

Site Equipment - What's New

New accessories for augered cast-in-place / CFA pile installation monitoring

Pile Dynamics, Inc. has released new accessories and software for its Pile Installation Recorder (PIR): the PIR Viewer and a new version of the PIRPLOT data processing and reporting software.

The Pile Installation Recorder is an automated monitoring device that records and displays grout volume versus depth, along with other parameters that help the construction of augered cast-in-place (ACIP) and continuous flight auger (CFA) piles. Even before its new enhancements, the PIR had won praise, “Even though I have been installing auger cast piles for almost 20 years, there comes a time where I have to work in a region of the country which requires me to use local union help. In one such project we had to install 200 CFA piles 16” diameter up to 80’ deep.

“When you are working where you need to use licensed operators, often the qualified operators lack the technical knowledge needed to successfully drill and pull a CFA pile properly. With the new colour screen and simple user friendly controls, an unfamiliar operator was soon pumping piles out, making my job easier and more productive.” Jason Matthew Crisp, Project superintendent, HJ Foundation, Miami in December 2011.

The PIR Viewer will make Jason even more productive: It is a handheld Wi-Fi device that allows a supervisor or inspector to see, in real time, the information that the PIR is displaying to the operator in the crane cab. This enables the supervisor to stop the crane operator sooner in case there is a concern. In the past, the pile had to be completed and summary report generated before an inspector could review the installation details. The user of the PIR Viewer pushes of a button to flag when grout return occurs, and may use a logging feature to manually count grout pump strokes. Once the pile is completed this information may be compared to the PIR summary report. Post processing with PIRPLOT generates customized presentation quality tables and graphs.

