CLAIMS

1. An assembly of a pile driver with an anvil and a tubular foundation element, in particular a pile *e.g.* a jacket pile, to be installed in a ground formation, the tubular foundation element having at least one open end, typically both ends open, allowing the pile driver with the anvil to be inserted into the tubular foundation element, and **characterized in that** the tubular foundation element comprises a support at the inside thereof, which support comprises a flange secured to an inner surface of the tubular foundation element and is adapted to transmit energy from the anvil directly to the tubular foundation element, and wherein the anvil comprises a bottom surface of which an outer portion directly engages the flange and of which an inner portion covers an opening extending radially from a central axis of the tubular foundation element to the flange, during installation of the tubular foundation element.

2. An assembly according to claim 1, wherein the support is located in the upper half of the tubular foundation element, in particular in the upper quarter of the tubular foundation element.

3. An assembly according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the tubular foundation element has a length in a range from 20 to 120 m, preferably in a range from 40 to 70 m, and wherein the support is placed at a distance from the at least one open end, wherein the distance is in a range from 4 to 10 m, in particular in a range from 6 to 8 m, and/or in a range from 7% to 30%, in particular in a range from 10% to 25% of the total length of the tubular foundation element.

4. An assembly according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the support comprises a flange secured to an inner surface of the tubular foundation element.

5. An assembly according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the support is substantially tapered towards the toe of the tubular foundation element in the longitudinal direction thereof.

6. An assembly according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the tubular foundation element has two open ends.

7. Method of installing a tubular foundation element, in particular a pile or a jacket pile, in a ground formation, by means of a pile driver, **characterized by**

providing the tubular foundation element with a support at the inside thereof, which support comprises a flange secured to an inner surface of the tubular foundation element,

placing an anvil on the support, such that an outer portion of a bottom surface of the anvil directly engages the flange and an inner portion of the bottom surface covers an opening extending radially from a central axis of the tubular foundation element to the flange,

placing the pile driver on the anvil, and

driving the tubular foundation element into the ground formation, wherein during installation the support transmits energy from the anvil directly to the tubular foundation element.

8. Method according to claim 7, wherein the support is provided in the upper half of the tubular foundation element, in particular in the upper quarter of the tubular foundation element.

9. Method according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the pile driver and/or anvil are held by the tubular foundation element during driving thereof.

10. Method according to any of claims 7-9, wherein the tubular foundation element is placed directly on the ground

formation and, thereafter, is installed in the ground formation.

11. Method according to any of the claims 7-10, wherein the anvil compresses soil material of the ground formation within the tubular foundation element during at least a part of a installing process of the tubular foundation element.

12. Method according to any of the claims 7-11, further comprising a step of placing a template having at least two guides for guiding the tubular foundation element at the ground formation, in particular before the tubular foundation element is placed on the ground formation.

13. Method according to any of the claims 7-12, wherein water is relieved from the tubular foundation element, in particular at least from the part between a ground formation and the support, during driving of the tubular foundation element into the underwater ground formation.

14. An assembly according to any of claims 1-6, further comprising a template having at least two guides for guiding a tubular foundation element, which template is to be placed on the underwater ground formation, at least during installing the tubular foundation element.