



E.nformation

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

PDCA 7TH ANNUAL DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF COST EFFICIENT PILES CONFERENCE

AND

DEEP FOUNDATION DYNAMIC TESTING AND ANALYSIS COURSE

SEPTEMBER 12 – 15, 2006

CROWNE PLAZA NORTHSTAR
DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS, MN.

**PRE-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION ENDS
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7**

The PDCA 7th Annual Design and Installation of Cost Efficient Piles (DICEP) Conference and the Deep Foundation Dynamic Testing and Analysis Course will be held at the Crowne Plaza, Downtown Minneapolis, MN. from September 12 – 15, 2006. Pre-conference registration will end on Thursday, September 7, 2006. All individuals wishing to pre-register must have their conference registration forms into the PDCA office no later than Thursday, September 7, 2006. Registration forms can be downloaded and printed from the PDCA website, www.piledrivers.org and faxed to the PDCA office at 904.264.9531.

ALL EXHIBITOR SPACE HAS BEEN FILLED. PLEASE DO NOT REGISTER FOR A DISPLAY BOOTH.

The Deep Foundation Dynamic Testing and Analysis Course will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 12 – 13, 2006. Frank Rausche and Garland Likins (PDI) will be teaching the workshop and the Foundation QA Certification Examination for PDA operators will be offered. PDCA will provide 16 Professional Development Hours for the workshop.

The DICEP Conference has an engineering and contractor focus throughout the four day program. Your conference registration includes participation and access to all presentations, materials, conference proceedings, morning breakfasts, mid- and afternoon breaks, luncheons, receptions and appropriate PDH certificates.

The DICEP conference provides excellent networking opportunities, educational programs, 10 PDH's towards CEU for engineer licensing renewal, and opportunities to discuss a variety of issues with industry experts and peers.

The cost of the DICEP conference is \$300.00. This price includes all conference activities and materials. The cost of the DFDTA course is only \$400.00. You can choose to attend either the DFDTA or DICEP independently or you can combine both programs for \$700.00.

PDCA MEETS WITH CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

PDCA members, Randy Dietel (Piling, Inc.), Mark Weisz (CS Marine Constructors) and Steve Hall (PDCA) meet with California PDCA Chapter representatives Charlie Gibson (Manson Construction), Don Dolly (Foundation Constructors), and Jimmy Thompson (retired) on Thursday, September 1, 2006 at the offices of Manson Construction, in Richmond, CA., to discuss the possibility of having their chapter affiliate with PDCA national, becoming the fourth PDCA chapter in the United States.

Mr. Randy Dietel, PDCA Immediate Past President requested the meeting with Mr. Gibson, California PDCA Chapter President to convey some distinct advantages of having the California PDCA Chapter affiliate with PDCA national. The conversation between the two organizations included such issues as maintaining chapter autonomy for California, greater strength and credibility as unified and affiliated organizations, and greater access and exchange of information to support industry advancement and PDCA members.

The California PDCA chapter has a significant and impressive 50 year history representing the pile driving contractor, in both marine and land environments, and the driven pile industry in California.

PDCA national was appreciative of the California chapter's acceptance of our invitation to meet and at the conclusion of the meeting believes there is an opportunity to continue discussions in a positive and productive direction.

PDCA NOISE AND VIBRATION DATA BASE

The PDCA Vibration Database currently contains 23 individual vibration case histories and over 1800 individual pile-ground vibration measurements relating to pile driving vibrations. Information included in the database includes peak particle velocity (PPV) data with regard to vibration frequency and distance to the driven pile, pile type, pre-auger information, impact and vibratory hammer data (e.g. rated energy), measured energy (i.e. PDA results), relevant soil data, and pre/post condition survey data. As noise case history becomes available, this data will be added to the database.

The PDCA Vibration Database case history data is contained within a Microsoft Access™ database file. Although this database file is intended to be used with Microsoft Access™ software, the file and data contained within can be opened with Microsoft Excel™. Please consult the instructions for these software programs for additional details on how to use these programs.

The PDCA Noise and Vibration Data Base can be found on the PDCA website, www.piledrivers.org. Anyone wishing to contribute additional information to the database is encouraged to do so. You can find a convenient template for vibration data entries in a MS Excel format on the PDCA website.

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PDCA PRESENTS REVISIONS AND FOLLOW UP TO AASHTO INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS

On May 22, 2006, Dale Biggers (Boh Brothers), George Goble (George G. Goble Consulting & Engr.), Scott Whitaker (Chapparral Steel) and Steve Hall (PDCA) presented the PDCA Technical Committee extensive revisions of the AASHTO LRFD Bridge Installation Specifications: Section 4: Driven Foundation Piles to the AASHTO T-15 Committee (Substructures and Retaining Walls) in Snowbird, UT. The revisions were accepted by the T-15 Committee for review and subsequent action.

The PDCA will join the T-15 during their next semi annual meeting in Columbus, OH., November 8, 2006, where they will vote on the PDCA revisions. If passed, the revisions will continue along the AASHTO approval path until final approval, sometime in mid-2007. During the Snowbird meeting, the PDCA requested any significant revisions by T-15 Committee members be forwarded to the PDCA for review with the opportunity to provide an adequate response. In a conversation between Mr. Jawdat Siddiqi, T-15 Committee Chair and PDCA Executive Director, Steve Hall, Mr. Siddiqi indicated no revisions have been received by his office to date.

PDCA expects the revisions to move through the AASHTO approval process with little or no problems. Upon final approval and implementation, this document will be the standard for Section 4 for years to come.

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PDCA RELEASES PRIVATE INSTALLATION SPECIFICATION

The PDCA Technical Committee has produced, what we believe to be an industry-first publication, the PDCA Installation Specifications for Driven Pile – PDCA Specification 101-06. This publication is designed to provide owners, engineers, and others associated with Pile Driving design and installation with specifications to use as a guide on Private work. The specifications may be modified by the engineer, or adopted in part or in whole into contract documents, or adopted simply by reference as the governing document for the project.

During the PDCA Design and Installation of Cost Efficient Piles conference in Minneapolis, MN., Mr. Garland Likins (PDI), a member of the PDCA Technical Committee and contributor to the installation specifications (both the AASHTO and Private versions) will present this new publication as a conference presentation.

A copy of the Installation Specifications for Driven Pile – PDCA Specification 101-06 is also available on the PDCA website and can be downloaded for free or by calling the PDCA office toll-free at 1.888.311.7322.

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PDCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The PDCA Board of Directors will meet on Friday, September 15, 2006, in Minneapolis, MN. following the association's DICEP conference at the Crowne Plaza Northstar.



PDCA OF THE MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER

BI-MONTHLY MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2006

PAUL'S ON THE SOUTH RIVER
3027 RIVA ROAD
RIVA, MD.

In the last PDCA E-Letter, we announced the PDCA of Mid-Atlantic Chapter's bi-monthly meeting correctly on the header (September 28, 2006), but incorrectly placed it in the text body as *August 28, 2006*. PDCA wishes to thank our readers who brought this error to our attention and regret any confusion it may have caused.

The PDCA of Mid-Atlantic Chapter will meet on Thursday, September 28, 2006, at Paul's On the River, in Riva, Maryland. The meeting will begin at 4:00 PM with a reception followed by some brief chapter business. Dinner will begin at approximately 5:30 PM.

Dave Kozera (D. W. Kozera, Inc.) will be the evening's guest speaker. Dave's company specializes in geotechnical and environmental engineering with an additional emphasis on PDA testing and recording. Dave will discuss PDA testing and vibration as a consideration to pile driving.

For more information contact the Mid-Atlantic Chapter President, Mike Jahnigen, Sun Marine Maintenance at 302.539.6756 or one of the other Officers.

The PDCA of Mid-Atlantic Chapter covers most of the Mid-Atlantic States, including, but not limited to Delaware, Maryland, DC, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.



MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT

The PDCA has had 42 companies join as new members this year. This is a great start for 2006. However, if every PDCA member looked at recruiting new members into the PDCA as a personal responsibility then there would be no limit to what we could accomplish. The PDCA, like all organizations needs to grow. The PDCA mission, which is to take a dedicated and proactive approach to advancing the benefits of driven piles, is the strongest case for increasing our membership. As membership grows, so does our ability to more strongly and more broadly spread the word on the advantages of driven piles. If you know of someone (contractor, supplier, manufacturer, or engineer) who would benefit by being a member of the PDCA – ask them to join. Membership packets can be obtained

from the PDCA office if you prefer to send the information from your office or forward the contact and company name, along with an address and the PDCA will send the packet on your behalf.



REMEMBER – “A DRIVEN PILE . . . IS A TESTED PILE!”