



The Deep Foundations Institute is a not-for-profit association of contractors, engineers, manufacturers, suppliers, owners and academia.

DFI's membership promotes understanding and advancement of the deep foundations & excavations construction industry through conferences, publications, and community.

The technical committees, Augered Cast-In-Place Pile, Drilled Shaft, Driven Pile, Helical Foundations & Tiebacks, Marine Foundation, Micropiles, Seismic and Lateral Loads, Slurry Wall, Soil Mixing, Testing and Evaluation, and Tiebacks & Soil Nailing provide industry leadership for these foundation systems, through the publication of Guides, Specifications and References and by providing educational programs.

The membership is international.

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Theresa Rappaport
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For Immediate Release

DFI Announces Election of Board Members

On January 1, 2008 Deep Foundations Institute's newly elected Trustees, Bernard H. Hertlein, M.ASCE (STS Consultants); Silas Nichols, P.E. (FHWA); and John R. Wolosick, P.E. (Hayward Baker Inc.) will begin their three-year term on the organization's Board. These board members were elected by the membership in September of 2007 to serve as DFI Trustees through 2010 along with incumbent trustees Maurice J.M. Bottiau (Franki Geotechnics B), Kirk A. McIntosh, P.E. (MACTEC Engineering & Consulting Inc.), and Seth L. Pearlman (DGI-Menard Inc.), all serving their fourth terms.



Bernie Hertlein, principal scientist at STS has specialized in inspection and nondestructive testing methods for deep foundations for more than 25 years. In addition to performing and analyzing the tests, he has been involved in developing new applications for NDT methods, designing or building the required hardware, and writing appropriate software to improve the start-of-the-art. His work experience has included drilled shaft, ACIP pile, driven pile and slurry wall projects throughout the US, including Alaska, and Hawaii, and internationally in Canada, Europe, Hong Kong, North Africa and South America. He is author of a book entitled "Nondestructive Testing of Deep Foundations", published in September, 2006. Hertlein is currently the chair of DFI's Testing and Evaluation committee, an ADSC technical affiliate, secretary of ACI committee 228: Nondestructive Testing of Concrete, chair of ASTM subcommittee C-09.64 on Nondestructive and In-place Testing, member of ACI committee 336: Footings, Mats and Drilled Piers, and a member of ASCE, ASDSO and ICRI.



Silas Nichols joined FHWA's Resource Center in 2001 where he is currently senior geotechnical engineer. He received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Syracuse University and his M.S. in Geotechnical Engineering at Tufts University. Nichols is now working toward his Ph.D. in Geotechnical Engineering at University of Maryland. His areas of expertise are in ground improvement, foundation design, forensic studies, and soil testing and characterization. He serves on DFI's Augered Cast-in-Place Pile committee and was chairman for its 2006 Annual Conference, is a member of the Geo-Institute of ASCE serving on their Standards subcommittee on compaction grouting, is the chair of the TRB committee on Soil and Rock Properties and is a member of the TRB committee on Foundations for Bridges and Other Structures.



Seth Pearlman, president of DGI-Menard Inc. in Bridgeville PA since 2004, has almost 30 years of experience in the geotechnical industry, 17 of those before DGI-Menard with Nicholson Construction Company. He earned a BS and an MS in Civil Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh and is a registered professional engineer in Pennsylvania and Virginia. Besides being DFI's current President and an active DFI member, Seth is also a member of the Geo-Institute, ASCE, ACI, American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE), Design Build Institute of America (DBIA), Engineers Society of Western Pennsylvania (ESWP), National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), Tau Beta Pi Engineering Society and The Moles.

At this time DFI would also like to recognize and thank retiring Trustees, Richard D. Short of Kleinfelder, who is stepping down after 12 years of service; Christopher E. Dumas of Driven Technologies, following three years of service; and D. Michael Holloway of InSituTech Ltd. who concludes his service on the board after six years.