



ROBERT M. SAUNDERS, P.E.
Senior Engineer



Professional Experience

Joined DBA 2014

Total years of experience: 17

Geotechnical Consultant, GEOServices, LLC, Knoxville, Tennessee (2006 to 2014)

Geotechnical Consultant, S&ME, Inc., Knoxville, Tennessee (2003 – 2006)

Education

M.S., Civil Engineering, University of Tennessee, 2007

B.S., Civil Engineering, University of Tennessee, 2002

Professional Licensure and Certifications

Licensed Professional Engineer in Tennessee, Indiana, Florida, New York, and District of Columbia

Fields of Expertise

Design, construction, and load testing of deep foundations; Lateral response analysis of pile groups

Retaining structure analysis and design

Ground anchors and anchored systems

Slope and excavation stability analyses in soil and rock

Subsurface stabilization and ground improvement techniques

Geotechnical site investigations and in-situ testing; Laboratory testing and analysis of soil and rock

Major Projects

Topanga Center Expansion – Canoga Park, CA (2020) – Design of auger cast piles for multi-story retail store constructed at the location of a former Sears retail building.

Atrium Health Pineville – Charlotte, NC (2020) – Design of micropile foundations for a bed tower addition to an existing hospital.

Columbus Crew Stadium – Columbus, OH (2019-2020) – Design of permanent earth retention systems, including cantilever secant piles and anchored soldier piles.

2000 Ocean – Hallandale Beach, FL (2019) – Design of support of excavation consisting of cantilever sheet piles for a 40-story condominium building with below-grade parking.

Logan Water Treatment Plant – Logan, OH (2018) – Design of anchored soldier pile retaining wall for construction of below-grade tank.

Omaha VA Medical Center – Omaha, NE (2018) – Design of soil nail wall for support of excavation.

Burlingame Point – Burlingame, CA (2018) – Design of cantilever soldier pile retaining walls for support of excavation adjacent to existing structures.

SFO International Airport – San Francisco, CA (2017-2018) – Design of internally braced soldier pile wall in soft soils under the existing Terminal 1 building.

Moffett Gateway – Mountain View, CA (2017-2018) – Design of auger cast displacement piles for new office building, parking garage, and sound walls.

Google Charleston East Campus – Mountain View, CA (2017) – Design of cantilever soldier pile walls for temporary support of excavation for tunnel and foundation construction.

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Tower One Fifty-Five – Boca Raton, FL (2016-2017) – Design of internally braced sheet pile wall in variable sand and soft limestone for construction of residential high-rise building.

Saluda Rapids Transmission Pole Foundation – Columbia, SC (2016) – Design of anchored foundation in shallow rock to support a large angle, dead end power transmission pole adjacent to existing utility installations.

Brickell Flatiron – Miami, FL (2016) – Design of cantilever sheet pile retaining wall in variable fill and soft limestone for construction of high-rise residential building.

Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory – West Milton, NY (2015) – Design of Cast-in-place Ground improvement Elements (CGEs) for the construction of a new building (119).

Indianapolis Power and Light – Petersburg, IN (2015) – Design of Augured Pressure Grouted (APG) pile foundations for a new wastewater treatment plant at an existing power generation facility.

Downtown Plaza Hotel – Sacramento, CA (2015) – Design of auger cast displacement pile foundations for support of a new high-rise hotel.

Golden 1 Center – Sacramento, CA (2014) – Design of auger cast displacement pile foundations for support of a new 17,500 seat arena.

Anaheim Convention Center Expansion – Anaheim, CA (2014) – Design of Continuous Flight Augured (CFA) foundations for support of a new 200,000 square-foot expansion to the existing Anaheim Convention Center.

Alcoa, Inc. – Alcoa, TN (2013) – Design of permanent micropile foundations, temporary underpinning micropiles, and soil nail shoring for construction of a new tandem cold mill and rolling oil pit for aluminum production inside an existing facility.

Laurel Apartments – Nashville, TN (2013) – Design of prestressed rock anchors for uplift and overturning support of mat foundations for construction of a high-rise residential building.

Austin Peay State University Governors Stadium – Clarksville, TN (2013) – Design of micropile foundations for the expansion and addition of skyboxes to an existing football stadium.

FLEX Equipment Storage Building – TVA Watts Bar Nuclear Plant (2013) – Design of micropile foundation for seismic loading for a fortified bunker building.

State Route 36 – Washington Co., TN (2012) – Design of anchored soldier pile retaining wall for widening and improvements to state highway.

Foothills Parkway – Blount County, TN (2011-2013) – Design of mechanically stabilized earth retaining walls with heights up to 67 feet on steeply sloping, mountainous terrain.

Interstate 240 Widening – Memphis, TN (2011-2013) – Design of combination ground anchor and soil nail retaining walls under existing bridge abutments for widening and improvements to Interstate 240.

Bridgeforth Stadium, James Madison University – Harrisonburg, VA (2009) – Design of micropile foundations for the west upper and lower decks of a new 25,000 seat football stadium.

Professional Memberships

Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) - Member

Deep Foundations Institute Micropiles Committee - Member

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and Geo-Institute (GI) of the ASCE - Member