Pile Dynamics introduced a new model of its Standard Penetration Test (SPT) Analyzer for calibrating SPT rigs this spring. Because SPT hammers have significantly varying efficiencies, SPT codes and standards from both ASTM and Eurocode recommend that the N-value be normalized based on the energy transferred to the SPT rod, and accept only one method of measuring the energy transferred to the SPT rod: through the measurement of force and velocity by sensors attached to the SPT rod. This procedure is commonly known as "calibration of the SPT rigs," and should be performed periodically on SPT equipment. Eurocode requires calibration of SPT rigs every six months, while the Departments of Transportation of California, Florida, Utah, Oregon and many other U.S. States require calibration of their SPT rigs every two years.

"When it was first introduced, the SPT Analyzer was a pioneer in the technology of calibrating SPT rigs through the measurement of energy using the Force-Velocity method," says Garland Likins, president of Pile Dynamics. The new model meets all requirements of both ASTM and Eurocode, and is simpler to use than earlier ones, according to Likins. The new model has a rechargeable internal battery with up to 8 hours of continuous use, an enhanced touch screen for easy operation, and a bright color screen, visible in all lighting conditions. Test results are displayed on the screen in real time and its software produces a variety of relevant graphs and tables. The new version also has a wireless option that dispenses with cables from the sensors to the instrument, and offers digitizing frequencies of up to 100 kHz that meet Eurocode requirements.

Pile Dynamics products are available directly from its Cleveland, Ohio headquarters or through its network of worldwide representatives. For more information visit www.pile.com/pdi.