

Dynamic load testing of deep foundations via broadband

The latest model of Pile Driving Analyzer (PDA) from Pile Dynamics, PDA model PAX, is portable, battery operated, and weighs only 5 kg. Its display doubles up as its control panel and keyboard, and has very high visibility in all lighting conditions.

The most appealing feature of the new device is its remote data transmission capability via broadband internet. Companies that specialise in PDA testing services will have the ability to keep their engineers in the office, send only the instrument to the job site, and use the PDA software (PDA-W) to monitor the load test in an office computer. These companies will be able to offer their clients excellent test scheduling flexibility and, no longer need to account for downtime due to travel or weather delays.

When used in its 'remote mode' the PAX offers a field crew a simple software interface and straightforward mode of operation. An office computer running PDA-W and receiving data gives the engineer the ability to perform comprehensive monitoring and analysis in real time. For those that opt to be present during the execution of the load test, the PAX 'local mode' performs as a full capability Pile Driving Analyzer coupled with a full capabilities personal computer. The PAX gives the field engineer access to all variables of interest in real time, and links directly to the latest version of the dynamic test data interpretation software CAPWAP. ■

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