

TELLTALES

Contents

Featured Projects

- Augercast – CFA
- Russia – Moscow
- Germany – Frankfurt

- UAE – Dubai, Abu Dhabi

Conferences

- Back Cover

Contact Info

- Back Cover

World Record Test!

On August 27, 2003 a new world record for deep foundation testing of 18,400 tons (163 MN) was set by Loadtest, Inc. in Meigs County, West Virginia on the Pomeroy-Mason, Ohio River Bridge project, exceeding Loadtest's 2001 world record by 1,400 tons.

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SETTING RECORDS GLOBALLY

AUGERCAST (CFA) – O-CELL® SUCCESS

Loadtest, Inc. of Gainesville, FL and HJ Foundation, Inc. of Miami, FL have successfully tested two Augercast, or CFA piles, using Osterberg Cell's on what are believed to be the largest Augercast piles constructed in North America. With the market for condominiums and office high-rises literally taking off in many parts of the United States; Florida is no exception. In the land of Mickey, beaches and hurricanes, the skylines of Miami, Tampa and Jacksonville are changing rapidly due to the number of new skyscrapers under construction or in development. In the Miami area alone, currently there are more than 50 projects for multi-storey high rises in excess of 20 stories.

The need to expedite these projects is paramount, and Loadtest, Inc. was contracted by HJ Foundation, Inc., a leading Augercast contractor, to test some world-class foundations on two separate projects. Both projects require Augercast piles to exceed 100 ft. (30m) in depth and carry loads in excess of 1600 kips (7 MN). (See project profiles.) The geography of the test areas is typical for Florida, comprised primarily of sand underlain by dense layered sandstone.

A crane-mounted hydraulic drill advanced the > 100ft.(30m) piles and grout was then placed as usual. The rebar cages with the O-cells affixed were then lowered into the grouted holes. The O-cell and cage assembly slipped smoothly through the



125 ft. (38m) of cage ready to place in grout

grout with minimal resistance. These are the first O-cells installed and used in Augercast piles.

The shafts were 24 in. (610mm) and 30 in. (760mm) in diameter and the O-cells were placed at 70 ft. (21m) and 100 ft (30m) respectively within the cage assemblies prior to grout placement. Both cages were able to reach tip elevation without incident and the O-cells were placed precisely at their predetermined elevation.

Testing began after the grout reached 28-day strength. Both piles proved to be robust and ultimate design capacities were exceeded on both projects. Mr. William Ryan and Mr. Jon Sinnreich of Loadtest, Inc. were on hand to conduct both tests. Total loads applied exceeded 4300 kips (19 MN) and 2600 kips (12MN) respectively.