

Pacific Pile & Marine

Pacific Pile and Marine, a New Name, but Not New to Alaska

Pacific Pile and Marine may be a new entity in Alaska, but it's not new to the Alaska construction industry. Its Alaska team has worked in the state for nearly 20 years. "Our people bid, managed and constructed some of the most challenging marine construction projects built in Alaska," says Division Manager, Jason Davis. Established in 2008, the firm has 50 to 80 employees. Many of its 15 Alaska-based employees previously worked at Hurlen Construction, which was acquired by American Civil Constructors. When former Hurlen owners Wilbur Clark and Eric Reichhelt started PPM, the core of the Hurlen-ACC marine group followed them. "I have the same crew in Skagway that I had in Ketchikan in 2006," Davis says.

PPM has the technical expertise of a large company, while offering the flexibility and personal attention usually provided only by small companies. The firm specializes in projects with a high degree of technical and logistical difficulty. In the marine environment, it builds docks, wharves, bridges, marinas, breakwaters, intakes and outfalls, and all other associated marine structures. It also performs dredging, as an aid to navigation, and environmental dredging of contaminated marine sediments. In the specialty foundation market, PPM does drilled shafts, pile foundations, concrete pile, auger cast pile, and tiebacks for bridges, buildings and other major structures.

Far from being a "commodity" contractor, PPM excels at complex and demanding projects. One such example is Skagway's 300-foot-long

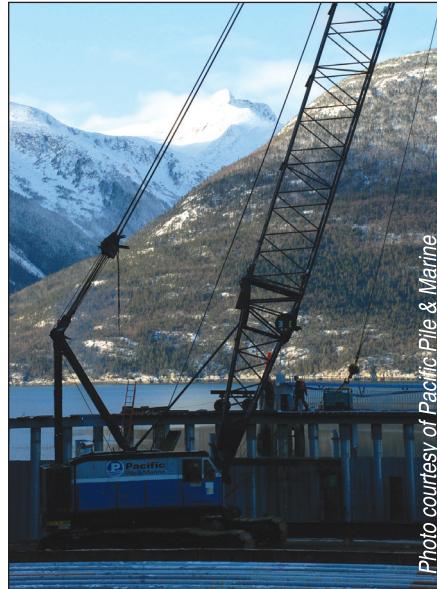


Photo courtesy of Pacific Pile & Marine

Breakwater construction in Skagway

breakwater. The \$3-million project was a specialized pile-driving procedure with an interlocking sheet pile wall that had to be constructed in specific stages and with extreme precision. The work was performed late in the year to minimize disruption to the city and cruise ship passengers. As a result, PPM's crew faced arduous environmental conditions, including strong winds and rain.

Recently, PPM was awarded the design/build contract for the Carl E. Moses Harbor in Dutch Harbor. Construction will take place in the summer of 2011. Its largest and first project in Alaska was a \$10 million ship lift and maintenance facility in Kodiak. The ship haulout facility in Kodiak has the highest-capacity travel lift made worldwide, capable of hauling out 180-foot-long boats weighing up to 600 metric tons, according to Davis. "There are only six lifts this size worldwide," he adds.

Safety, quality and innovation are key factors at PPM. The company constantly searches for new technology, new ideas and better processes. Davis says, "We always strive to improve our work practices and ensure that work is performed in the safest manner possible."

Davis describes PPM as a relationship-based company that understands its viability depends on treating clients, subcontractors, suppliers and other business partners fairly. "We approach every interaction with the intention of working with the stakeholders again and again," he says.

PPM—interested in expanding in the private sector—is striving to establish good business relationships in Alaska and to create a niche in the market. "There are solid Alaska companies, developers and other contractors able to put our talents to good use," Davis says. "We look forward to working with them."



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