



The Finishing Touch

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Regency Center No. 4 and 5 Novi, Michigan

Regency Center 4 and 5 are two commercial buildings in Novi that are constructed on unstable, poorly compacted and contaminated soils. The general contractor and developer on this project is Ferlito Construction. Prior to construction, helical piers were specified as the deep foundation system of choice. The helical piers are installed vibration free and with no excavation required other than as needed for the grade beam footings. This eliminated the potential for movement (settlement) of nearby commercial structures caused by pile driving operations and prevented the need to dispose of the contaminated sub-grade soils that would be created by drilled foundations.

The East Michigan Concrete Lifting division installed a total of 176 helical piers through 15 to 20 feet of buried debris, soft and contaminated soils. The piers were installed to capacities as high as 110,000 pounds of support per pier to depths ranging from 25 to 35 feet below grade. A large excavator and man-lift were utilized to put the piers in the ground. The large excavator was necessary to allow the use of 21 foot long extension sections. The man-lift was required to allow the connection from the hydraulic gear motor to pier shaft 20 to 22 feet in the air. Using the longer extensions gave a couple advantages over the competition - one of which was less overall cost, and second, higher capacities due to less couplings (joints) which are generally the weak link in the assembly. Furthermore, increased production was achieved due to fewer connections, greater reach and higher hydraulic flow than a rubber tired backhoe.



Kent employees installing helical piers in the trench. In the background, the foundation contractor is pouring grade beams.



Installing a starter section.



One of the buildings under construction.

United Way Campaign

A big thank you to all of the employees that made our 2004 United Way fund raising campaign the most successful ever. 39 employees pledged to make \$17,807.00 in contributions during 2005. This is more than twice the amount we raised last year.

