

PDCA OF FLORIDA
NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 2
VOLUME 1



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SAVE THE DATE!

Next Chapter Meeting

**When: Thursday
December 3, 2009**

Where: Tampa, FL

**STAY TUNED FOR
FURTHER
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PDCA of FLORIDA INAUGURAL DINNER MEETING A SUCCESS!



The first official PDCA of Florida quarterly meeting was held on August 27, 2009 in Orlando, FL. We're pleased to announce it was a huge success! It is because of the support of the 100 + people in attendance that has this chapter is well on its way to having a positive impact on the driven pile industry in Florida.

Not only was the meeting well attended, but the attendance was also diverse. Everyone was pleased to see a nice mixture of engineers, contractors and suppliers from across the state.

The dinner meeting included an extremely informative panel discussion entitled "The Use of Driven Piles in Design / Build Projects: Lessons Learned". PDCA of Florida Secretary, Kylie Williams, was the moderator for the discussion and did a terrific job! The three questions asked to our panelists were:

- From your personal experience, do you foresee the increased use of design-build as a project delivery method and how will design-build-operate-maintain contracts affect future contracting and why?
- What factors determine the selection of a deep foundation system including its details: size, length, number of piles, etc. for a design-build project, and how and by whom are the

decision made?

- How often is pre-design and construction phase pile testing (such as the program undertaken here at the I-4 over St. Johns River Project) utilized to determine the most efficient and cost effective pile type, size, and section in addition to characterizing pile and soil setup?

The questions were answered by a group of esteemed panelists that included Mr. Frank O'Dea, P.E. from the Florida Department of Transportation, Mr. David Thornton from Misener Marine Construction, Mr. Scott Dean, P.E. from HNTB, Mr. Ben Dreiling, P.E. from Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority, Mr. Paul Passe, P.E. from Professional Service Industries, Mr. Chris Mills, P.E. from Wilbur Smith Associates, Mr. Ross McGillivray, P.E. from Ardaman & Associates, Inc. and Mr. Derek Fogt from Johnson Brothers.

PDCA of Florida would like to extend a special thank you to these individuals for taking the time to participate in the panel discussion and for doing an outstanding job!

As successful as our first meeting was, we expect the next to be even better! Make sure to mark your calendar for December 3, 2009. The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Tampa Westshore, 5503 West Kennedy Blvd in Tampa, FL. More information will be available in the coming weeks. We look forward to seeing all of you there!



President's Message

I'm happy to report that our inaugural meeting in Orlando was a great success. My thanks to our panelists, our officers and especially the members and guests of the PDCA of Florida for their participation in and contributions to our initial effort. Now it's time to build on that positive start.

As I mentioned in our previous newsletter, our chapter covers a relatively large geographical area. To best serve our state, we plan to conduct our quarterly meetings in a variety of locations to best serve the largest number of members. Our next meeting will be held this December in the Tampa area.

Last June, I had the pleasure of attending the PDCA's Professors' Driven Pile Institute on the campus of Utah State University in Logan, Utah. This program, conducted on a biennial basis and fully funded by PDCA members, provides an opportunity for engineering professors to learn about driven piles.

This year, twenty-seven engineering professors ranging from Fairbanks, Alaska to Dublin, Ireland attended a full week of training in driven pile design and technology provided by a top group of instructors. One of the highlights of the week was a field demonstration that included the installation of a pipe pile as well as both static and dynamic load tests.

The program has a number of Florida connections. Our host at Utah State is Dr. Joseph Caliendo, Associate Professor at Utah State and former State Geotechnical Engineer for FDOT. Instructors, past and present, include Frank Townsend (University of Florida), Mike McVay (University of Florida) and Brian Anderson (University of Florida graduate). Attendees from our state have included Paul Cosentino (Florida Institute of Technology), Nick Hudyma (University of North Florida), Khaled Sobhan (Florida Atlantic University), Dennis Hiltunen (University of Florida) and D.V. Reddy (Florida Atlantic University).

The feedback we have received from the professors attending the course has been very positive. They are provided with information they can utilize in their classes to introduce their students to various aspects of driven pile technology. This is beneficial to our industry. However, there is a limit to what can be accomplished in a classroom.

As PDCA members, you are encouraged to develop relationships with engineering and construction management programs at universities within our state. These students will soon be in the work force and it benefits all of us to enhance their education. Invite them to visit your job sites. Let them observe pile installation and testing. Discuss the various geotechnical, logistical and environmental considerations that affect your project. Let them see how everything goes together. The effort will pay long-term dividends for our industry.

A Driven Pile is a Tested Pile!





PILE DRIVING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA

1857 Wells Road, Suite 214
Orange Park, FL 32073

Application for Membership

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- (1) **Must be a current member of the National Pile Driving Contractors Association for membership in the Florida Chapter of PDCA.** Are you a current member of national PDCA?
Yes or No *(circle one)*

 - (2) If not a current member, complete a National PDCA membership application, available at www.piledrivers.org, and submit with completed PDCA of Florida membership application. Please make sure to designate separate checks for each application with corresponding amounts due.

 - (3) What is your membership type? _____ *(refer to national PDCA application form)*

 - (4) **PDCA of Florida Fee Schedule** *(check all that apply)*
 Annual Dues \$100 *(contractor & associate membership)*
 Annual Dues \$50 *(technical affiliate membership)*

Name *(or primary contact)* _____
Company Name _____
Mailing Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____
Fax _____
Email _____

Mail checks and applications to: **Pile Driving Contractors Association of Florida**
1857 Wells Rd, Suite 214
Orange Park, FL 32073

Questions? Call Van Hogan, Chapter President at (904) 823-8817