

Inventors from Pile Dynamics and the University of South Florida receive International NOVA Award for Thermal Integrity Profiler (TIP)

George Piscalko, PE, vice president of **Pile Dynamics** (PDI), Dean Cotton of PDI's Cleveland, OH office, and Gray Mullins, PhD, PE, University of South Florida in Tampa, FL, received the prestigious 2013 NOVA Award from the Construction Innovation Forum (CIF).

The engineers and researchers received the award for the Thermal Integrity Profiler (TIP), an instrument that uses the heat generated by curing concrete to reveal the shape of cast-in-place concrete foundations. (See Nov/Dec 2013 *Geo-Strata*, page 59, for more information.) The initial research for the TIP was conducted at the University of South Florida. PDI

formed a joint venture with Foundation and Geotechnical Engineering (FGE), of Plant City, FL, to design the instrument and take it to market.

The Construction Innovation Forum (CIF), which presented the award, is an international, non-profit organization that encourages and recognizes construction innovations. The 2013 NOVA winners, selected from more than 700 nominations from 20-plus countries, were announced November 12 at the Annual Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) National Conference. CURT represents more than 100 of the top construction purchasers in the U.S., the majority of which are Fortune 500 companies.

"It is exciting to see the industry recognize a game-changing technology," said **Gina Beim, PE, M.ASCE**, marketing director of PDI.



From left: Dean Cotton and George Piscalko