



E – LETTER

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

SEPTEMBER 2009

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

www.piledrivers.org/pdf/HSDPT.pdf.

Time is running out to register for this PDCA program that is only provided once a year in the U.S. Don't miss this opportunity to attend the PDA Test Interpretation and CAPWAP Analysis Skills Development workshop and the HSDPT certification exam. The workshop is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, September 24 – 25, 2009; and the HSDPT Certification exam is scheduled for Saturday morning, September 26, 2009.

For anyone needing PDH's, the PDCA will present all course participants with a "Certificate of Attendance", which will include 16 PDH's.

The room block release date at the Crowne Plaza Center City, Philadelphia has been extended to September 15, 2009, so there is still time to make your reservations for the course and to reserve a room at the incredible conference rate of \$129.00 per night. Reservations must be made individually by calling the Crowne Plaza at 866-618-0410. Be sure and reference the Pile Driving Contractors Association or conference code PDC to obtain this special conference rate.

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: www.foundationqc.com. Once on this site, click the link on the right side of the home page, titled "Register and pay online for seminars and workshops". This will automatically take you to the Philadelphia workshop registration form. You can also click on the "Register and pay online for HSDPT examinations". This link will allow you to register for the HSDPT Certification Exam in Philadelphia on Saturday, September 26, 2009. For additional information or a program flyer, go to the PDCA website at www.piledrivers.org/pdf/HSDPT.pdf.

Participants can bring their own computer laptops with PDA-W and CAPWAP programs loaded. Workshop versions of PDA-W and CAPWAP will be available upon request. Data sets will be provided for analysis. The meeting room will be equipped with power outlet for recharging laptops.

The cost of the PDA Test Interpretation and CAPWAP Analysis Skills Development course and HSDPT Certification Exam includes all material, continental breakfast, AM and PM breaks, and buffet lunch.

Course Fees: PDA 2-day Workshop - \$525 Government Employees - \$325
HSDPT Certification Exam - \$300

PDCA SCHEDULES “PILE DRIVING INSPECTORS” COURSE

<http://www.piledrivers.org/events.php?calmonth=11&calyear=2009&calday1=12&action=events>

The Pile Driving Contractors Association is pleased to announce the presentation of a PILE DRIVING INSPECTORS course. The PDCA will present this one-day course on Thursday, November 12, 2009, at the InterContinental Hotel, New Orleans, LA. Participants will receive a “Certificate of Attendance” worth 8 CPD hours for LA Engineers or 8 PDH’s for others.

The curriculum will include the following topics:

The Inspectors Role	Site Investigation Methods	Pile Types
Pile Driving Hammers and Installation Equipment	Louisiana DOTD Standard Specifications	Construction Plan and General Notes
Contractor’s Submittal and Review Process	Current LA DOTD Practices – Design and Construction	Test Pile Program
Establishing the Pile Driving Criteria	Test Pile Program – LA DOTD Procedures	Record Keeping in Pile Driving Monitoring
Common Problems – LA DOTD Experience		General Discussion – Q&A

This course is designed for those who inspect pile-driving operations during construction of foundations and major structures.

Who Should Attend: Suppliers of hammers and piles, Contractor’s Superintendents and Foreman, Geotechnical Engineers and Structural Engineers; as well as anyone in charge of pile-driving construction inspections.

Presenters: Mohamad Hussein, P.E., V.P. GRL Engineers and Partner, Pile Dynamics, Inc.
Ching Tsai, PhD., P.E., Engineer 6, LA DOTD.

The course registration fee includes all course material in a three-ring binder, the presentations on a CD (which will also include the FHWA Design and Construction of Driven Pile Foundations, Vol. I & II – a \$60 value), expanded continental breakfast, AM and PM breaks with refreshments, and a buffet-style lunch.

The cost of the program: Before October 30, 2009 - \$300.00
After October 30, 2009 - \$350.00
Students - \$150.00

To register or obtain more information, please contact the PDCA office at 888-311-PDCA (7322) or email us at steve@piledrivers.org. For hotel reservation information, contact the PDCA at 888-311-PDCA (7322).

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

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
COOPERATING SPONSOR



<http://www.piledrivers.org/pdf/WebFlyer.pdf>

The PDCA has scheduled the 10TH Annual Design and Installation of Cost-Efficient Piles (DICEP) Conference on Thursday, November 19, 2009. PDCA is proud to announce that the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) and the ASCE San Francisco Section are cooperating sponsors for this year's conference. PDCA is excited about SEAONC's and ASCE - SFS's participation and thanks them for their support.

This year's premiere engineering and contractor-focused driven pile conference will be held at the Walnut Creek Marriott, Walnut Creek, CA on Thursday, November 19, 2009.

The DICEP conference will focus on engineering issues relevant to pile driving. The theme for this year's DICEP conference is:

1. Increasing useable pile capacity to reduce project foundation costs, and
2. Optimizing dollars per ton of pile bearing to reduce project foundation costs

The DICEP conference will include five-50 minute presentations on these two topics. The presentations include discussions on the following:

Effective Use of Higher Allowable Stresses – Case History, Safeco Field, Seattle Mariners, Seattle, WA
Driven Pile Cost Comparison for Two Large Wisconsin DOT Bridge Projects
Seismic Performance of Driven Pile v. Auger Cast
Dynamic and Static Testing to Improve Economics of Driven Pile
Fifth presentation title to be announced

The conference is intended to provide practical and relevant information on driven pile design that can be used by structural, civil and geotechnical engineers. The conference also contains important information that will appeal to contractors, owners, developers, government employees and those connected to the driven pile industry.

Sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities will also be available on a limited basis. The PDCA will have a minimum of 22 table top booths for sponsor displays at DICEP. The cost of the table top booth, which includes your full conference registration fee is \$250.00. You can contact the PDCA to begin reserving your booth.

Sponsorships include the following: Continental Breakfast - \$200.00 (limit 4 sponsors); Luncheon - \$300.00 (limit 4 sponsors); Morning & Afternoon Breaks - \$150.00 (limit 5 sponsors). Companies can be the exclusively sponsor of a sponsored event by paying the total amount based on the sponsorship limit. Call the PDCA to reserve your sponsorship. All sponsors will be noted on a sign displayed throughout the conference, listed on the PDCA website and in the December PDCA E-Letter.

Further information on the DICEP conference, registration and Walnut Creek Marriott contact the PDCA at 888-311-PDCA (7322) or email us at steve@piledrivers.org for more immediate information.

PDCA TO CONDUCT JOINT CONFERENCE WITH DFI

The PDCA and DFI have agreed to hold a joint Driven Pile Conference sometime in early 2010. The conference is tentatively scheduled to be held in the Northern Virginia area. Tom Nichols, Chair, DFI Driven Piles Committee and Stevan A. Hall, PDCA Executive Director have had preliminary discussions on the program. A conference call between PDCA and DFI is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2009, to conduct further discussions on the program.

PDCA JOINS TREATED WOOD COUNCIL

The PDCA has been asked to join the Treated Wood Council as an Association member and has accepted their offer. The PDCA will be accepted as a member during the TWC's meeting in September 2009. The mission of the TWC is to serve all segments of the treated wood industry in the fields of government affairs. PDCA will participate in the TWC's Government Affairs Committee. Participation on this committee will help the PDCA disseminate important information that may impact members of the PDCA who specialize in or supply timber products to the pile driving industry.

PDCA TO ORGANIZE NORTHEASTERN U.S. CHAPTER

The PDCA has scheduled an organizational meeting on Tuesday, September 22, 2009, beginning at 6:00 PM to discuss the formation of another local chapter. The new chapter will be called the PDCA of the Northeastern U.S. Chapter and will include the states of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. With the assistance and sponsorship of Linde-Griffith Construction, the meeting will be held at the Upper Montclair Country Club in Clifton, N.J. All interested parties are invited to attend, but are requested to contact the PDCA to make reservations.

PDCA LOOKING AT THE UPPER MID-WEST FOR ANOTHER LOCAL CHAPTER

Recently, the PDCA spoke to Rich Northfield and Bob Mraz, Lally Pipe and Tube about their interest in forming a new PDCA Chapter in the Upper Mid-West, which would include the states of Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Indiana. PDCA is coordinating this opportunity with Bob Pine, Lally Pipe and Tube's representative from their Chicago, IL office (Tinley Park, SW Chicago) who will pave the way for a potential meeting.

PDCA CHAPTER UPDATES

PDCA of Florida: The PDCA of Florida Chapter held their inaugural chapter dinner meeting at the Crowne Plaza Downtown Orlando, Florida on Thursday, August 27, 2009. The PDCA of Florida Chapter dinner meeting was co-sponsored by the ASCE East Central Branch – Florida. The inaugural meeting attracted 105 people – way to go Florida!

The event was sponsored by International Construction Equipment – ICE and the ASCE East Central Branch – Florida. Both provided a brief presentation on their respective organizations.

The evening's presentation was a panel discussion on "The Use of Driven Piles in Design Build Projects: Lessons Learned". The panel consisted of Frank O'Dea (FDOT), David Thornton (Misener Marine), Scott Dean (HNTB), Ben Dreiling (Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority), Paul Passe (PSI), Chris Mills (Wilbur Smith Assoc.), Ross McGillivray (Ardaman & Assoc.), Derek Fogt (Johnson Bros.).



Van Hogan, President and Kylie Williams, Secretary at Inaugural Chapter Dinner Meeting



Florida Chapter Inaugural Dinner Attracts 105 Attendees



Derek Fogt, Johnson Bros. Orlando provides contractor perspective on Design Build issues during panel discussion



Mike Carter, Chapter Treasurer prepares to register guests for dinner

PDCA of the Gulf Coast: The PDCA of the Gulf Coast Chapter held their quarterly dinner meeting at Messina's Restaurant in Kenner, LA on Thursday, August 20, 2009. The guest speaker was Carol Friedland, Ph.D., P.E. from LSU's College of Engineering, Construction Management and Industrial Engineering. Carol is a recent graduate from the PDCA's 2009 Professors' Driven Pile Institute and currently teaches Construction Management at LSU. Carol spoke to the PDCA members and guests about her experience at the PDPI. She provided a very interesting summary of her experiences and what she took away from the course. Carol was very appreciative of the PDCA of the Gulf Coast covering her expenses to and from the PDPI and for PDCA covering the expenses of the course that she has scheduled a course in 2011 on Driven Piles, which she will teach to her graduate students but will cross-reference it with an undergraduate seniors course, so it will be available at both levels. Members of the Gulf Coast Chapter have volunteered to assist Carol in reviewing the draft curriculum and providing constructive comments back to be incorporated into the final product. Carol is also planning on staying in touch with the Gulf Coast Chapter to collaborate on taking students on field exercise trips to job site where they can gain firsthand knowledge about pile driving operations.

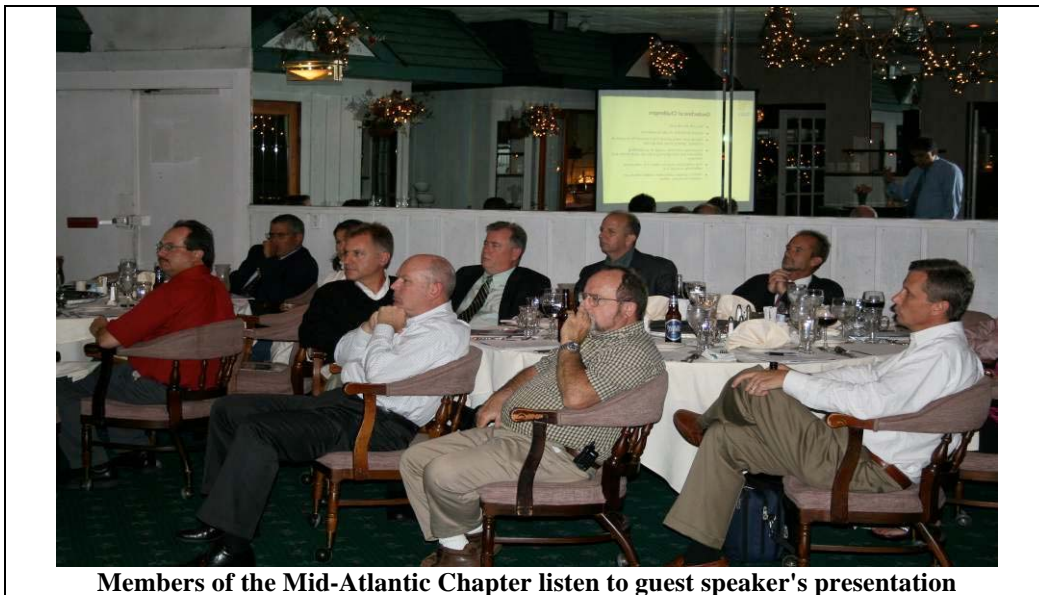


PDCA of the Gulf Coast Chapter Members listen to Carol Friedland, recent graduate of the 2009 PDPI



Carol takes questions from Gulf Coast Chapter Members on the 2009 PDPI course

PDCA of the Mid-Atlantic: The PDCA of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter will hold their next dinner meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2009. PDCA and the Mid-Atlantic Chapter are currently working on securing a guest speaker. Discussions have also taken place regarding another joint meeting between the chapter and ASCE or SEA.



Members of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter listen to guest speaker's presentation

PDCA of South Carolina: The PDCA of South Carolina held their quarterly dinner meeting on September 1, 2009, at the Town and Country Inn in Charleston, SC. The guest speakers for the evening were Grady Bradford, Arch Chemicals, who presented information on the modern treatments for timber pile and Matt Yaun, Cox Industries, who presented on the sustainability of timber pile products. The meeting was sponsored by Cox Industries.

During the dinner meeting, PDCA and the PDCA of South Carolina honored Tom Wysocky, Thatcher Engineering by presenting him with his Past President's pin, a PDCA tradition that began approximately 3 years ago. Tom was President from 1998 – 1999.

The Board of Directors met prior to the dinner meeting.



Pictured L to R: PDCA Past President Harry Robbins, PDCA National President John King, PDCA Past President Tom Wysocky, PDCA Executive Director Stevan Hall

PDCA PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD

The PDCA Project of the Year Award committee will meet on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 to discuss revisions to the popular PDCA Award program. The PDCA Project of the Year Award has grown in popularity over the past several years. In an effort to make the process as equitable as possible for all entries, the PDCA Project of the Year Award committee will review the submittal process for the 2010 Project of the Year Awards, which will include all projects completed in 2009. Tentatively, the PDCA expects to have the brochure developed with all revisions and in the mail by early January 2010. Project submittals deadline will be March 5, 2010. Winning projects will be awarded during the 2010 PDCA Annual Conference and Exposition in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho in May 2010.

MEMBER PROFILE AND PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

The PDCA wants to remind all of our members that you are encouraged to consider submitting your company information for a *PileDriver* magazine “Member Profile” or one of your completed projects for a *PileDriver* magazine “Project Spotlight”. The “Member Profile” and “Project Spotlight” are open to all Contractor and Associate members of the PDCA. The “Member Profile” is an overview of your company – its history, leadership, services performed, innovations, awards, etc. The “Project Spotlight” is an article about a project under which your firm (Contractor, Supplier, Manufacturer) performed and is particularly proud of completing.

Neither the “Member Profile” or the “Project Spotlight” come with any commitment or obligation other than to agree to have your submittal to the PDCA on time, i.e. there is no fee involved. If you have someone in-house that can write the article, that is the preferred approach. However, if you do not have anyone who writes your articles, then the PDCA can have a writer assigned to help – again at no cost to you.

The PDCA is seeking both types of articles for the PDCA 2010 1st through 4th quarter editions of *PileDriver* magazine. Anyone interested in considering submitting an article can contact the PDCA office for more information and article deadlines.

A DRIVEN PILE IS A TESTED PILE!