



Monitoring made easy

Sophisticated techniques to analyse piling operations are becoming an accepted tool of the modern foundations sector. Bauer, for example, has developed pile monitoring and data transfer systems that enable contractors to analyse how equipment is performing, and quickly enough to allow operations to be fine-tuned on the job. As many as half of the piling rigs in Bauer's contracting fleet are now equipped with GPS-based data transfer systems.

In the US, pile monitoring specialist Pile Dynamics Inc says it "sees a stronger than ever trend towards modernisation of the foundations testing industry all around the globe". The company has recently analysed data from Spain, France, Turkey, China and Russia and sold equipment to customers in Japan, India and the United Arab Emirates, as well as its traditional markets in Europe and the Americas.

The company has just updated its flagship product, the Pile Driving Analyser model PAK. The new version has a colour screen and incorporates a CD writer, which makes it easy to store data for later use. Improvements to the software include a new version of the PDIPILOT program that produces report-quality graphs and tables of test results.