

Pile's PDA sensors now feature wireless transmission

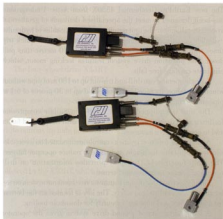
Dynamic Foundation Testing is one of the preferred options for reliable and simple evaluation of the load bearing capacity of all types of deep foundations. The test requires the installation of reusable sensors (accelerometers and strain transducers) on the foundation, the acquisition of sensor data by a Pile Driving Analyzer (PDA), and the analysis of the data by a qualified engineer.

Recent technological breakthroughs in this type of testing include real time data transmission from the test site to an office and, most recently, wireless sensors. Wireless sensors replace the cables that connect the sensors to the PDA with a dedicated radio transmitter. The wireless option is available with the PDA model PAX from Pile Dynamics.

The wireless sensors technology has recently been applied on a near-shore jetty, part of a Coal Fired Power Plant in Indramayu, West Java, Indonesia. Several of the jetty supporting piles were dynamically tested with a PDA model PAX using wireless sensors. The accelerometers and strain transducers on the near shore pile transmitted data to the PDA, which remained safe and dry on shore a considerable distance away (transmission range is typically 100 m).

Pile Dynamics has expanded its line of wireless PDA sensors to include piezoelectric (PE) accelerometers. While piezoresistive (PR) accelerometers have been available with wireless transmission option for over a year, and are suitable for any testing application, some PDA testers prefer using PE accelerometers. ■

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