

# BUILDING & BALANCE: A MOM'S BUSINESS LIFE

BY TAMMIE JOHNSON, PRESIDENT/OWNER, CJ DRILLING, INC.



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## BACKGROUND

Tammie Johnson, President and Owner of CJ Drilling, Inc. started the company in 2003 by purchasing a semi-tractor and specialty

and substation construction industries. Tammie then led the company to expand into rebar cage construction and foundation drilling within the same industries. With the vision of becoming a complete turn-key foundation drilling construction contractor, the company has grown into the largest woman-owned foundation drilling contractor in North America. CJ Drilling is headquartered in Dundee, IL. Together with her husband Charlie, they have five children (Hillary 28, Haley 26, Zack 23, Charlie 20, Eddie 14) and three dogs. Four of the children currently work at CJ Drilling and one is still in school.

**“I am blessed to be able to give back to the communities both at home and in various locations where we work by supporting youth athletics, fire departments, Toys for Tots and several other worthwhile causes. I am very passionate about supporting and working with charities for kids with cancer.”**

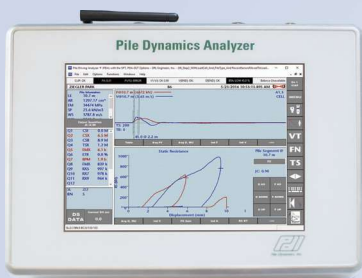
— TAMMIE JOHNSON

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← PICK UP POINT → #4

# Pile Dynamics Analyzer Dynamic Load Tester (PDA-DLT)



The Pile Dynamics Analyzer - Dynamic Load Tester was designed specifically for quality assurance testing of drilled shafts, bored piles, ACIP/CFA piles, as well as other applications. This system acquires data from accelerometers and strain transducers attached to a pile or shaft so High Strain Dynamic Testing may be performed. Customize the system to best suit your project, with cabled and wireless options.

To learn more about PDA-DLT, visit [www.pile.com](http://www.pile.com).







## TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Never doubt yourself. The worst thing I could have done was add to the doubt that existed when I started CJ Drilling. All too often, women are underestimated, and their knowledge and experience are questioned. Always set goals and continue to push to achieve them regardless of the doubts or negativity of others.

**“** *It does feel like you are going crazy, because you are, but mothers can do both.* **”**

## BEING A WOMAN & MOTHER IN CONSTRUCTION

Make time to spend it with your family. I had my youngest child, Eddie, when CJ Drilling really started to expand into a full-service drilled shaft contractor. Motherhood and work collided head on, but in the greatest way. I brought Eddie around as my tiny assistant to the bank and to meetings.



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Finding that balance between work and family was a challenge but it helped tremendously to remove the common guilt mothers have when it comes to a career. It does feel like you are going crazy, because you are, but mothers can do both. Do not feel guilty for taking the time to go to a baseball game, a school play or a vacation. Take time off and cherish the time with your loved ones as much as possible.

## WHAT I WANT TO LEAVE BEHIND

Not only is CJ Drilling a 100% woman-owned and operated company, but a family company as well. My oldest daughter Hillary and my oldest son Zack are both heavily involved in the company. They are each working their way from the ground up, learning all aspects of the operation. It has been incredibly rewarding to be a role model and mentor for my daughter as she follows my footsteps in this business. We frequently see sons take over for their fathers in the construction industry. It is refreshing to witness and be part of the opposite. I hope that it inspires more women to choose the construction industry and rise to the top. ▲

