Recent PDCA Events

Recapping PDCA’s recent educational events

Deep Foundation Dynamic Testing and Analysis Course – Cleveland, Ohio
PDCA and Pile Dynamics, Inc. joined forces once again to present a successful Deep Foundation Dynamic Testing and Analysis (DFDTA) course. The course was the third DFDTA to be offered and was held at the headquarters of Pile Dynamics, Inc., in Cleveland, Ohio, October 5 to 7.

Each DFDTA course consists of two separate programs. On day one, enrolled participants take the Seminar on Deep Foundation Integrity Testing and Wave Equation Analysis. This seminar is designed to help students select the appropriate methods of integrity assessment of deep foundations for a particular application, review reports of integrity and dynamic load testing of deep foundations conducted by others and run a basic wave equation analysis of pile driving.

On the second and third days of the program, enrolled participants take part in the High Strain Dynamic Foundation Testing Workshop. This two-day workshop is designed to help students operate the PDA in a manner conducive to acquiring quality data, assess pile bearing capacity, pile driving stresses, hammer performance and pile integrity by various methods, avoid pitfalls when analyzing PDA data with the CAPWAP software, interpret PDA testing and CAPWAP software results, and use the soil model used in CAPWAP to prepare the input for CAPWAP, review options for CAPWAP analysis and output and calculate bearing capacity and its distribution for driven piles from impact records.

The Cleveland course had 37 student registrants. Of those, 29 registered to take the Dynamic Measurement and Analysis Proficiency Test, which assesses an individual’s understanding of theory, data quality evaluation, interpretation and signal matching for high strain dynamic testing of deep foundations. Depending on the testing candidates’ score, a grade of provisional, basic, intermediate, advanced, master or expert is achieved. If the student agrees, his proficiency is posted on the home page of the PDCA website, www.piledriver.org, under the link “Qualified Support for Dynamic Measurement & Analysis Testing.” This list identifies worldwide test results of individuals, their company or institution affiliation, region, country, test date and ranking, which allows selection of qualified individuals to support dynamic testing for those needing independent support.

PDCA will continue to conduct these programs in 2017, so interested individuals should watch the PDCA website, PileDriver magazine and monthly e-letters for upcoming programs and dates.

Design and Installation of Cost-Efficient Piles Conference
More than 130 engineers, contractors, state agencies, suppliers, manufacturers and more attended PDCA’s Design and Installation of Cost-Efficient Piles (DICEP) conference, held September 21 and 22 at the Charleston Marriott in Charleston, S.C.

The 15th annual DICEP, with the theme “The Driven Pile Advantage,” was another very successful conference by PDCA. The DICEP conference is primarily designed for geometrical, structural and civil engineers however, the relevance of the presentations was not lost on anyone who came to attend the program.

The conference continued the previous year’s format of a full day and a half. The new format seems to be preferred by attendees, given over 130 people registered and all 26 booth spaces were sold.
fenders and seawall structures, power plant applications, sinkhole emergency repair applications and bridge projects.

The conference also featured 25 exhibitors who displayed their products and services in a professional setting designed specifically for networking, socializing and exposure of their company’s capabilities. Part of the DICEP program was the first evening’s “meet and greet” reception, where exhibitors were able to interact with clients and friends from the pile driving industry.

PDCA wants to thank the Geo-Institute of ASCE, South Carolina Ports and the PDCA of South Carolina chapter, who participated as cooperating organizations. PDCA also wants to thank the following companies who exhibited at the DICEP conference (in alphabetical order):

American Chemical Technologies
American Equipment and Fabricating
American Piledriving Equipment
Atlas Tube
Bermingham Foundation Solutions
Company Wrench
Consolidated Pipe and Supply Company
Cox Industries
Dr. Edward J. Walter & Associates
Esbridge, Inc.
Esswe Tech
Giken America Corporation
Hammer & Steel, Inc.
International Construction Equipment
iSheetpile
KUMONOS Corporation
Liebherr USA, Co.
Meever USA, Inc.
Pile Dynamics, Inc.
PVE Equipment USA
Ryco Hydraulics
R.W. Conklin Steel Supply
Service Steel Warehouse
Skyline Steel Co.
Triad Metals International

PDCA would also like to thank our sponsors. Your financial support of PDCA programs helps create a successful event.

Amec Foster Wheeler
American Equipment and Fabricating
American Piledriving Equipment
Cajun Deep Foundations, LLC
Company Wrench
International Construction Equipment
Lally Pipe and Tube
Liebherr USA, Co.
Marine Construction Technologies, PBC
Northwestern Mutual
R.W. Conklin Steel Supply
Richard Goette, Inc.
S&M, Inc.
Shoreline Steel