SPT Analyzer

Measures the energy transferred into an instrumented SPT rod during a Standard Penetration Test (SPT)

Reliable. Simplified. Rugged.

The SPT Analyzer determines the energy transferred by SPT hammers using force and velocity measurements, for improved reliability of SPT N-values.

What is SPT?

The Standard Penetration Test (SPT) is a widely-employed soil exploration tool that involves using an SPT hammer to drive a split sampler at the bottom of a drill string to obtain soil samples. The number of blows required to penetrate the last 300mm (1ft) is the “N value” which is related to soil strength.

Why measure the energy transferred by the SPT hammer?

Several different types of SPT hammers are used to conduct Standard Penetration Tests. Their varying efficiencies influence the N value. The measured N value is normalized by multiplying it by the ratio of the measured energy transferred to the rod to 60% of the theoretical potential energy. The normalization compensates for the variability of the efficiencies of different SPT hammer types, and improves the reliability of soil strength estimates used in geotechnical applications.

The SPT Analyzer is furnished with a 0.6m sub assembly (or section) of an SPT rod (AW, NW or other type) instrumented with two strain gage bridges, and calibrated by Pile Dynamics. Once in the field, two accelerometers are bolted to the rod section. The instrumented section is inserted at the top of the drill string between the hammer and the existing sampling rod. The sensors on the rod are connected to the SPT Analyzer.
Smart Sensor technology allows the SPT Analyzer to read the rod instrumentation, obtaining the sensor calibration and rod cross sectional area. These quantities are input to the SPT Analyzer automatically. This significantly simplifies the initial test setup.

The strain gages and accelerometers obtain the force and velocity signals necessary for the calculation of transferred energy to the drill string for each hammer blow. The energy is displayed in real time on the SPT Analyzer screen.

Output

SPT Analyzer data is stored and transferred to a computer via USB memory stick. The software furnished with the SPT Analyzer has a Report Creation Option that makes it quick and easy to summarize results and create output graphs of Force, Velocity, Energy and Displacement versus Time, as well as numerical, statistical, and graphical results for each data set. The software is fully customizable.

Pile Dynamics, Inc. (PDI) is the world leader in developing, manufacturing and supplying state of the art QA/QC products and systems for the deep foundations industry. The company is headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, USA, with offices and representatives worldwide. For additional information visit us at www.pile.com or contact info@pile.com today.

• Calculates energy transferred by SPT hammers using force and velocity measurements
• Determines N Value to help improve reliability of soil strength estimates
• Offers simplified reporting and analysis option to speed testing results
• Operates in English, SI, or Metric units

EN ISO 22486-3:2005/ASTM Compliant

The SPT Analyzer is compliant with EN ISO 22476-3:2005. ASTM D1586 recommends normalizing results from any SPT test using energy measurements. When these tests are performed to determine the liquefaction potential of sands, ASTM D6066 not only recommends but mandates the normalization. ASTM D4633 states that the only acceptable method of determining energy for normalization of N values is by force and velocity measurements.