Auger Cast Column™ & Drill Displacement Column™

Overview

Auger Cast Column™ and Drill Displacement Column™ (ACC and DDC) are deep, partial and full displacement, well-defined, pressure grout, ground improvement methods. ACC/DDC are used to improve any soft/loose soil or contaminated soil. The ACC/DDC process constructs strong, engineered, “composite ground” for the support of foundations and slabs. DDC uses a displacement drill to compact soil in the ground, resulting in higher capacity and lower spoils. For DDC, large cavity expansion in the displaced soil produces the increased strength and ground improvement. ACC/DDC strengths are enhanced by the pressure grout effect during construction. ACC/DDC increases bearing capacity, increases soil stiffness, reduces soil compressibility, increases soil resistance to liquefaction, and increases composite soil shear strength. ACC/DDC construction produces low noise and no vibration. ACC/DDC composite ground supports heavy loads on conventional foundations, slabs, and mats with uniform and reduced settlement.

ACC/DDC Applications

Support foundations, structural mats, slabs, embankments, MSE walls, and industrial foundations. The ideal applications for ACC/DDC:

1) Deep, soft and loose soil sites and bay mud/sensitive soil sites.
2) Compressible soil sites.
3) Contaminated soil and undocumented debris fill sites.
4) Groundwater protection regions.
5) Sensitive sites with vibration concerns near critical structures.
6) Sites near occupied buildings and in dense urban areas.

Geologic Hazard Application
- Soft/Loose Soil
- Liquefaction
- Contaminated Soil
- Lateral Spread
- Slope Stability

Diameter/Depth
14, 16, 18, 24 in dia
10 – 80 ft deep

Compatible Soils
- Contaminated Soil - DDC
- Sand (SP, SM, SC)
- Silt (ML, MH)
- Clay (CL, CH)
- Undocumented Fill

Bearing Capacity Range
4,000 – 14,000 psf

Key Advantages
- High stiffness & High capacity - Type 2
- No vibration
- Low spoil - DDC
- Uplift-tension hold-down
- Well defined concrete/grout column
- Liquefaction mitigation

Key Considerations
- Impermeable
- Rigid inclusion
- Gravel cushion
- Grout with low spoil
- Concrete cleanup
- Flat stable pad

Comparable To
- Rigid inclusions
- Concrete piers
- Driven piles
- Geopier®
- Soil mix columns
Technical Details

Auger Cast Column™ and Drill Displacement Column™ (ACC/DDC) methods are innovative upgrades to rigid inclusion ground improvement for foundation support. With an expanded base, ACC/DDC achieve higher bearing capacity than other rigid inclusions. ACC use partial displacement, continuous flight augers in dense soil regions. DDC use a full displacement tool that is shaped to laterally displace and compact the adjacent soil into the ground, forming strong, “composite ground.” The displacement tool and the pressure grout effect result in a coarse sided sand-cement column with finished diameters greater than 100% of neat tool diameter. The soil displacement produces cavity expansion effects that 1) increase shear strength, 2) increase density, 3) increase over-consolidation, 4) reduce void ratio, and 5) increase stiffness of the composite ground. The physical benefits of ACC/DDC construction result in reliable, deep, high capacity, ground improvement columns.

Type 1 ACC/DDC include engineered grout. Type 2 ACC/DDC include rebar for ductility, higher strength, and to resist tension forces. ACC/DDC use a gravel cushion to reduce and distribute punching shear and to decouple foundation lateral forces. Gravel cushion thickness is 12 to 24-inches. Full-scale load tests to 200% confirm the design bearing capacity. In some cases, cone penetration tests confirm density of composite ground between groups of ACC/DDC.

Farrell uses heavy, fixed mast, piling drill rigs to install ACC/DDC. Farrell operates Leibherr, Casagrande, and Bauer rigs. These rigs install ACC/DDC to depths of 10 to 80 feet. Farrell installs ACC/DDC with tool diameters of 14, 16, 18, and 24-inches. The rigs are equipped with electronic monitoring to record drill torque, drill depth, drill speed, grout pump pressures, and grout volume. ACC/DDC are strong, well-defined, pressure grout, ground improvement systems that support your project to Go Vertical with Confidence.®

Testimonial

The Pierce
San Jose, CA

“I was pleased with the Farrell crew. They were great to work with. Ken Winters managed his crew and equipment well. I look forward to more work with Farrell.”

Gary Cunnington
Superintendent
Clark Builders