


foundations. Pile Dynamics first developed an instrument to perform this test in 1991 – the Pile Integrity Tester (PIT). The device became so popular that “PIT test” is often used in lieu of “pulse echo test.” The method is also known as low strain dynamic foundation testing, a term used in the ASTM document that standardizes it (ASTM D5882). The PIT test involves placing an accelerometer on the foundation and hitting it with a hand held hammer. The accelerometer sends data to the PIT; records are visually evaluated immediately, and later analyzed in further detail.

Pile Dynamics has recently launched the PIT-X, a Pile Integrity Tester that fits in the palm of your hand, and works with a wireless accelerometer (no cable connecting it to the PIT). All functions available on the latest edition of the PIT-V model have been preserved, including a built-in Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) feature that is particularly helpful to detect the length of short foundation elements in the field.

PDI has also updated the PIT post processing / data analysis software, PIT-W, having recently launched PIT-W 2009 in both Standard and Professional versions.

Pile Dynamics has been manufacturing testing instruments for deep foundations for more than 35 years. Best known for having disseminated Dynamic Load Testing with the Pile Driving Analyzer to more than 90 countries around the world, the company produces several other quality assurance and quality control products for the deep foundations industry. Pile Dynamics is located in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, and has commercial representatives in all continents. For more information visit www.pile.com 

Smaller, wireless Pile Integrity Tester unveiled

Pulse echo integrity testing has for many years been the method of choice to quickly verify the integrity and length of deep