

Testing and Evaluation Committee

The DFI Testing and Evaluation (T&E) Committee continues its efforts to educate the industry (owners, contractors and engineers) and the public regarding the advantages and importance of proper testing and evaluation of deep foundations, and the potential consequences of not performing or improperly performing these tasks. The committee has done the following over the course of 2011 in support of this goal:

1. The committee led the organization efforts for SuperPile 2011 in Charleston, S.C., in May. In addition, a T&E committee member (George Piscalko, P.E.) presented the seminar while two other members (Josh Adams and I) served as session moderators. The committee is assisting in planning the 2012 SuperPile in Portland, Ore. next spring.

2. Five members of the T&E Committee will present an 8-hour short course on deep foundation non-destructive testing (NDT) at the DFI Annual Conference on October 18 in Boston. The course, titled “Importance of Testing and Inspection for

Deep Foundations,” will review the importance of testing and inspection in a successful deep foundation project, provide a detailed overview of the commonly used deep foundation non-destructive testing (NDT) methods (i.e., pile driving analysis, crosshole sonic logging and piezoelectric transducers), and provide case history data. Additional information can be found at <http://www.dfi.org/conferencedetail.asp?id=185>.

3. Les Chernauskas, P.E., gave the first T&E Committee presentation to an engineering student organization. His presentation, titled “Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) of Deep Foundations,” was given to the University of Massachusetts Lowell’s ASCE Student Chapter on March 30. Over 90 students and faculty from UML attended his lecture.

In addition, the committee continues its efforts to assist other DFI committees (e.g., Drilled Shaft, ACIP Pile, Driven Pile) with

issues relating to testing and evaluation. We’re also supporting the review of papers that have been submitted to the *DFI Journal* for its first themed issue being released this November, which will cover the broad subject of testing deep foundations.



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The T&E Committee is comprised of 24 industry professionals with extensive knowledge and experience relating to testing, instrumentation, evaluation and design of deep foundation and their effects on adjacent structures. If you have a question regarding deep foundation testing, instrumentation, and evaluation, please submit it at our committee webpage: <http://www.dfi.org/commhome.asp?commfield=TEST>.