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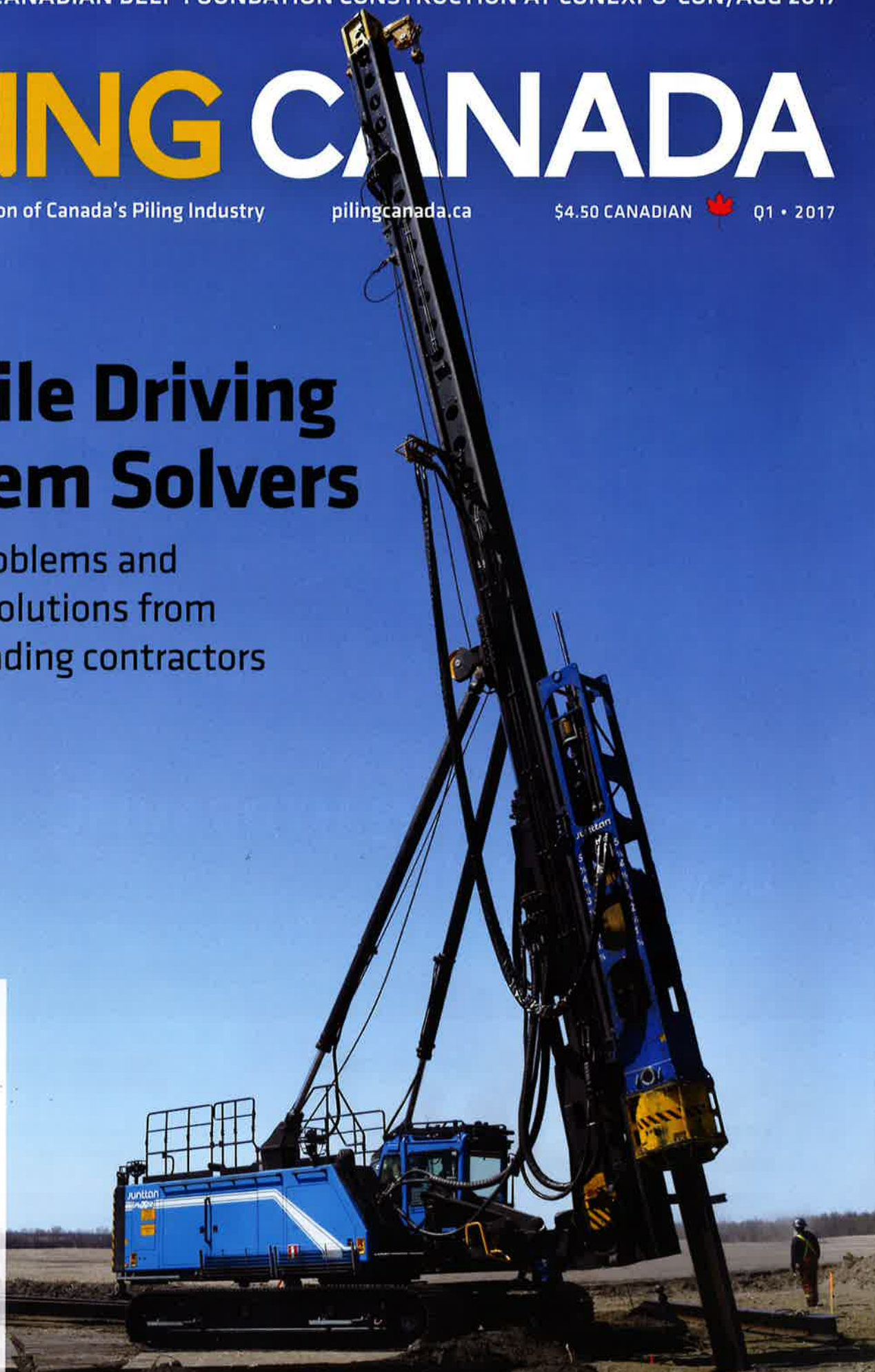
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MasTec Canada Inc.

A new brand built from experience

By Kim Biggar



At Manitoba Hydro's Keewatinohk site, MasTec Canada prepares for a pile load test near the end of the work day

While MasTec Canada is a brand-new company, it brings together industry players with more than two decades of experience. On January 1st this year, the company was formed through the merger of six construction companies operating in Western Canada under the ownership of MasTec Inc., an American infrastructure construction company listed on the NYSE.

Big Country Energy Services Inc., Patch Point Energy Services Ltd., Fabcor Inc. and Big Country Midstream Projects Inc. – purchased by MasTec Inc. in 2013 – and Pacer Construction Inc. and Pacer Foundations Inc. – bought in 2014 – joined under a single name to become a “one-stop shop for large-scale construction projects,” said Brian Horner, the company’s general manager – Piling (formerly the GM at Pacer Foundations).

“The decision to eliminate names that had decades of established brand equity, though not made lightly, achieved some very important goals for us,” said Horner. “In some cases, we had upwards of five active contracts or service agreements with a single customer across our various brands. By reorganizing, we removed the confusion that can occur from multiple contracts. We improved efficiencies and expanded our geographic reach for each service. And we’re benefitting by bringing together a lot of lessons learned and best practices in all aspects of our business, from management to safety to execution.”

The senior management team, led by president Trevor Mitzel, has already been working together for many years, heading up the companies – now divisions – that make up

MasTec Canada. While the divisions will operate much as they did in the past, they will do so under a single umbrella, with common policies and procedures.

What and where: The service offerings

With its head office in Calgary, and 11 field offices – eight in Alberta, two in Saskatchewan and one in B.C. – MasTec Canada provides an array of construction services in the industrial, institutional and commercial sectors across Canada. In addition to designing, planning and installing piling and foundation systems, the company’s complementary services include:

- Building and facility construction, including such facilities as power and pump stations
- Plant and facility maintenance, including plant turn-arounds, environmental reclamation and well-site maintenance
- Pipeline construction, two to 36 inches
- Right-of-way reclamation
- A range of “site-wide” services, such as conducting site surveys, and hydro, soil and compaction tests, offering a fleet of heavy equipment and qualified operators on a pay-for-use basis, managing landfill and recycling programs, providing 24-hour snow removal and numerous other construction and facilities-management services

The company has completed projects beyond Western Canada in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Manitoba, as well as in North Dakota and Wyoming.





“MasTec Canada is a one-stop shop for large-scale construction projects.”

– Brian Horner, MasTec Canada

CFA pre-bore work in advance of the driven pile installation and underground rock obstruction removal at Keewatinohk

Piling and foundation work

Key piling services provided by MasTec Canada are in three areas: deep foundations, specialized retention structures and ground improvement. The company's in-house expertise and manpower covers the design, planning and installation of intricate piling and foundation systems.

Drilling equipment from manufacturers such as Soilmec, Bay Shore and Tes Car enables the company to drill in any terrain, in areas with low headroom – including inside buildings – and with extended reach over pipelines and obstacles.

With the pile driving equipment it uses, such as Junttan pile drivers with hydraulic hammers, and crawler cranes with leads and hammers, the company can drive large-diameter piles up to 24 metres in length. It also has the equipment and capability to install helical piles of various sizes.

An ongoing large-scale piling project for MasTec Canada is for Manitoba Hydro at the Keewatinohk Converter Station, more than 1,000 km northeast of Winnipeg. Contracted in October 2015, MasTec had 1,900 steel driven piles to install for the AC switchyard to be completed this year. Because of

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