

Design Examples

Given:

Foundation Repair of wall due to settlement.

Design load per pier = 18,000 lbs.

Underlying Soil Strata:

0 to 5 feet uncontrolled fill

Overlying stiff clay with N values of 20 at 10 feet, 40 feet at 20 feet, and 50 at 30 feet.

Factor of safety = 2

Find:

- Sizes of helix pier shaft and helix (helices) required to support the design load.
- Required installation torque.
- Required depth of pier below foundation grade.
- Required pier attachment to foundation.

Helical Pier Shaft:

1 ½ inch square shaft (ASTM A576, Grade C-1045)

- Working Capacity = 35 kips (F.S. = 2)
- Design Pier Load = 18 kips

Helix (Helices):

Single ½ inch thick, 8-inch diameter helix (ASTM A36)

- Working Capacity = 27.5 kips (F.S. = 2)
- Design Pier Load = 18 kips

Installation Torque:

- Torque required = 18,000 lbs / 10 ft-1
- 1,800 ft-lbs of torque
- Ultimate torque capacity = 6,000 ft-lbs
- Design Pier Load = 18 kips
- Required torque capacity = 1,800 ft-lbs of torque

Required Depth of Pier:

- Pier to extend through fill material, into stiff clay below.
- Pier depth to be determined when installation torque is attained.
- Minimum pier length is recommended to be 20 feet below foundation grade.

Required Pier Attachment:

- Standard Bracket (ASTM A36)
- Working Capacity = 27.5 kips (F.S. = 2)
- Design Pier Load = 18 kips