



E – LETTER

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

JUNE 2009

PROFESSORS' DRIVEN PILE INSTITUTE

The PDCA's 2009 Professors' Driven Pile Institute (PDPI) is only a week away. The PDCA will teach 27 professors representing various universities and colleges across the US and UK all about driven pile in a condensed and intensive 5-day program at Utah State University. Conservatively estimating, there are over 8,000 engineers in the industry today who know more about driven piles as a deep foundation and earth retention system as a result of teaching professors who have attended past PDPI's or who will attend this year's program. Through the PDPI, the PDCA has provided the nation's leading engineering professors with the expertise to teach engineering students about driven pile advantages. Without question, this program is the standard by which all "teach the teacher" program are judged and is the best way to ensure the continued progress and strength of our industry for the coming years.

The PDCA wishes to thank every company and individual who contributed to this year's Professors' Driven Pile Institute. A special "Thanks" to our two Bronze Sponsors – Gerdau-Ameristeel and Herbert F. Darling, Inc.

For a full list of sponsors, go to the following link on the PDCA website,
<http://www.piledrivers.org/profdrivenpilesponsors.php>

PDA TEST INTERPRETATION AND CAPWAP ANALYSIS SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND HIGH STRAIN DYNAMIC PILE TEST (HSDPT) CERTIFICATION EXAM

PDCA is pleased to announce the upcoming presentation of a PDA Test Interpretation and CAPWAP Analysis Skills Development Workshop and a High Strain Dynamic Pile Test (HSDPT) Certification Exam. PDCA, in conjunction with Foundation QA will present a two-day workshop followed by a half day exam in Philadelphia, PA at the Crowne Plaza Center City, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, September 24 – 25, respectively.

The workshop will cover the following material:

A brief review of fundamental wave mechanics theory as it applies in practice to the analysis of dynamic pile testing, data quality – different data quality issues and strategies for accepting, rejecting or modifying pile test data, Wave Up/Down as the preferred view of test data, estimation of damping factor and pile capacity, alternative methods of estimating pile capacity, estimating shaft resistance and resistance distribution from PDA records, estimating end bearing, estimating compression and tension stresses, evaluating pile damage, preparing and selecting data for Capwap®, strategies for performing Capwap® analysis, guidelines for accepting a Capwap® solution ... and more!

To register and pay on-line go to:

http://www.foundationqc.com/amember/signup.php?price_group=-59&hide_paysys=paypal_r

For more information or a program flyer, go to www.piledrivers.org/pdf/HSDPT.pdf.

PDCA 2009 DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF COST-EFFICIENT PILES CONFERENCE SCHEDULED

The PDCA has scheduled the 2009 Design and Installation of Cost-Efficient Piles Conference. This year's conference will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2009. The conference is scheduled to be held at the Walnut Creek Marriott, Walnut Creek, CA, just east of Oakland.

The conference is typically focused on engineering issues relevant to pile driving, but always contains information for the contractor, owner, developers, government employees and those who are connected or do business in the driven pile industry. The platform for this year's DICEP conference is to demonstrate the value of driven pile per ton of capacity as compared to other non-driven pile methods. Anyone interested in presenting a paper on this subject is encouraged to contact the PDCA at 888-311-PDCA (7322); or call the Education Committee Chair, Mohamad Hussein at 407-826-9539. The conference will include 6 presentations, 50 minutes in length.

Both sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities will also be available on a limited basis. You can contact the PDCA at 888-311-PDCA (7322) or email us at steve@piledrivers.org for more information.

2009 PDCA ANNUAL DIRECTORY

The PDCA 2009 Annual Directory will be sent to over 2200 recipients in June, 2009. The PDCA reported in the last E-Letter that the directory would be sent by May 31, 2009, but PDCA is making detailed corrections to the early drafts, so all information in the directory is as accurate as possible. Unfortunately, any company who has not yet renewed their 2009 PDCA Annual dues will not be listed in the directory and eligible to take advantage of this marketing benefit offered through your PDCA membership.

It is important for your company to be listed as a 2009 PDCA member. If your firm has not renewed their 2009 annual membership, you can still be active on the PDCA member search function of the website – “Find Members” by sending your renewal in today. All PDCA member companies and Technical Affiliates are listed on the “Find Members” feature of the PDCA website, which is used quite often by those seeking the services provided by our members. If you have not paid your 2009 PDCA Annual dues, access to your information is blocked. Contact the PDCA at 888-311-PDCA (7322) for more information.

PDCA MAGAZINE – MEMBER PROFILE AND PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

As a reminder, the PDCA magazine, *PileDriver* features section topics titled, “Member Profile” and “Project Spotlight”. What are “Member Profiles” and “Project Spotlights”?

The Member Profile is simply an article about a PDCA member firm. It reveals a little history about the company; the leadership of the company, the type work performed, brief discussions of special projects the firm has undertaken and completed and any other history or relevant information about the company. It may best be described as a detailed company abstract – something you would present to a perspective client who wants to know more about your firm.

The “Project Spotlight” is an article about a specific project completed by a PDCA member. It usually details the project from the time it was awarded to completion. It may include information about value engineering, cost-savings measures, new technology, environmental concerns, contractual issues, logistical issues and more.

What does it cost? NOTHING! What are the advantages? Your company or project may be read by over 7000 readers – free advertising and marketing for your firm. What if your firm does not have a writer in-house or someone available to write the article? PDCA and Lester Publications can assign a professional writer – AT NO COST TO YOU! What’s the down side – NOTHING! What’s the up side – EVERYTHING!

How does a PDCA member company become a “Member Profile” in the magazine? How does a project get included in the magazine as a “Project Spotlight”? Simple – just let the PDCA know you are interested in being considered by calling 888-311-PDCA (7322).

PDCA OF FLORIDA CHAPTER FORMED

On April 23, 2009, Kylie Williams (Skyline Steel) conducted an organizational meeting to begin a PDCA of Florida Chapter and a follow up to a preliminary meeting held during the IFCEE '09 conference. The meeting was attended by 17 interested persons, including PDCA Board members Van Hogan (Immediate Past President), Mike Elliott (Director) and Stevan Hall (Executive Director). Several others indicated an interest, but just could not make the meeting.

During the meeting, Van Hogan provided a presentation on “Benefits of PDCA”. The agenda included discussions on the current Florida membership, benefits of a Florida PDCA Chapter,

organization of the chapter and solicitation of new members, and benefits of learning from existing PDCA chapters. Before the meeting ended, Officers had been elected, a Steering Committee formed and a Membership Development Chair elected.

The Officers of the chapter are President Van Hogan (Ed Waters and Sons Contracting Co., Inc., St. Augustine, FL), Vice President Keith Waugh (Leware Construction Co., Leesburg, FL), Secretary Kylie Williams (Skyline Steel, Orlando, FL) and Treasurer Mike Carter (Giken America Corp., Orlando, FL). The Steering Committee consists of the Officers of the Chapter and the following PDCA members who assisted in the initial formation of the chapter – Sara Harrison, Don Surrency and Mike Elliott. The Chair of the Membership Development Committee is Sara Harrison (Hammer & Steel, Green Cove Springs, FL).

On May 12, 2009, the Officers conducted a conference call to map out the immediate goals of the chapter and progress from the organizational meeting, which included writing the Bylaws, articles of incorporation, establishing a bank account and recruiting members.

Participants in the first PDCA of Florida Organizational meeting seen below.



PDCA TO PARTICIAPTE IN ASCE ORLANDO CONFERENCE

The PDCA, in conjunction with the PDCA of Florida chapter will exhibit at the East Central Branch of the ASCE 2nd Annual Icebreaker Event at the Winter Park Farmers Market, Winter Park, FL on Thursday, July 16, 2009. The event kicks off at 6:00 PM. PDCA of Florida chapter Officers and members will attend the event and display the PDCA banner, provide marketing material and membership applications to interested individuals and companies. Tickets are

available for \$20.00 and include 2 drink tickets and hot hors d'oeuvres. Anyone interested in attending the event can contact Christa Barnhart at 386-314-9354 for tickets.

GEO-COALITION MEETS IN NEW JERSEY

On May 19 and 20, 2009, PDCA participated in the Geo-Coalition meetings in Newark, New Jersey. The Geo-Coalition consists of several geo-engineering and geo-construction associations, including PDCA, Geo-Institute of the ASCE, ADSC, ASFE, DFI, and AEG. During the meeting, held at the Sheraton Meadowlands, NJ, the Geo-Coalition voted to include the United States Universities Council on Geotechnical Education and Research (USUCGER) as part of the group.

The Geo-Coalition meets annually to discuss common issues relevant to the geo-engineering and geo-construction communities. This year the agenda included discussions on the Geotechnical Engineers role in foundation exploration and how that information gets translated (or not) into the Structural Engineers design, professionalism in Geo Engineering, the Task Force's report on constructability, greater partnering efforts between associations (such as IFCEE '09) and more.

PDCA was represented by national President John King, Vice President Don Dolly and Executive Director Stevan Hall.

During the visit to Newark, PDCA had the opportunity to meet with the PDCA's first President, Skip Gardella (Norwalk Marine Contractors) and Norwalk Marine Contractor's Vice President, Eric Alberghini. John King presented Skip with his crowned Past President's pin.



MEMBER NEWS

Ed Waters and Sons Contracting Company has begun work on the 1500' foot Navarre Beach Pier, Navarre Beach, FL east of Pensacola. Ed Waters and Sons contract is with Santa Rosa County. A kick-off celebration was held with the Santa Rosa County Commission and members of the Ed Waters and Sons Contracting Company project team. This pier will replace the original pier that was destroyed by hurricane Ivan and Dennis. The project features 24" precast concrete piles provide by Standard Concrete Products a PDCA member in Savannah, GA. Standard is also providing the precast caps and beams.



Congratulations to Pollyanna and Christian Cunningham (ICE) on the birth of their baby boy, Patrick. Patrick (8 ½ lbs and 20"), Mom and Dad are doing well.

On April 30, the PDCA of the Gulf Coast held their first Annual Crawfish Boil. The event was attended by chapter members, their employees, guest and friends of the industry. During the event, PDCA Executive Director Stevan Hall presented chapter President Mike Kelly with a check in the amount of \$3097.28 for their share of the 2008 DICEP Conference revenue.

On a sadder note, PDCA wishes to express our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Otto Kammerer. Otto was the founder and chairman of the Board for Pileco, Inc. Otto passed away on March 26, 2009, at the age of 78 after a long and successful career in the foundation construction industry. Otto was well known and respected within the foundation industry. He will be missed.

A DRIVEN PILE IS A TESTED PILE!