










Competitive Analysis* of the GEOPIER Rammed Aggregate Pier system to Helitech Vibratory Stone Columns using Direct Displacement System (DDS)

	GEOPIER® GP3® System Rammed Aggregate Pier® (RAP)	Helitech's Direct Displacement System Vibratory Stone Columns (VSCs)	Potential Impact
Design Quality Assurance	An individually licensed designer will provide an initial and final design for the GEOPIER® system. There is no external review for this design-build solution.	Helitech utilizes an independent engineering firm to peer review Helitech's designs and then sign and seal these design-build solutions.	 Quality
System Spoils	Licensed GEOPIER® installers will employ a "Drill and Fill" method if using the GP3® System. This method will produce significant spoils that will need to be handled and hauled away.	Helitech's Direct Displacement System (DDS), minimizes spoils. DDS is a great approach where contaminated soils may exist.	  Cost Schedule
Installation Approach	Using a "Drill and Fill" approach, the licensed GEOPIER® installers will need to perform multiple procedures on each hole, potentially extending duration onsite.	Helitech touches the hole only once using the DDS approach, potentially shortening the duration onsite. This method also densifies the in situ granular soils between the Aggregate Piers.	  Schedule Quality
Installation Pad	Licensed GEOPIER® installers require that they have sole access to the working pad while installing piers.	Since Helitech's DDS minimizes spoils, Helitech will allow access to the working pad while still installing piers. This access may improve construction schedule.	  Cost Schedule
Installation Quality Assurance	GEOPIER® provided specifications for Rammed Aggregate Pier® (RAP) require that the owner or contractor hire an onsite Control Technician to report on installation.	Each of Helitech's installation rigs are equipped with the latest data logging computer monitoring system, thus Control Technician requirement may be waived.	  Schedule Quality

