



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 and Standards, Deep Foundations for Landslides/Slope Stabilization, Drilled Shaft, Driven Pile, Ground Improvement, Helical Foundations & Tiebacks, Marine Foundations, Micropile, Seismic & 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 Outstanding Project Award 2011



August 15, 2011, Hawthorne, NJ: The Inner Harbor Navigational Canal Floodwall in New Orleans, Louisiana, is the winner of the Deep Foundations Institute annual Outstanding Project Award. The project is a key element in the largest design-build civil-works construction ever undertaken by the US Army Corps of Engineers, to protect New Orleans from hurricane storm surges such as those that battered the city in 2009 during Katrina. Traylor-Massman-Weeks, LLC, the foundation contractor who nominated the project, will be honored at DFI's

36th Annual Meeting in Boston, at the Awards Banquet, October 18. Others involved in the project are Owner: USACE; Project Engineer: Ben C. Gerwick Inc.; General Contractor: Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure Group; and Foundation Engineer: Eustis Engineering.

The \$330 million floodwall was the largest single contract in the overall Corps' program. The selection panel recognized the magnitude of the work, the severe site constraints and the accelerated schedule, citing the construction ingenuity of the contractors, Traylor-Massman-Weeks, LLC. Their work began only four days after the order to proceed on May 5, 2009. Workers drilled 1200 large diameter concrete piles 66 ft (20 m) diameter and 144 ft (44 m) long to form the foundation for the Floodwall. A second similarly configured pile wall followed 20 days later, and the two elements along with 2538 concrete closure piles set into jet grout columns and 645 steel batter piles completed the foundation.

Traylor-Massman-Weeks' challenges were compounded by the difficult project access. Equipment, material and workers had to get to the site by water. A custom engineered trestle supported materials and equipment during the work. The trestle itself sat on steel friction pile bents with the capacity to carry loads of over 250 tons. Crane rails with alignments of fractions of an inch were a key part of the construction process, allowing repetitive removal, reinstall and engineered adaption to proceed swiftly. The contractor accrued over 1million man-hours and zero lost time accidents to finish the work within the 18 months. The entire project is a tribute to the ingenuity of the contractors and engineers for this urgently needed floodwall project. The jurors also bestowed special recognition awards to five other outstanding projects and the nominating companies as follows:

- Dana Farber Cancer Institute's Yawkey Center for Cancer Care, Boston by foundation engineer GEI Consultants
- Christopher S. Bond kciCON Bridge in Kansas City by foundation engineer Dan Brown and Associates, P.C.
- Rio Puerto Nuevo-Bachara Industrial Canal, San Juan by foundation contractor Morris Shea Bridge Company
- The MET Development, Miami by project engineer Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, Inc.
- Heron Tower, London by foundation contractor Cementation Skanska.

The DFI panel chose these projects from 17 projects submitted. The selection criteria included ingenuity of foundation design and construction technique and how the design/technique met owner's needs and solved geotechnical conditions.

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