

Testing Datasheet No 9

Pile Static Load Testing – Lone Working

Procedures for Lone Working during Static Pile Load Tests

- 1 Pile maintained load testing usually requires the imposition and maintenance of a load on a pile while its settlement or other characteristics are monitored. The loading and unloading can typically take 12 to 24 hours, however longer test periods are sometimes necessary. Part of the load test therefore may occur overnight.
- 2 During night-time work, the Principal Contractor's responsibilities for safety and security must be maintained, including: welfare facilities, site and personal security, lighting (both area and task), pedestrian walkways to the working area and emergency preparedness.
- 3 Should the pile test behave in an unpredictable manner suggesting failure of the ground, structural failure of the pile itself or failure of the loading system, the test should be terminated and no change in loading applied until a proper engineering assessment has been carried out. The test technician should not attempt to correct the test equipment whilst alone.
- 4 During any period where a lone worker is to be employed, the testing contractor must provide a lone worker risk assessment to the piling contractor, including procedures to cover for possible injury or ill health.
- 5 Prior to carrying out any work alone, the technician must exchange contact phone numbers with the piling contractor's supervisor. Similarly the piling contractor's supervisor must exchange contact numbers with the Principal Contractor's site manager.

Disclaimer:

Although every effort has been made to check the accuracy of the information and validity of the guidance given in this document, neither the FPS or its members accept any responsibility for mis-statements contained herein or misunderstanding arising herefrom.