



A Strong Foundation:

Solon-based Pile Dynamics, Inc. is an Industry Leader

Headquartered in Solon, Pile Dynamics, Inc. (PDI) manufactures electronic instruments to evaluate the quality and control the execution of deep foundations that support bridges, stadiums, high rises, wind towers, residential buildings and other structures. The company was founded 40 years ago to bring to market pioneering technology developed at what is now Case Western Reserve University, and continues to innovate as it maintains its leading role in this field.

PDI's sister company GRL Engineers, Inc. (GRL) provides deep foundation testing services. Founded in 1976, it tested the foundations of the Weatherhead School of Management, Browns Stadium and recently the Innerbelt Bridge project. GRL serves the entire USA through 8 offices in addition to the Solon headquarters it shares with PDI, and is frequently tapped for special foundation testing projects around the world.



Above: Skylights brighten PDI and GRL lunch room, conserving energy; Left: GRL engineer testing the foundations of the new Innerbelt Bridge, 2011.

PDI and the GRL are proud of their Solon headquarters, a 41,000 square foot building remodel completed in 2010. The companies retrofitted the 1970's former King Nut plant, reusing 96% of the existing structure while transforming it into a remarkably airy and bright space. In a nod to foundation testing, the columns in front of the building remind the visitor of foundation piles reaching to deeper soil layers. The tower framing the entrance symbolizes the rigs used for installing

and testing deep foundations. Inside, the decorative concrete of the floor replicates wave patterns (the testing instruments that PDI manufactures are based on Wave Propagation Theory). The "wave" theme is also seen on artwork that decorates the space.

Always focused on innovation, PDI and GRL strived to make the space "green", healthy and energy efficient by minimizing construction waste, employing no permanent irrigation system for the landscape, using Green-e Energy Certified Renewable credits from the energy provider and maximizing the use of natural light while employing automated lighting controls that minimize electricity use. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification is pending.



Pile Dynamics, Inc.

Quality Assurance
for Deep Foundations

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**PDI instruments and software.
Made in Solon.
Helping engineers everywhere.**