

Course: Driven Pile Foundations - Construction Monitoring

On March 3-4, 2005, DFI sponsored the National Highway Institute course titled Driven Pile Foundations – Construction Monitoring. The course, previously presented to only DOT engineers through FHWA, was presented through DFI to a group of private sector engineers and contractors.

23 registrants attended the two-day course in Saddle Brook, NJ, which was instructed by Pat Hannigan, P.E. of GRL Engineers Inc. who has 25 years experience in geotechnical and foundation engineering and has been a lead instructor for NHI courses since 1995 along with Joe Caliendo PhD of Utah State University who has over 20 years experience in Geotechnical and Foundations Engineering and is an instructor for other NHI course offerings. The course provided information on current methods of driven pile technology with emphasis on data interpretation and decision-making issues common to driven pile installation and monitoring.

Participants expressed their satisfaction with the course, many stating it exceeded their expectations, and that they enjoyed the lively discussions. One attending engineer wrote, “The people in attendance (being from the private sector) steered the instructors in other directions than originally intended which allowed us to get all sides, engineers versus contractors, so that we better understand each other and can lead to quicker resolutions in the field.”

Also, many attendees expressed an interest in attending other courses available from NHI and DFI plans to offer them in the future in different areas of the United States. DFI welcomes input from members on which courses are of interest and in what areas they would like to see them offered. For a complete list of available courses and their descriptions, please contact DFI HQ at dfihq@dfi.org.