



PILE DRIVING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER

SAFETY FIRST
This meeting will follow SCDHEC,
CDC, and Charleston County
guidelines for events and gatherings.

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Meeting Notice

- Who:** All pile driving contractors, pile suppliers, pile equipment representatives, geotechnical engineers, structural engineers, owners, and anyone interested in learning about or promoting the use of driven pile foundations. If already a member, please come. If not yet a member, come and learn how this organization can help you.
- What:** Quarterly meeting of the South Carolina chapter of the Pile Driving Contractors Association.
- When:** *Thursday – May 20, 2021 @ 6:30 P.M.*
- Where:** Town & Country Inn, 2008 Savannah Hwy, Charleston, SC
- Cost:** \$45/per person. Price includes dinner buffet & beverages.
- Register:** Register and pay in advance with a credit card by clicking [here](#). No exchange of payment the night of the event.
- PDHs:** All attending Engineers may claim one PDH.
- Speaker:** **Ryan N. Keiper, P.E., Insight Group**
Susheel R. Kolwalkar, Ph.D., P.E., Insight Group
- Topic:** ***HUGH K. LEATHERMAN TERMINAL – BUILDINGS & CANOPIES – VALUE ENGINEERED FOUNDATIONS, North Charleston, South Carolina***

The South Carolina Ports Authority (SCPA) is currently building the Hugh K. Leatherman Terminal (HLT). The terminal is built on historic marsh, dredge spoils, even an abandoned Navy airfield runway, where post-construction settlement is anticipated up to 12 inches (305 mm) over 25 years. The settlement will impart downdrag forces on the driven piles supporting the building and canopy structures planned at the site. Further review indicated that a primary reason for the long piles planned was downdrag loading, which was calculated using traditional methods. In order to minimize cost and constructability considerations of the long piles, Insight Group in coordination with SCPA recommended an alternate design approach, referred to as 'Neutral Plane Method'. High strain dynamic test results in conjunction with Neutral Plane analyses findings were used to develop production pile driving criterion for each structure. As a result, production pile length reductions ranging from 6 feet (1.8 meters) to 27 feet (8.2 meters) were achieved on the project. PDA testing and Neutral Plane analyses results for one representative building are presented and the benefits of shorter piles in terms of constructability and overall project cost-savings are discussed.

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A Driven Pile Is A Tested Pile!