



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, Deep Foundations for Landslide/Slope Stabilization, 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 Middle East Committee Activities

April 17, 2010, Hawthorne, NJ: The DFI Middle East committee has been busy since their formation earlier this year. They have presented two events, will cooperate on another next month and are already planning a 2-day seminar in India.

AUD hosted workshop on Combined Pile Raft Foundations

On March 14 and 15, 2010, the School of Engineering at the American University in Dubai (AUD) hosted a regional workshop on Combined Pile Raft Foundations (CPRF). The workshop was organized by the US-based Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) Middle East Committee and the Dubai Media and Technology Free Zone Authority (DMTFZA), in collaboration with Implenia Global Solutions Ltd. Industry experts and professionals were introduced to practical and theoretical aspects of CPRF construction and design methods. The workshop proved to be a great success with a turnout of more than 60 attendees from the field of Civil Engineering. The main presenters were Professors Rolf Katzenbach and Gregor Bachmann, international experts on Combined Pile Raft Foundations from Germany's Darmstadt University. The subject of CPRF was discussed at length in terms of theory, design, monitoring, and performance. The system has been used in Europe and North America, but is yet to be implemented in Dubai.

Performance Based Design of Deep Foundations Seminar held in Beirut

A two-day seminar presenting performance based design of deep foundations was held on April 14 and 15, 2010 to OEA (Society of Structure and Architecture Engineering of Beirut). The presentation was provided by Dr. Mamdouh Nasr committee chair and Dr. Khalidoun Fahoum, committee vice-chair and regional manager of Langan International. It included information on designing for seismicity. Over 50 attendees participated with much interaction between them and the presenters. Additionally the OEA presented Nasr and Fahoum with crystal trophies as an expression of appreciation for the information provided and the complimentary DFI membership through the end of 2010 granted to each participant.

3rd Piling and Foundation Forum this May in Abu Dhabi

The committee and DFI are cooperating on this forum being organized by Fleming Gulf for May 4-6, 2010 at Park Rotana, Abu Dhabi, UAE. DFI members receive a 20% discount off regular Forum fees. The purpose of the forum is to address the growing market demand for infrastructure projects and faster and more cost-effective construction, plus will provide information on best practice in building quality foundations. Topics include: Foundation Design and Construction, Geotechnical Challenges in the Middle East, Foundation Design for Major Urban Structures, Ground Improvement Techniques, Foundation Risk and Risk Management, Foundation Safety and Risk Mitigation, and Design, Construction and Testing of Pile Foundations.

Next event planned for India

A two-day seminar on different foundation techniques such as Cast-in-Place Piles, Driven Piles and Seismic Issues is being planned, most likely in Chennai. The Indian Geotechnical Society will cooperate to generate interest and support. An overview of each foundation technique plus case studies will be presented.