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, Codes & Standards, Drilled Shaft, Driven Pile, Ground Improvement, Helical Foundations & Tiebacks, Marine Foundation, Micropiles, Seismic and Lateral Loads, Slurry Wall, Soil Mixing, Sustainability, 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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For Immediate Release

DFI's 2009 Outstanding Project Award Winner
The Trump International Hotel and Tower, Chicago

July 17, 2009, Hawthorne, NJ: This project was chosen from 12 nominated projects for its ingenuity in overcoming challenging building conditions on a site formerly occupied by the Chicago Sun-Times Building which was a 1950s construction founded on large hand-dug belled caissons. At 92 stories The Trump Tower is the tallest concrete-framed building in the United States

The project Engineers, Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, with Case Foundation Company as the foundation contractor, had to concentrate building loads into as few elements as possible to minimize conflicts with the old caissons, while minimizing load transfer by grade beams, and keeping the rock caissons within constructible sizes.

DFI is pleased to present the 2009 Deep Foundations Institute Outstanding Project Award to Case Foundation Company, the firm who nominated The Trump International Tower and Hotel project, at the Awards Banquet during DFI's 34th Annual Conference on Deep Foundations in Kansas City, MO, October 22, 2009. The Tower was chosen as recipient of the award for construction of the foundations which required laying the caissons to miss the old caisson shafts as well as laying some by cutting through the old hand-dug caisson bells on the way to rock at 110 ft below grade.

To do so, percussion tools were designed and built for drilling the sockets with small-diameter downhole hammers housed in canisters of varying diameters. The 10-foot rock caissons required three runs of these "cluster drills" to cut the complete socket. The hammer drills reduced the limestone to sand and small gravel-sized fragments which were excavated from the cutting face by direct air circulation.

Cluster Drill at work on jobsite.

This method brought Chicago's largest caisson project in 30 days ahead of schedule and under budget.

For more information on this winning project or for a copy of the article from DFI's magazine, *Deep Foundations Fall 2009* issue, contact DFI at 973-423-4030.

The Deep Foundations Institute, incorporated in 1976, is a not-for-profit professional association of over 2,500 members from the deep foundation and related industries. Those interested in becoming a member or who would like more information on DFI, please visit www.dfi.org.

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