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PROGRESS

Change is good, and change is inevitable. Since their inception in the 1970s, Pile Dynamics, Inc. (PDI) and GRL Engineers, Inc.

(GRL) have had the good fortune of working with some of the best and brightest minds in the deep foundations industry. We have been privileged to have, within our ranks, researchers and engineers with a passion for advancing the State-of-the-Art in construction and geotechnical engineering.

Eventually, the time comes for this next generation of experienced engineers to take on some of the top leadership roles. Over this past summer, Patrick Hannigan, P.E. and Mohamad Hussein, P.E., have ascended into the highest management positions at GRL Engineers. Both are highly respected professional engineers and well-known in the deep foundations testing circles, have spent decades in the firms, and ultimately represent a seamless transition of authority and ability.

Patrick Hannigan is now President of GRL Engineers. He has for the past two decades developed and directed the Illinois Branch Office of GRL, a function he will retain. While heading the Illinois Branch he has managed GRL's activities on major projects in the region, including the Marquette Interchange in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the Soldier Field reconstruction in Chicago, IL, and the new I-69 corridor in southeast Indiana. He has also been the principal author of the 1998 and 2006 versions of the US Federal Highway Administration's Manual on the Design and Construction of Driven Pile Foundations, a document that has found wide acceptance among designers, testers and contractors. Pat is the lead instructor for the National Highway Institute courses associated with the manual and has been a frequent speaker at Pile Driving Contractors Association (PDCA) and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) events.

Mohamad Hussein has been appointed Chairman of the Board of GRL Engineers, Inc.. He is a well-recognized leader in the deep foundations world, especially in the Southeast US, where in the 1980s he launched the Florida Branch Office of GRL, an office he continues to lead. Mohamad has been involved in numerous major projects like the I-10 Escambia Bay Bridge, Orlando International Airport, I-4 and East-West Expressway Interchange, and many other award winning projects. He is an accomplished author with more than 75 publications, having co-edited several books, among them the Geotechnical Chapter in the Civil Engineering Handbook, seven ASCE Special Geotechnical Publications, and the proceedings of the 5th International Conference on the Application of Stresswave

Theory to Piles. Mohamad is a frequent lecturer, and has organized several professional conferences, most recently the 2009 ASCE/ADSC/PDCA International Foundation Congress. He was the Chairman of ASCE's Deep Foundations Committee from 2002 to 2009.

The rise of Pat Hannigan and Mohamad Hussein implies that someone has relinquished these roles. Frank Rausche, PhD, P.E., one of the original researchers of the Case Project on dynamic pile testing, has transferred his executive responsibilities to his two capable colleagues. Frank Rausche was also Chairman of the Pile Dynamics Board of Directors, and that position transitions to Mohamad Hussein, while Garland Likins, P.E. remains president of Pile Dynamics. The Central and Colorado branches of GRL are now headed by, respectively, Brent Robinson, P.E. and Camilo Alvarez, P.E., both highly accomplished GRL engineers.

After more than forty years developing and implementing dynamic pile testing methods, including the Case Method, CAPWAP® and GRLWEAP, and helping grow GRL and Pile Dynamics, Frank will now concentrate on his favorite role of research and development. He will remain a principal of Pile Dynamics, and his long-time business partner Garland Likins looks forward to continuing to enjoy Frank's creative input. Frank mused that the staff and management of PDI and GRL, being such a highly educated, talented, motivated and dedicated group of people, will continue to build on past successes and move the companies ahead with innovation and quality products.

And so, while there is change, the dedicated group of people that makes up GRL will continue to provide outstanding testing and consulting services, while the motivated PDI staff will continue to build quality equipment and write powerful software. Both firms will continue to further develop methods and technologies and, most importantly, provide the same unwavering support to their clients – for years to come.



From left: Pat Hannigan, Frank Rausche, Garland Likins and Mohamad Hussein