Errata for the Recommended Practice for Design, Manufacture, and Installation of Prestressed Concrete Piling

January 2021

Several approved comments were inadvertently omitted from the "Recommended Practice for Design, Manufacture, and Installation of Prestressed Concrete Piling" published in the July-August 2019 issue of the *PCI Journal*. The correct version of the affected portions of the document, sections 4.2 and 4.3, is shown here and includes the addition of Fig. 4.1.

4.2 Handling and storage

Damage to piles can occur during the handling, storage, and transporting stages. Handling should be done using designed lifting points. On many long slender piles, three, four, or five pick-up points are required. This is done using equalizing slings, spreader beams, and/or rolling blocks. If proper care and caution are not used, severe damage can occur. Piles in storage should be properly supported to avoid permanent sweep. Points at which piles are to be lifted or supported should be clearly apparent. When other picking methods are used (inserts, slings, and vacuum pads), suitable markings to indicate correct support points should be provided. Piles stacked in storage should have intermediate dunnage supports in vertical alignment.

4.3 Transporting

Prestressed concrete piles are normally delivered from the manufacturing plant to the construction site via barge, truck, or rail. Piles up to approximately 50 ft (15 m) long can be carried on flat bed trailers. Piles over this length are generally carried on expandable flatbed trailers or telescoping pole trailers.

For piles requiring more than two support points, special supports should be articulated to avoid excessive bending stress in the pile. One method is to build rocker bunks as shown in Fig. 4.1. A rocker bunk is a steel frame constructed to act as a seesaw, distributing equal reactions from its ends to a single support centered on the truck support. The equal reactions make the system determinate, allowing stresses in the pile to be easily calculated. Depending on the length of the pile, a rocker bunk at one or both ends can control stresses in the pile to within allowable limits. Job access conditions should be reviewed before delivery and all obstructions, ruts, holes, or dangerous conditions corrected.

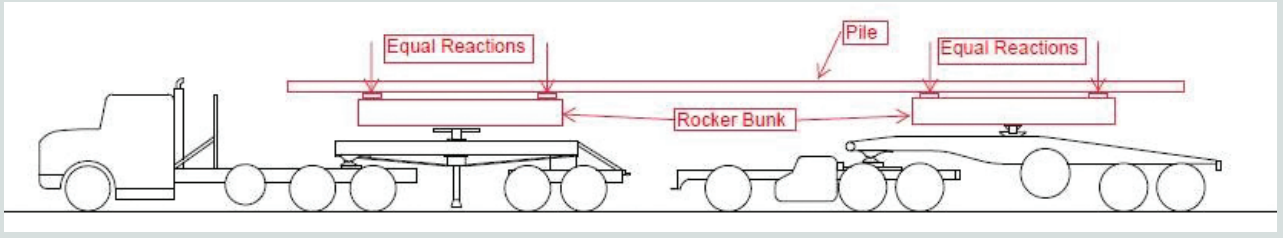

Figure 4.1. Rocker bunks used for transporting concrete piles.