileco, Inc.**

RECEPTIONS

**Link Belt Construction Equipment Company
Menck GmbH
Municon**

NAME BADGES

Instantel

CONTINENTAL BREAKFASTS

Sun Piledriving Equipment

AM AND PM BREAKS

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Sun Piledriving Equipment

All sponsorship categories may have multiple sponsors, except the Name Badges sponsor, so don't be left out – select your sponsorship category TODAY!

- **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

CURRENT EXHIBITORS
PDCA 12TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION

American Piledriving Equipment	Birmingham Foundation Solutions
Cajun Deep Foundations, LLC	Cox Industries
DYWIDAG Systems International USA, Inc.	Essve Tech, Inc.
Gerdau AmeriSteel	InstanTel
Junttan Oy	Koppers, Inc.
L. B. Foster Company	Liebheer Nenzing Crane Co.
Link Belt Construction Equipment Co.	Lodge Lumber Co.
McFarland Cascade	Naylor Pipe
North American Steel Sheet Piling Assoc.	Pileco, Inc.
Pile Dynamics, Inc.	Pile Hammer Equipment
Pipe & Piling Concrete USA Company	Roll Form Group
Skyline Steel Company	Sun Piledriving Equipment, LLC
Timber Piling Council	VPA

PDCA 2008 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ELECTED

The 2008 PDCA Officers and Directors ballots have been received and the voting is over. The PDCA Officers and Directors for 2008 are:

Officers:

President – Van Hogan (Ed Waters and Sons Contracting Co, Inc.), Vice President – John King (Pile Drivers, Inc.), Secretary – Don Dolly (Foundation Constructors, Inc.), Treasurer – John Linscott (H. B. Fleming), Immediate Past President – Mark Weisz (C. S. Marine).

Directors

John Parker (Parker Marine), Rusty Signor (Signor Enterprises), Pat Hannigan (GRL Engineers, Inc.), Mike Elliott (Pile Equipment), Herbert “Buck” Darling (Herbert F. Darling, Inc.), Richard Gilbert (Skyline Steel Company), Dave Chapman (Blakeslee, Arpaia, Chapman), Irv Ragsdale (Clark Foundation, LLC), Mike Justason (Birmingham Foundation Solutions).

PDCA Chapter Representatives to the Board:

PDCA of South Carolina – Sonny DuPre (Cape Romain Contractors), PDCA of the Mid-Atlantic – Mike Jahnigen (Sun Marine Maintenance), PDCA of the Gulf Coast – Mike Kelly (Gulf South Piling and Construction), PDCA of California – Charlie Gibson (Manson Construction).

New Officers and Directors will be installed at the 12th Annual PDCA International Conference and Exposition, Arizona Grand Resort, Phoenix, AZ during the Annual Dinner on Saturday, February 23, 2008.

PDCA CHAPTER NEWS

PDCA of South Carolina – In last month’s E-Letter, the PDCA reported that the PDCA of South Carolina had held its elections and we reported those results to you. PDCA failed to mention that Harry Robbins (Palmetto Pile Driving) was elected Assistant Secretary / Treasurer.

Our heartfelt wishes go out to Andrea Edwards, Cox Industries for a speedy recovery after her accident. Best wishes Andrea!

2008 PDCA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The PDCA wants to thank all of you who supported the PDCA through your annual membership throughout 2007.

The PDCA accomplished a lot in 2007. Most importantly, the PDCA is a growing organization. In 2007, the PDCA had a 97% contractor member retention rate, a 30% overall increase in contractor members and a 29% increase in Associate members. In 2007, with the support of our members, we raised enough money to fully fund the 4th Professors' Driven Pile Institute at the University of Utah in Logan, UT. Through this program, the PDCA presented a week-long training program on driven piles to 18 professors currently teaching deep foundation courses in undergraduate or graduate studies at major universities and colleges across the U. S and Puerto Rico.

Additionally, the PDCA continues to author or revise major publications in the private and public sectors, add data to the PDCA Vibration and Noise database, use web-based technologies to service and benefit our members and the driven pile industry, publish the monthly on-line newsletter, and provide valuable and informative articles in *PileDriver* magazine. In 2007, the PDCA added the California Chapter as the fourth local PDCA chapter. The California chapter, along with the South Carolina, Mid-Atlantic and Gulf Coast chapters are doing an excellent job of promoting driven piles and your industry within their regions.

In 2008, the PDCA pledges to continue providing meaningful services and benefits to each member; including proactively representing your industry before national and state agencies and private business, to promote growth in the use of driven piles, to support research and educational programs designed to improve your industry, and to help increase the profitability of our member firms. To help the PDCA accomplish our goals in 2008, we need your continued support and involvement. The 2008 PDCA Annual Dues invoices have been sent and are currently due. Please send your 2008 PDCA annual membership dues payment in as soon as possible. Duplicate invoices are available by calling the PDCA office at 888-311-PDCA (7322).

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.

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION CONGRESS & EQUIPMENT EXPO '09

The International Foundation Congress and Equipment Exposition 2009 (IFCEE '09) is seeking original and quality papers for consideration of inclusion in the IFCEE '09 conference program.

Conference Highlights:

The Geo-Institute (GI) of the American Society of Engineers (ASCE), ADSC: The International Association of Foundation Drilling, and The Pile Driving Contractors Association (PDCA) will join together to provide a spectacular and comprehensive congress dedicated to the latest technological advances in the foundation and earth retention industries. This conference will take place March 15-19, 2009, at the Buena Vista Palace Resort & Spa in Lake Buena Vista, Orlando, Florida.

Building on the highly successful 2004 Geo-Support Conference and Equipment Exposition (Orlando, Florida), IFCEE '09 will provide the most current technical information by bringing together industry leading organizations. This event will provide an opportunity for US and worldwide engineers, foundation contractors, equipment manufacturers, suppliers of tools and services, and researchers within the industry to interact.

In addition to the technical program, the extensive outdoor equipment exposition and indoor exhibit displays will provide an opportunity to examine the various machines and tools used in foundation construction.

Overview of Technical Program

The expanded program of IFCEE '09 will include:

- Foundation analysis and design
- Effects of construction on foundation performance
- Reliability issues
- Quality control and quality assurance
- Monitoring and testing of foundations
- Earth retention
- Ground modification
- Case histories
- Foundation design for extreme events

Presentations:

Interested individuals/organizations are encouraged to submit a tour or a workshop proposal. State-of-the-art contributions are encouraged, addressing all facets of design and construction, and performance evaluations, pertaining to the challenges of constructing reliable structures within and upon the earth.

Abstracts and proposals should address topics relevant to:

- Consulting engineers
- General and specialty contractors
- Policy makers and owners as well as researchers, educators and students.

Session proposals are due March 31, 2008. Abstracts are due April 30, 2008. For more information, please visit the conference website at www.ifcee09.org.

For technical questions, please contact: Mohamad H. Hussein, Conference Chairman at: **MHGRL@pile.com**.

PDCA MEMBERS ON THE MOVE

During the PDCA's meeting with AASHTO SCOBS T-15 in Olympia, WA this past December, PDCA Executive Director, Stevan Hall was able to meet with two PDCA members – American Pile Driving Equipment – Kent, WA and McFarland Cascade, Tacoma, WA.

Steve was given a tour of the America Piledriving Equipment (APE) administrative facility, fabrication shops, supply, yard and R&D by Equipment Manager, Larry Mulunax, Tamara Gough, A/P Manager and Joanna Mondt, IT Manager. After the tour, Steve spent some time discussing APE's history and technical innovations with President, John White.



Left: Joanna Mondt, APE IT Manager
Right: Tamara Gough, APE A/P Manager



John White, APE President at his desk in Kent, WA

Steve was given a tour of McFarland Cascade's administrative offices, production facilities and testing lab by Phil Myers, SYP Business Development Manager, Round Products (Portland, OR office) and Dean Anderson, Product Manager, Round Products (Tacoma, WA office). Steve was provided access to almost the entire McFarland Cascade facility – much of which is typically off-limits and considered confidential. Steve was very impressed with the extent McFarland Cascade goes to address environmental issues associated with the timber pile production business, as well as to the extent of their product testing.



Part of McFarland Cascade's facilities



Stevan Hall, Executive Director PDCA with Phil Myers, McFarland Cascade Business Development Manager

PDCA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

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