

FALL 2022 • VOLUME 13 • NUMBER 3

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FROM THE
PUBLISHER



BY SCOTT LANDES

It's Not Just About Pipelines

There are some amazing organizations who focus on preventing oil and gas pipelines from being damaged in specific situations, like under navigable waterways and on farm and ranch lands. When you look deeper into what these organizations are doing and who their members are, it becomes clear that support for these groups should be much broader. Where there are pipelines there are likely to be cables. Yes, pipeline damages grab most of the negative publicity for obvious reasons. However, hitting a high voltage cable can be fatal and cutting a fiber line can cut off vital communication to hospitals, 911, etc. The question is, why are pipelines the primary facility of owners who are members?

Here are two examples of great organizations that could be supported by non-pipeline stakeholders. If these groups had more funding, they could no doubt have an even broader impact on public safety and damage prevention.

The Coastal and Marine Operators (CAMO) is one notable example. While their primary focus is protecting coastal and marine pipelines and the environment, they also protect submarine fiber and electric cables and water pipelines. The education and training materials they created are tremendous and free to everyone:

- **PSAs**
- **Video Training**
- **Best Practice Tip Cards**
- **Location Planning Checklist**
- **Working Safely Near Underwater Pipelines**

The Pipeline Ag Safety Alliance (PASA) is another example. They work closely with the National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) to help deliver safe digging education to farmers and ranchers across the nation. There are 3,000-plus county agricultural agents that are members of NACAA and whose full-time job is to provide education to farmers and ranchers. This "educate the educator" approach is an incredibly effective way to improve farm safety and protect the thousands of miles of pipelines and cables.

Like CAMO, almost all of PASA's members are pipeline operators. While it makes great sense for pipelines to support PASA, it also seems like a great opportunity for wind energy, fiber companies, and major electric utilities. Visit PipelineAgSafetyAlliance.com for more information. PASA initiatives include:

- **Monthly Digital Newsletter** – written to educate ag agents, including updates on educational materials available
- **Communications Hub** – provides a point of contact for agents to connect with local utility operators, download material, and request in-person or virtual presentation support
- **NACAA Publication** – exposure in NACAA's *The County Agent*
- **NACAA Conference** – PASA booth, sponsorship, and educational presentation
- **Effectiveness Tracking** – documentation for PA/DP programs
- **PASA Farm & Ranch Excavation Safety Guide** – Includes RP1162 baseline messaging, sent to extension professionals across the U.S.
- **Agent Engagement** – Promoting active engagement of field level agents through state chapter leadership, etc.
- **Education Portal** – free online safety education for ag agents

Providing financial support to these organizations shows great support for public safety, and if the added funding leads to one less damage, the ROI seems like an opportunity that cannot be missed. 



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PUBLISHER

Scott Landes
Scott@IR-SavingLives.com

MANAGING EDITOR
(SUBSCRIPTIONS)

Karin Strub
Karin@IR-SavingLives.com

AD SALES
Vicki Husome
Vicki@IR-SavingLives.com

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Brett Link
Brett@MyHappyPlaceDesignStudio.com

PUBLISHING CONSULTANT
Dick Hendricks
jdhendricks@comcast.net

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS
Doug Beck
Dana Brown
Dennis Courchesne
Lauryn Luckey
Alejandro Marin
Matthew Moors
John-Joe Newbert
Jim Plasyński
Jennifer Pratt
Jennifer Reams
Mike Sovereign
Karin Strub

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Infrastructure Resources, LLC
4200 W Old Shakopee Road,
Suite 103
Bloomington MN 55437
Phone: 866-279-7755
Fax: 952-703-7022

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BONUS CONTENT:

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As states start to form various types of enforcement for their damage prevention laws, recognizing changes to these laws are becoming a little more complicated.

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EXCLUSIVE

SAFETY VIDEO

The video contains valuable information about Pipeline Safety:

- Damage Prevention
- Products Transported
- Pipeline Locations
- Signs of a Leak
- Hazards of a Release
- Emergency Response
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CHANGES TO THE LAWS IN YOUR STATE

BY JENNIFER REAMS

(REPRINTED FROM THE 2022 EXCAVATION SAFETY GUIDE – PIPELINE EDITION)

As states start to form various types of enforcement for their damage prevention laws, recognizing changes to these laws are becoming a little more complicated. Due to this, it is recommended that you stay involved with your state one call, review state codes, administrative codes, enforcement authority rule making decisions, state resolutions, and (of course) “Changes to the Laws in Your State” article that is produced yearly.

ALABAMA

SB 58 signed 4/15/21- Alabama made some minor clean up modifications to their state damage prevention laws. First, the damage prevention fund is under the Department of Treasury. Second, modifications of member terms to the Underground Damage Prevention Authority to include a term of three years or “until a replacement is appointed which ever comes later”. This would allow for seats on the Authority to remain active, eliminating the possibility of vacant seats.

<http://www.al811.com/>

CALIFORNIA

Senate Bill 865 Signed 9/29/2020: RESOLUTION No. 21-02-01 approved 2/9/2021- This bill deletes education and outreach program provisions and, instead, requires the board, for violations that are neither egregious nor persistent, to offer violators the option of completing an educational course in lieu of paying a fine. Further, authorizes enforcement by certain entities, including specified agencies following a recommendation of the board against contractors, telephone corporations, gas corporations, electrical corporations, water corporations, operators of hazardous liquid pipeline facilities, and local agencies.

Assembly Bill 930 Signed 9/16/21- This bill requires a court or arbitrator to award reasonable attorney’s costs and fees, including expert witness fees, to an excavator if the court or arbitrator determines that the excavator is not liable for damages to a subsurface installation for reasons related to inaccurate field marking.

Senate Bill 297 Signed 10/8/2021- The bill prescribes a civil penalty of up to \$100,000.00 to be imposed on an operator or excavator, who knowingly and willfully violates provisions relating to excavations and subsurface installations and damages a gas or hazardous liquid pipeline subsurface installation in a way that results in the escape of any flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid.

Important implementation dates to remember from previous legislation:

On or after January 1, 2021, (a) Requires the maintenance of one call notifications for a period of three years, (b) Notification center shall provide to the Dig Board all notifications made on a quarterly interval and provide damage notifications within 5 days from receipt of notification, (c) Require every operator to supply an electronic positive response through the regional notification center before the legal excavation start date and time. The bill authorizes the board, upon a showing of good cause by an operator, to extend the time by which the operator is required to comply

with this requirement, through December 31, 2021. Further, requires the board to determine which facts or circumstances constitute good cause, (d) An excavator discovering or causing damage to a subsurface installation, including all breaks, leaks, nicks, dents, gouges, grooves, or other damage to subsurface installation lines, conduits, coatings, or cathodic protection, shall immediately notify the operator, (e) Excavator must notify the regional call center within 48 hours of discovering damage, and (f) Excavator shall notify 911 upon discovering or causing damage to a gas, hazardous liquid pipeline or any high priority facility.

On and after January 1, 2022, The board shall be within the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety within the Natural Resources Agency. Also, If damage occurs due to noncompliance of excavator, excavator shall be liable to operator for costs and expenses related to damage. However, exemptions exist for operators who are not members of a regional notification center.

On or after January 1, 2023, All new subsurface installations shall be mapped using a geographic information system and maintained as permanent records of the operator. The exceptions for this obligation are “oil and gas flowlines 3 inches or less in diameter that are located within the administrative boundaries of an oil field.”

www.digalert.org

www.usanorth811.org

<https://energysafety.ca.gov/who-we-are/underground-safety-board/>

COLORADO

HB 1095- Signed 5/21/2021- This bill modifies the one call exemption for county employees performing maintenance in the right of way. The one call must be made, for both routine and emergency excavations, if the excavation will include the following:” (a) lowering the existing grade or elevation of the road or any adjacent shoulder or designed and constructed elevation of any adjacent ditch flowline or (b) Disturb more than six inches in depth as it is conducted”.

<http://colorado811.org/>

IDAHO

SB 1056 Passed 4/14/2021- This bill moves the damage prevention board to the division of the Occupational and Professional Licenses. Further, all monies collected are to be deposited into the Occupational License fund. Finally, Section 55-2204 (Use of Funds) is repealed in its entirety.

<https://www.digline.com/>



CHANGES TO THE LAWS IN YOUR STATE!

ILLINOIS (CHICAGO ONLY)

City of Chicago Document Tracking Sheet 02021-3238 9/14/2021.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-020 Changes include: (a) Changing the name of the 24 hour call center from DIGGER to Chicago 811, (b) Provides excavation exemptions for “digging with hand tools to a depth below the surface of up to six inches” and “land surveying operations to expose or identify underground facilities for completion of a locate request that does not involve the use of power equipment”, and (c) Adds definition for “Mismark” meaning “a facility mark outside the maximum parameters of the approximate location of the underground facility”.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-040 This Amendment clarifies the requirement for facility owner to provide maps to Chicago 811 and report and mapping changes within 30 days after change. Further, a facility owner who receives notice of unmarked, mismarked, or an incomplete marked facility shall review and update any and all facility maps to ensure that the maps are complete and accurate.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-045 Inserts provision as follows: “In addition to federal, state, and city requirements, every person who engages in excavation or demolition shall adhere to rules issued by the Commissioner as well as to any practices adopted in those rules”

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-050 This Amendment includes substantial changes to the Municipal Code for excavator duties as follows: (a) Excavator shall physically outline the dig site if needed, (b) “It shall be a violation for the person undertaking the excavation to request markings at the same location without having begun excavation within the 14-day period after initial marking as indicated in the original notice through 811 Chicago.”, (c) Defines provisions for commencing excavation. Excavator cannot commence excavation until a dig request is submitted, received a 811 Chicago dig number with dig ticket, the approximate location of underground facilities have been marked, after the 48 hours of receipt of dig ticket, and the requested date and time indicated on dig ticket, (d) “If, after proper notification through 811 Chicago, the person engaged in the excavation observes clear evidence of the presence of an unmarked, mismarked, or incomplete marked underground facility in the area of the proposed excavation, excavator shall cease the excavation until either the underground facility has been marked or two hours after an additional call is made to 811 Chicago. Further, a person who calls 811 Chicago shall specify which underground facilities are marked, mismarked, or unmarked”, (e) Requirement to Exercise due care at all times to avoid damaging underground facilities, (f) Between 20 and 26 days after a request for either a dig ticket or a dig ticket extension, request an extension when the excavation project will continue beyond the time limited by the dig ticket or its most recent extension. Please note that extensions may only be requested at locations where excavation work has begun and activity is ongoing, (g) Emergency excavation shall not begin until after the approximate location of underground facilities has been marked or more than two hours have gone by since notifying 811 Chicago of the emergency. If the conditions at the site dictate an earlier start than the required wait time, the person engaging in the excavation will have the burden of justification for an earlier start time, and (h) Excavation that needs to occur to find the facility and the reinstallation of traffic control devices constitutes an emergency.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-060 This Amendment involves changes to the facility locating obligations as follows: (a) Mismarking a facility is a violation, (b) Requires positive response for no facilities in the area of construction, (c) Facilities have a “two hour” response window upon notification that facilities were not marked or marking was not completed, and (d) Clarifies a remarking/refresh provision.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-080 This Amendment requires

the facility owner to notify Chicago 811 of damage to facility.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-110 This Amendment changes the penalty schedule to include that a person who violates may be fined up to \$1000.00 for each separate offense in addition to the following penalties: (1) 1st offense the City shall order training, (2) 2nd offense the City shall fine \$1500.00, (3) 3rd offense \$3000.00, (4) 4th offense and each subsequent offense, \$3500.00 and increase fine increments of \$500.00 for each offense up to a maximum of \$10,000.00. Further, it provides an inclusion of penalty for facility owner who maintains incorrect maps.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-230 This Amendment provides for the selection of a Chairman for the evaluation panel.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-270 This Amendment transfers from the Commissioner to Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), the obligation of issuing Administrative Notice of Violation.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-280 This Amendment allows for Administration Notice of Violation to be served by email provided to Chicago 811.

Amendment of Municipal Code 10-21-320 This Amendment allows for the continuance under particular circumstances should the respondent fail to appear at scheduled hearing.

<https://ipi.cityofchicago.org/Digger>

KENTUCKY

SB 172 Signed 3/24/2021- This bill inserts a provision for damage reporting to facility owner and (if needed) safety authorities even if activities are otherwise exempt from making the one call. Also, adds an exemption for the activity of “Nonintrusive excavating to inspect or perform maintenance for an existing utility pole”.

HB 303 Signed 3/23/2021- This bill makes substantial changes to the one call/damage prevention process.

Very important for excavators, the tolerance zone for facilities expands from 18” to 24”. Second, changes ticket wait time to redefine working day as: “shall commence at 12:01 a.m. eastern time and end at 12 midnight eastern time excluding the day the locate request was made”, not including weekends or federal/state approved holidays.

Creates new and revised definitions for the following: Person, Positive response, Unique Identification Number/Locate Request number, Locator, Second Notice, Tolerance Zone (“ means a strip of land at least four 4’ wide but not wider than the width of the underground facility plus two 2’ on either side of the outer limits of the facility”), Untonable facility, Work Site Contact, and Fiber to the premise.

Operator locating practices/times have significantly changed and are as follows: Provides an exception for locating within 2 working days for:

- Agreed upon start time: The Commission shall make available on their website a marking schedule agreement for excavator/operator if applicable.
- Large project requests: Operators shall notify the excavator that the project is a large project and shall respond to locate request within 5 working days or prior to the start date of excavation if agreed upon.
- Design information tickets: An operator may reject a design locate request and not be held in violation under certain circumstances.
- Unmapped/untunable facilities: Unmapped or untunable facility request, within two working days the operator shall notify the excavator that an excavation area has been determined to be an unmapped or untunable

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project, and the operator shall respond to the request within five working days for a normal locate request or eight working days for a large project request or prior to the scheduled excavation start date if agreed upon.

- Fiber-to-the-premises broadband deployment excavation request, in locations not already served by fiber-to-the-premises, within four working days.
- One working day after receiving a second notice request from an excavator.
- Provides a provision that an operator is temporarily relieved of marking obligations due to extraordinary circumstances until the operator can recover from such circumstance. An extraordinary circumstance includes: weather, force majeure (Unforeseeable circumstance that prevents a person from fulfilling a contract), disasters or civil unrest.
- If evidence of an unmarked underground facility is uncovered, the operator shall have six business hours to identify the underground facility

Other notable changes: (a) Excludes any entity or individual owning or operating underground storage tanks from the definition of facility operator, (b) Positive response requirement, (c) Adds a marking color code Safety alert orange for fiber optic and critical telecommunications, (d) A provision that states “The two full working days provided have elapsed if all affected operators have notified the person”, (e) Extends allowable locate ticket length limits from 2000’ to 5000’, (f) Must hand dig within the tolerance zone except on certain and specific criteria, (g) Except for gas or hazardous liquid facilities and waiting the additional day after the excavator has made a second locate request, the excavator shall not be liable for damages unless found intentional or negligent, (h) Increased additional penalties if violation includes damage to gas or hazardous liquids, and (i) Provision to amend Kentucky Contact Center board seats to include no more than 21 voting members and 6 nonvoting members, add seats for voting members representing commercial excavators and oil and gas operators, criteria for who can hold a nonvoting/advisory seat and criteria for electing advisory members to the seat.

<https://kentucky811.org/>

LOUISIANA

SB 169 Passed 6/1/2021; Effective 8/1/2012- This bill added a definition for Normal Commercial Farming Operations which means the following operations or activities for agriculture cultivation purposes are: (a) Operations or activities that do not encroach upon a private utility or pipeline servitude, public right-of-way, or a public franchise area. (b) Operations or activities that do encroach upon a private utility or pipeline servitude and the depth of the excavation is less than twelve inches in the soil below the existing surface grade. Also, added a requirement for minimum ground cover for natural gas pipeline under specific criteria.

HB 69 Passed 6/1/2021; Effective 1/2/2022- This bill adds the requirements for white lining and positive response.

<https://www.louisiana811.com/>

MAINE

Docket Number 2020-00264 65-407 Chapter 895 1/5/2021 The new rule requires contacting 911 if contact or damage results in the release of gas or hazardous liquid. Also notable: Requires that excavator and operator report damage to Commission via phone, places provision that if lines are mismarked; the excavator shall not be held liable if they have complied with their obligations, added exemptions for quarries, borrow pits, grading roads under specific criteria and increased monetary fines for first violation of not to exceed \$1000.00 and subsequent violations to not exceed \$10,000.00.

<http://www.digsafe.com>

MARYLAND

SB 877/HB 1330 Vetoes 5/7/2021 Overrode 2/11/21- Maryland made substantial revisions to their damage prevention law within this bill. The following is a “high level “overview, however, it is recommended to visit the one call for in-depth details to these changes.

Definitions added are as follows: Clear evidence “means a visible indication that an underground facility or structure is not mark as required”, Contract locator, Cross-Bore, Damage –“means any excavation activity that results in the need to repair an underground facility due to a weakening or the partial or complete destruction of the facility, including the protective coding, lateral support, cathodic protection, or housing for underground facility.”, Detectable underground facility, Damage, Excavator, Extent of work, Locatable underground facility, Mark, Primary contractor, Temporary excavator, and Trenchless technology.

Other notable changes include the following: (a) Private residence excavation exemption removed for any excavations over 6” in depth, (b) As of 10/01/2021, all newly installed facilities shall be locatable and any previously locatable facilities shall be restored to locatable in certain conditions, (c) Changes to the “Authority” to include restrictions for member appointment eligibility, replacement protocols, enforcement protocols, probable violator procedures, and allowed funding for Authority, (d) Emergency response protocols for excavator and facility owners to include facility response within 2 hours and marking started within 3 hours, (e) Repeat/refresh/remark ticket calling provisions, (f) Excavator requirement to have a copy of one call ticket available on excavation site, (g) Trenchless Technology requirements, (h) Obligations of a primary contractor, how to report a temporary excavator on the current one call ticket, what defines a temporary excavator, and primary contractor oversight obligations for the temporary excavator, (i) New designer ticket obligations to include potential cross-bore obstruction, (j) Penalty considerations, increased penalties for subsequent violations to four thousand dollars, guidelines for determining what is a subsequent violation, penalties for fraudulent emergency ticket, and a two hundred dollar penalty for failing to appear before the Authority.

<https://www.missutility.net/maryland/>

MISSISSIPPI

HB 1334 Passed 6/25/2020- As of January 1, 2021, Utility Operators shall participate in the positive response system and within 2 working days respond through the positive response system to the excavator that facilities have been marked, there are no facilities present in area of excavation, or facilities can only be located through excavation. Operators shall be provided reasonable amount of time to locate facilities through excavation not to exceed 4 days from original notice.

<https://www.ms811.org/>

WASHINGTON D.C. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CB 230117 Passed 1/22/2021- This bill made several substantial amendments to (which is now known as), “Underground Facilities Protection Amendment Act of 2020” as follows: (a) With limited exemptions, no person shall excavate without first notifying at least 96 hours, but no more than 10 days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays), (b) If it is determined by a utility operator that a proposed excavation is planned in such proximity to an underground facility that may be damaged, dislocated, or disturbed, the utility operator shall identify the approximate horizontal location of the underground facility on the ground within 2 feet from the outermost part of the underground facility within 72 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays) by marking, staking, locating, or



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otherwise providing the location of the utility operator's underground facility. The method of identifying the location shall conform to standards and requirements, including the use of the color-coding system, established in regulations issued by the Mayor, (c) Mandatory positive response to include mandatory wait time for excavator until that response is received. "No person may begin excavation or demolition until receiving notification from the one-call center that the notices from the utility operators have been provided.", (d) Mandatory support of underground facility after exposure, (e) Mandatory hand digging to expose underground facility, (f) If a person engaged in or preparing to engage in excavation observes evidence of the presence of an unmarked underground facility in the area of a planned or ongoing excavation or observes a discrepancy between the marked or unmarked underground facilities, the person may not begin or continue the excavation until : Has repeated the notification to the one-call center and has received notification from the one-call center that the notices from the utility operators been provided, (g) In the case of damage to an underground facility, the excavator shall notify the utility operator, 911, and any other agency identified by the Mayor, (h) Civil penalties for violations are increased to \$2,500 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, and \$10,000 for the third or subsequent violation., (i) Civil fines and penalties may be imposed by the Mayor, (j) The Mayor may establish an advisory committee to advise on the implementation of this act and shall nominate and appoint persons to serve on the advisory committee. This committee must have representation from the following: Utility operator, the Public Service Commission, the one-call center, the excavation industry, and utility locator services. The committee serves solely in an advisory capacity only, (k) Rulemaking authority granted to the Mayor.

It is highly recommended to consult your one call center for detailed changes prior to excavating.

<https://www.missutility.net/washington-dc/>

OKLAHOMA

HB 2028 Passed 5/10/2021 This bill makes several changes to Oklahoma One Call law as follows: (a) Ticket life of 14 days, (b) Mandatory one call membership for operators, (c) Positive response, (d) In cases of excessive requests when no excavation is taking place, excavator may be liable to the owner or operator for the reasonable cost of such marking, (e) If requests for emergency locates are made by an excavator when there is no emergency, the excavator may be liable to the owner or operator for the reasonable cost of emergency response, and (f) Specific excavation requirements near hydrocarbon and hazardous liquid underground facilities.

<https://www.okie811.org/>

TENNESSEE

HB 54/SB 374 Passed 5/18/2021— This bill made significant changes to Tennessee one call law as follows: (a) Definition for damage notice meaning a notification made to the one-call service by a person who has caused damage to an underground facility, (b) Hand digging in tolerance zone or mechanical tools when approved by the operator, (c) An excavator shall exercise reasonable care to avoid damage caused by an excavation within the safety zone around the marked location of the underground utilities by hand digging when practical, utilizing pneumatic hand tools, or utilizing mechanical or technical methods approved by the facility owner or operator. Hand digging and non-invasive methods are not required for removal of pavement or concrete, (d) Definition for safety zone meaning a strip of land at least (4') wide, but not wider than the width of the utility plus (2') on either side of the utility, (e) White lining provisions (special note that these provisions are detailed in Rule 9541-9544 below), (f) Excavator shall report damage to one call and notify effected underground utility. If release of gas or hazardous liquid must contact emergency services and take necessary action to protect, property, and to minimize hazards, (g) During initial excavation, if an underground utility is found to be unsound due to deterioration, then the person responsible for excavation shall immediately notify the utility company involved and allow the operator reasonable time to

accomplish necessary repairs before completing the excavation or demolition in the immediate area of the utility, (h) Increased penalties for second and subsequent violations of \$10,000 per incident. Increased penalties for gross negligence to \$15,000.00 per incident, (i) Increased penalties under the TCA, Sec 65-28-108(a), (Pipeline Corporations; Penalty Division) from \$10,000.00 to \$100,000.00 for each violation for each day such violation persists not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 increased from previous amount of \$500,000.00, (j) Operators who fail to join the one-call service and utilize the services of the notification center are only subject to the civil penalties, (k) Operators shall report damages to Common Ground Alliance Dirt Report or to the One Call Center, and the operator shall not charge the person giving notice to the one-call service, the excavator, or property owner for the marking of its facilities.

Rule: 9541-9544 Effective 9/6/2021— This rule is part of the rulemaking authority of the enforcement board to provide clarifications and establish protocols. It is quite detailed as follows: (a) Any person may report an alleged violation of the Act by completing and submitting an electronic complaint. This form can be found on the Commission's website, (b) Alleged violations must be reported to the Executive Committee within ninety (90) days of the person or entity becoming aware of the circumstances constituting the alleged violation and reports of alleged violations should include as much relevant information concerning the circumstances as possible, including, but not limited to, damage and/or incident reports, photographs, statements and other informational documents, (c) Provides definition for Investigative Staff meaning the employee(s) of the Commission designated to investigate complaints. Further, establishes investigation protocols and authorized actions of the Investigative staff for alleged violations, (d) Establishes procedures and proceedings for contested cases, (e) An excavator shall exercise reasonable care to avoid damage caused by an excavation within the safety zone, (f) The Board further adopts the best practices for excavation as stated in Common Ground Alliance, Best Practices: The Definitive Guide for Underground Safety and Damage Prevention, Ch. 5, Excavation, and Appx. D (Ver. 17.0, March 2020), (g) Reasonable care protocols for excavation and trenchless excavation technology, and (h) Clarifies white lining obligations and exemptions.

<https://www.tn.gov/tpuc/divisions/uudp-underground-utility-damage-prevention.html>

<http://www.tenn811.com/>

VIRGINIA

20VAC5-309. Rules for Enforcement of the Underground Utility Damage Prevention Act (amending 20VAC5-309-150) Effective 1/1/2022

The amendments allow for a qualified contractor, in addition to the excavator, to complete the post-excavation video inspection for trenchless excavation across gravity fed sewer mains and combination storm and sanitary sewer system utility lines.

<http://register.dls.virginia.gov/details.aspx?id=9970>

<https://va811.com/>

2020/2021 Bills introduced

Illinois HB 0249 Introduced 3/37/2021

Illinois SB 3560 Introduced 1/19/2022

Indiana SB 0375 Introduced 1/11/2022

Iowa HF 741 Introduced 4/15/2021

Massachusetts S 2293 Introduced 1/20/2022

Nebraska LB 884 Introduced 1/13/2022

West Virginia 214-02 Proposed Rule of Procedure filed 4/21/2021 DP

Jennifer Reams is the lead compliance officer for Infrastructure Compliance Concepts. She works with companies to ensure operations standards are up-to-date, damage prevention audits, incident review, expert witness testimony and to provide training for all levels from field to office. For more information, contact jreams.icc@gmail.com.



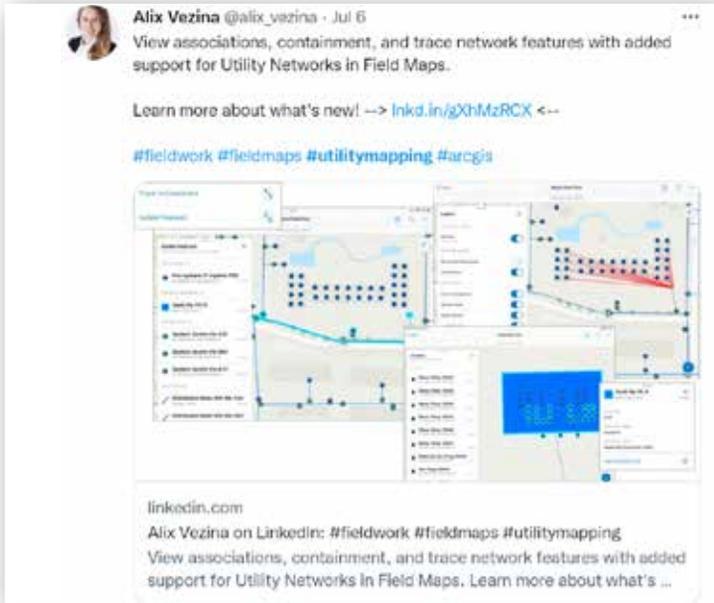
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WHAT'S TRENDING



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The Association of Oil Pipe Lines promotes responsible policies, safety excellence, and public support for liquids pipelines. They represent pipelines transporting 97% of all hazardous liquids barrel miles reported to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Their diverse membership includes large and small pipelines carrying crude oil, refined petroleum products, NGLs, and other liquids.





WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have you attended an Excavation Safety Alliance (ESA) Town Hall yet?

- A) Yes
- B) No

To answer click **HERE** <https://dp-pro.com/survey/what-do-you-think-q3-2022/>



The Excavation Safety Alliance (ESA) is the virtual community for utility safety professionals developing actionable solutions to protect infrastructure. Monthly

Live Town Halls give you the opportunity to join leaders in the industry as they brainstorm solutions for a rotating list of hot topics. Town Halls are the perfect opportunity to set the wheels of change in motion. To become an ESA member, click **HERE** to sign up for free.



GIS, Mapping, and Geospatial Technology Professionals

The group for professionals involved in GIS, mapping, Geospatial technologies - focus is North America and official group language is English. Perhaps you're a project manager, programmer, mashup developer, analyst, or consultant. Feel free to join this group if GIS, maps, GPS, Location technology, imaging is of interest to your business.



Trench Safety Month

This past June was declared "Trench Safety Month" by the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA). Selecting June as Trench Safety Month was a natural tie-in to the lessons and demonstrations being completed at thousands of NUCA member jobsites during the Trench Safety Stand Down Week (#TSSD2022) which has been held every June since 2016. Time and time again, evidence shows that the key to significantly reducing the risks associated with our industry is employee training and reinforcement through events such as these. To learn more about NUCA initiatives, visit nuca.com.



NEWS



Navajo Nation Council Passes Infrastructure Projects Bill

(Farmington Daily Times) – The Navajo Nation Council passed a bill in June to use its remaining \$1.07 billion in American Rescue Plan Act funds on infrastructure projects that will develop housing, water, electricity and broadband internet services.

The bill approved by the council includes:

- \$215 million for water lines and wastewater projects
- \$96 million for home electricity connections
- \$120 million for broadband internet
- \$130 million for housing
- \$150 million for bathroom additions
- \$150 million for local chapter priorities
- \$35 million for E911 and public safety
- \$19.2 million for health care
- \$5 million for cybersecurity
- \$15.5 million for housing in the former Bennett Freeze area

State, local and tribal governments that received American Rescue Plan allocations have until the end of 2024 to decide how to use the money and the end of 2026 to spend it.



Organizational Change in Australia

The existing “Dial Before You Dig” entities in Australia have transitioned to form a new organization now called “Before You Dig Australia” (BYDA). BYDA will continue to provide free referral service for the Australian community.



JOHN DEERE AND WACKER NEUSON ANNOUNCE NEW COLLABORATION

John Deere has announced an expanded relationship with compact and construction machine manufacturer Wacker Neuson for the development of excavators up to nine tons in size.

The two companies will collaborate on the development of excavators less than five metric tons, including battery electric excavators manufactured by Wacker Neuson. Additionally, John Deere will have control of the design, manufacturing, and technology for machines five- to nine-ton sizes.

“Excavators are an integral part of our customers’ jobsites, and we anticipate growing demand to continue,” said Domenico Ruccolo, senior vice-president of sales, marketing and product support for global construction equipment at John Deere. Ruccolo also indicated that distribution, parts, service and support will continue through the John Deere dealer network.

The Wacker Neuson Group is an international group of companies headquartered in Munich, Germany, employing 6,000 people worldwide.

CARBON LEAK Prompts Federal Focus on Pipeline Safety

(Mississippi Today) – In February of 2020, a breach in a carbon pipeline owned by Denbury, Inc. left 49 people near Satartia, Mississippi hospitalized, and about 300 residents were forced to evacuate.

In May, over two years since the incident, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) released its findings from an investigation. PHMSA found that the pipeline broke from heavy pressure caused by movement in the soil after persisting heavy rain. PHMSA also found that Denbury had, among other errors, failed to prepare for such natural hazards, failed to alert local emergency officials about the incident, and failed to educate nearby residents about the pipeline before the breach.

In the report, the agency proposed a civil penalty of \$3.9 million against Denbury, which the company can accept or contest.

PHMSA also indicated it will update standards for emergency preparedness and response, as well as alerting pipeline operators to better anticipate hazards from natural causes.

National Underground Asset Register

According to Gov.UK, the Geospatial Commission is building a digital map of underground pipes and cables that will revolutionize the way we install, maintain, operate and repair our buried infrastructure. The National Underground Asset Register (NUAR) will improve the efficiency and safety of underground works by creating a secure, auditable, trusted and sustainable platform. It will provide a consistent, interactive digital map of buried asset data, accessible when, where and how it is needed by those planning and executing excavations.

To find out more about the project, visit geospatialcommission@cabinetoffice.gov.uk.

SANTA MONICA GAS LEAK CLOSES PROMENADE

(Santa Monica Daily Press) – The Santa Monica (CA) Fire Department HazMat team responded to the site of a “major gas leak” on May 2nd, in the area of Santa Monica Boulevard. No injuries were reported and no residences were affected.

A construction crew digging near the popular Promenade shopping district hit a two-inch gas line. Public safety officials had to wait for SoCal Gas crews to arrive and trench out the area and seal the leak. The area remained closed for about five hours. **DP**

“**3 out of 4 Excavation Safety Guide readers kept and used the guide for the entire year**”

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ExcavationSafetyGuide.com



Calendar of Events

Due to COVID-19, some events have rescheduled or transitioned to a virtual environment. Be sure to verify the status of all events you are planning to attend. (V = Virtual Event)

September 2022

- 11-14 AWWA 2022 Water Infrastructure Conference
Portland, OR
- 13-15 Alabama Damage Prevention Summit
Orange Beach, AL
- 16-18 NSC Professional Development Seminars
San Diego, CA
- 19-21 NAC Safety Congress & Expo
San Diego, CA
- 21 & 22 NSC Professional Development Seminars
San Diego, CA

October 2022

- 4-6 AWWA Water Smart Innovations Conference & Expo
Las Vegas, NV
- 5-7 Texas811 Damage Prevention Summit
Denton, TX
- 9-13 2022 Operations Conference and APGA Fall Board & Committee Meetings, Savannah, GA
- 13 & 14 Chicago Build 2022 Expo
Chicago, IL
- 19 & 20 (V) AWWAW OPSHOW

- 25-27 New Mexico Damage Prevention Summit
Albuquerque, NM

November 2022

- 2-4 Mississippi Damage Prevention Summit
Biloxi, MS
- 13-16 IRMI Construction Risk Conference
Las Vegas, NV
- 13-17 AWWA Water Quality Technology Conference
Cincinnati, OH

Mark Your Calendars!

Global Excavation Safety Conference
February 14-16, 2023

Global GPR Congress
May 16 & 17, 2023
VIRTUAL



To include your event in an upcoming Calendar of Events schedule, email Karin@IR-SavingLives.com.



Utility Training Academy (UTA) specializes in damage prevention training programs designed to build and advance the knowledge and skills needed for accurate line locating and excavation safety.

- Utility Locator Training
- Pipeline Locator Training
- Excavation Safety Training

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Contact Jerilyn Foster for more information.
Email: jerilyn@ir-savinglives.com
Cell: 507-581-3399

Sharing Our Electrical Safety Messages with Children

(Shared in Industry News – 2019)

“Thanks for making the post and keep sharing.”
– *West Providence Electrical Contractors*

Best Practices for Conducting GPR Surveys for Utilities

(Summer 2017)

Author: : *Brian Jones*

“I liked it when you said that an antenna could make a massive difference in GPR surveys, as this is one of the ways to get an accurate target location. We are planning to hire someone who can conduct GPR service for our utility. I’m glad I came across your article and understand the best practices and things to consider regarding GPR surveys. I will go ahead and share this with my business partner and see what they think about conducting GPR surveys for our utility mapping.”

– *Bella Willey, AEI Subsurface (comment July 2022)*

Horizontal Directional Drilling: Its Impact on Utility Location

(Special Issue, Australian Edition 2018)

Author: *Innes Fisher, Utility Location Services Ltd.*

“How interesting that you mention traditional open-cut trenching and service placement. I am starting a new business this year. I will find a great place to help us with drilling.”

– *Tiff Gregers (comment June 2022)*

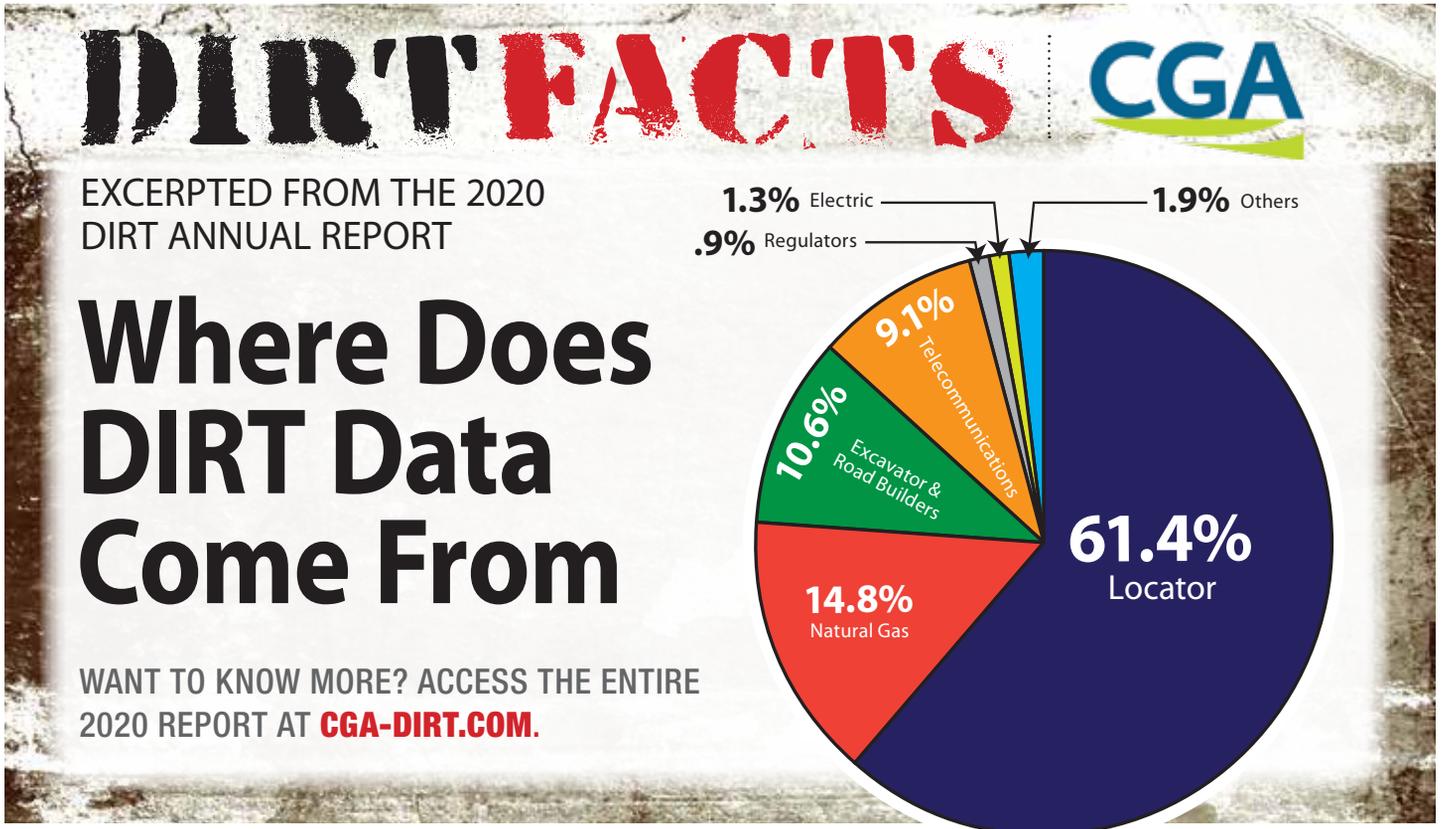
The Best Excavation Method: Hydro, Air, or Both?

(Excavation Safety Guide 2020)

Author: *Chapman Hancock, DitchWitch*

“Hi! My brother-in-law should totally check this article out before taking any definite action sometime soon. This is most certainly true after you insisted that hydro-excavation is highly versatile in terms of the types of terrain it can handle. He has been planning to adjust the alignment of the underground water pipe leading to his warehouse since last month.”

– *Amy Saunders (comment June 2022) DP*

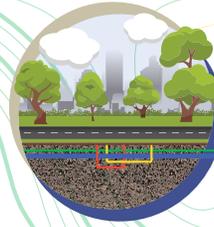




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2023



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The NASTT No-Dig Show Municipal & Public Utility Scholarship Award has been established to **provide education and training** for North American municipalities, government agencies and utility owners who have limited or no travel funds due to restricted budgets.

Selected applicants will be awarded **complimentary full conference registration** to the NASTT 2023 No-Dig Show in Portland, Oregon, April 30 – May 4, 2023. One day conference registrations will also be available. Registration includes **full access to all exhibits and technical paper sessions...** all you have to do is get yourself to the conference! Selected applicants will also be eligible to receive **overnight accommodations**. Selection based on responses to the application as well as need.

APPLY TODAY! Application deadline is November 1, 2022.



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The No-Dig Show is owned by the North American Society for Trenchless Technology (NASTT), a not-for-profit educational and technical society established in 1990 to promote trenchless technology for the public benefit. For more information about NASTT, visit our website at nastt.org.

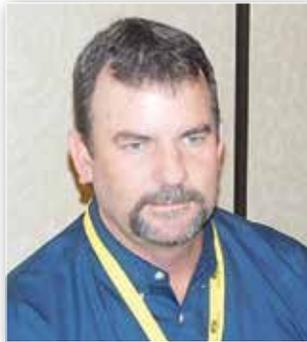


Danny Nichols

In Memoriam – Celebrating an Industry Veteran and Visionary

DANNY NICHOLS, AN INDUSTRY VETERAN AND VISIONARY, PASSED AWAY ON JUNE 24. HE BEGAN HIS CAREER WITH THE PIPELINE INDUSTRY IN THE MID-80S, WORKING IN BOTH GAS TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION.

His involvement has included Design, Construction, Operations, Maintenance and Emergency Response of Natural Gas & Hazardous Liquid Transmission, Gathering and Storage Facilities. Danny worked for Energy Transfer Company for 17 years, and was the Sr. Director of Regulatory Compliance/Government Affairs. He was also very active with the Texas Gas Association and Louisiana Gas Association, and proud of the relationship he fostered between the two. He was currently on the Board of Directors and Chair of the Transmission Committee with Texas Gas.



Those who worked with Danny over the years described him as thoughtful, knowledgeable, thorough, loyal, understanding, caring, encouraging, dedicated, positive, smart and compassionate.

“Danny understood the importance of working closely with other agencies and was always ahead of the game with solid plans,” said Angela Morgan, Lead Regulator Specialist for Energy Transfer.

“Danny was always devoted to keeping people safe throughout his career,” added Ronda Louderman, Vice President of EHSR – Black Bear Transmission. “He supported any collaborative industry event and always offered to help anyone however he could.”

“Danny was more than just a boss or co-worker to those who knew him. He was comfortable, familiar, a great friend, a role model, a leader... he was family.”

Danny knew so many people in the industry and his desire to help others and dedication to doing things the right way have made an impression on so many who knew him.

“He was always introducing me to others in our industry,” explained Morgan. “He increased my network tenfold in a very short time.”

“Danny was dedicated to his company, had a strong work ethic, and approached every situation with a ‘do what is right’ mentality,” said Greg Johnson, Director

of Pipeline Compliance – Targa Resources. “He was extremely knowledgeable about damage prevention and the safe operation of pipelines. With the recent loss of Danny, I’ve thought a lot about how I want to be remembered. It’s simple: as a solid/good guy who made a positive impact on people’s lives.”

“Danny will be missed in our industry, company, and regulatory circle,” Morgan added. “He knew his co-workers as people and friends. Danny was a one-of-a-kind man and his contributions to the Regulatory world will live on for many years.”

Danny was also very giving of his time and energy off the job. He served on the Scholarship Committee at Energy Transfer and was always willing to participate in many fundraising events. Back in 2007, he got involved in the Cherokee Creek Music Festival, an annual non-profit event created to raise money for children’s charities. To date, the event has raised more than \$2 million benefiting organizations like Children’s Medical Center of Dallas, Heroes for Children, Hill Country’s Children’s Advocacy Center, Shriner’s Hospital for Children, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and more.

When asked if she had any last words, memories or message to Danny, Kimberly Fitzhenry of Energy Transfer said, “This will choke me up, as there are so many ways Danny has helped me over the years and has left a lasting impact on me. He was encouraging and pushed me out of my comfort zone to learn and do more for myself and my career. He was an awesome boss and he cared about everyone on his team. He cared about work/life balance and understood my struggles as a single mom. Before he passed, he got my son a new fishing rod! My son told Danny about a big fish he caught, but it snapped his rod. The next week, he bought my son a new rod. I will miss his leadership, friendship, humor and caring heart. Danny was more than just a boss or a co-worker to those who knew him. He was comfort, familiar, a great friend, a role model, a leader... he was family.”

Danny Nichols also deserves to be called a “Damage Prevention Hero.” **DP**



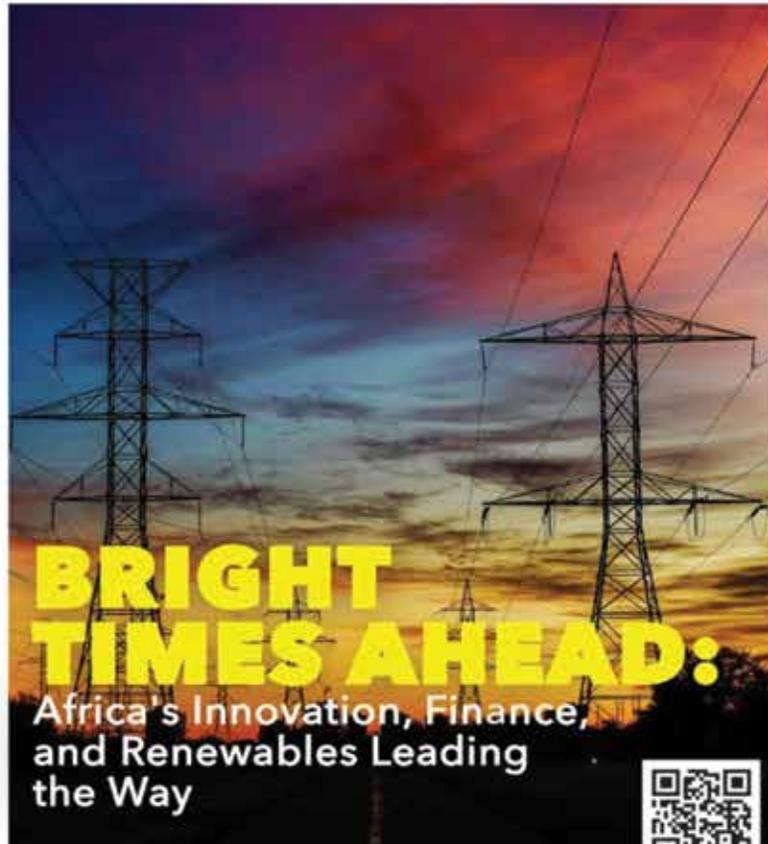
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Safe Digging?

BY DOUG J. BECK & MATTHEW MOORS

What is Safe Digging? We have all heard the phrase “safe digging” from excavators, utility companies, and regulators, but do we really understand and work toward this goal? With over 439,000 damages to underground facilities in 2017 in the United States alone, we obviously don’t understand what safe digging is.

Every company has measures to lean toward a safe digging goal. The first step is to plan the proposed work. Site and scope of work reviews are key to project planning. During this period, the project planner should white-line or create a picture of the proposed excavation area. Then the planner should contact 811 or the local One Call center and request a design/survey ticket to begin the initial notifications to all utility companies.

The design ticket will allow all parties to address any encroachment and safety issues. While utility companies are not required to mark or flag their lines for a design ticket, they will inform the designer as to the location of their lines. Excavators should understand that utility companies have protocols to protect their assets from damage. These protocols may include potholing or daylighting the asset, enforcement of tolerance zones for excavation, and clearances for crossings and protective barriers to prevent future damages. All of these and other issues can easily be resolved in the design review phase.

A design ticket does not actually cover any excavation, however. A normal One Call ticket must be placed prior to excavation. The excavator must notify 811 again; this time to request markings of all affected utilities. The excavator should ensure that the scope of the work is easy to identify by the locators. This is done by white-lining again and providing detailed driving directions in the



ticket. GPS coordinates or the site address are also very helpful to locators.

The One Call ticket will list all utilities that were notified of this excavation. The excavator should ensure that he or she receives a response from every utility listed. The responses can come via email, phone call, or site markings. Utility companies may have their own requests of the excavator and may detail those requests in the email or phone call response. Please address these requests accordingly as the utility company representative is only trying to protect the public, which includes you, by protecting their asset. Your failure to address those concerns and work with the utility company could be detrimental to your excavation and crew. If you have concerns over excavating near underground utilities, if possible, request a company representative to be onsite during the excavation. If you don’t receive a response from every utility company listed on your ticket, there is a real danger that

one or more lines were not marked or located. Follow your state’s laws for reporting this to the One Call center. In most states, this means calling 811 again to request a “no response” or “2nd Notice” ticket.

All parties should document that the utilities were marked in accordance with state laws by taking pictures, creating maps, or drawing sketches of the site and utility locations. Apps that are available for smart phones or tablets are great for documenting these markings. The apps can take a picture and document date, time, and location – either by address or GPS coordinates – and even allow the user to add notes. Examples of these apps are: Solocator, Dioptra, Theodolite, Context Camera and many others.

Finally, the day to dig arrives. Review your site again to ensure all markings are still in place. Inspect your equipment to make sure you have the proper excavation tools. Rock bars, rock picks, shovels, and safe-digging buckets for track hoes or back hoes are all key to preventing damages. Consider the following questions:

- **Are the utility company representatives on site or their request being met?**
- **Do you have cell phone signal in case of emergency and do you know the address or location of the excavation?**
- **Can you provide the 911 call center with directions to get on site?**
- **Do you have first aid kits and fire extinguishers?**
- **Do you have a safe digging plan?**

WOW you think, all of this to perform a simple excavation? The answer is YES, this is the start of SAFE DIGGING! 

Pipeline Task Force

BY KARIN STRUB

The Council for Dredging & Marine Construction Safety (CDMCS) and Coastal and Marine Operators (CAMO) pipeline groups are the leaders for raising safety standards and promoting a safety-first culture supporting American maritime infrastructure and the wellbeing of maritime workers coast-to-coast. A subset of CDMCS is the Pipeline Task Force (PTF), a joint inter-agency, public-private initiative focused on ensuring safe operations in waterways with submerged oil and natural gas pipelines through enhanced communications, collaboration, and exchange of best practices among all stakeholders. Preventing loss of life, injury and environmental pollution, and destruction of assets is their mandate and focus.

Coordinated with Devon Carlock, President, Council for Dredging & Marine Construction Safety and Ed Landgraf, Chairman of CAMO, the June PTF meeting took place on the 23rd Anniversary of the pipeline rupture in Bellingham, Washington. With an at-capacity room, those in attendance took a moment to honor the young men killed in the rupture, Liam Wood, 18, Wade King and Stephen Tsiornas, both age 10; a somber moment that reinforced the reason we were there.

The PTF working group consisted of over 50 diverse participants representing the dredge, marine construction, 811, pipeline, PHMSA, NTSB, Corps of Engineers, and US Coast Guard sectors.

The agenda for the June meeting focused on the National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) findings from the August 21, 2020, Corpus Christi incident that killed five crewmen after a cutter suction dredge struck a propane pipeline in the Inner Harbor. The gas ignited, causing an explosion aboard the dredge. NTSB investigators recently released their findings outlining events leading up to the Port of Corpus Christi dredge explosion. The NTSB report finds the incident was caused by a series of events that began when the dredge vessel hit an underwater propane pipeline and resulted in the deaths of five of its crew



and others injured after the dredge originally caught fire. The report continues to give an account of the fire reigniting later that night, precipitating the dredge sinking overnight. Pieces of the pipeline and the barge have been transported to NTSB labs for further examination.

The team evaluated the NTSB findings, recommendations, current dredge and pipeline com-

Key Topics:

- Enhanced Training and Education
- Modify Marine Tolerance Zone
- Mapping, Survey and Marking
- One Call, Damage Prevention for underwater excavation, communications and planning
- Communications, project design and planning

pany positions and captured feedback from the PTF stakeholders resulting in over 40 proactive suggestions. A consensus was reached to expand on key topics to enhance safety and reduce risks.

The goal of the PTF is to expand each of the topics and spur action through enhanced best practices, education, and training with the hope of being recognized as consistent national practices across the Dredge, Marine Construction, Pipeline, Regulatory, 811, and Agency stakeholder groups. **DP**

To learn more about the Pipeline Task Force and Pipeline Safety, visit: <https://cdmcs.org/pipeline-task-force> or www.camogroup.org.

February 14-16, 2023

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Why Attend Global ESC? A Long Tradition of Saving Lives Through Education

Since 2004, the Global Excavation Safety Conference has been the premier international event dedicated to providing educational content and resources to help protect buried assets, our workers, and our communities. The Conference, owned and produced by Infrastructure Resources, LLC, is the largest event in the underground damage prevention industry, drawing nearly 1,500 participants annually from around the world and offering 80+ hours of educational content. With conference sessions, numerous networking events, and 80+ exhibitors, it is the place to be if you are committed to the mission of reducing damages and saving lives.

Whether you have attended every Conference for the past 18 years, or this if your first time, there are sessions, summits, and connections for you. There are numerous opportunities to learn new information directly related to your industry, expand your knowledge into a related field, network with peers who understand your job functions and share ideas with dedicated professionals.

Unmatched Networking Opportunities

There are a variety of networking events to help you connect with the people who can help move you and your career to the next level. This event is attended by the important decision makers and thought leaders in the industry. Whether you are dedicating time to attending scheduled networking events, participating in events outside the convention center, or just meeting with important people on your way between education sessions, this event surrounds you with a wealth of knowledge unparalleled within the excavation safety and damage prevention industry.

A Buzzing Exhibit Hall

The Conference is the perfect place to learn about the newest trends and technologies for the industry. Every year exhibitors premiere new products and services that make your

job easier. Spending time on the exhibit floor is a great way to increase your knowledge on industry advancements before anyone else. With the digging season starting soon after the Conference ends, you'll be in the perfect position to bring your team the equipment and knowledge needed to run at peak efficiency and effectiveness.





Three Days of Education. A Week of Excavation Safety.

Monday, February 13

8:30 am - 12:30 pm	WORKSHOP: What Will They Say About You? (additional fees apply)
12:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Registration
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Exhibitor Move-In

Tuesday, February 14

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Registration
8:00 am - 1:00 pm	Exhibitor Move-In
8:00 am - 12:30 pm	WORKSHOP: Damage Investigation with an Expert Witness (additional fees apply)
8:30 am - 3:30 pm	WORKSHOP: Utility Locator Skills Enhancement (additional fees apply)
9:00 am - 9:45 am	Education Open to All Badge Types/ Vendor Sessions
10:00 am - 10:45 am	Education Open to All Badge Types/ Vendor Sessions
11:00 am - 11:45 am	Conference Sessions
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Conference Sessions
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Conference Sessions
2:00 pm - 3:30PM	Plenary Session
3:45 pm - 4:00 pm	Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Welcome Reception/Global Locate Masters Competition Kick-Off
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Exhibit Hours

Wednesday, February 15

8:00 am - 5:00 pm	Registration
8:30 am - 9:30 am	Breakfast with Exhibitors
8:00 am - 2:00 pm	Exhibit Hours/Global Locate Masters Competition

9:30 am - 10:00 am	Education Open to All Badge Types
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Education Open to All Badge Types
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Education Open to All Badge Types
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Education Open to All Badge Types
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	New Product Forum
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Conference Sessions
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Lunch with Exhibitors
1:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Conference Sessions
2:00 pm - 2:45 pm	Conference Sessions
3:00 pm - 3:45 pm	Conference Sessions
4:00 pm - 4:45 pm	Education Sessions
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Night of Networking at Splitsville

Thursday, February 16

7:00 am - 12:00 pm	Registration
7:00 am - 5:00 pm	Baggage Check
8:30 am - 9:30 am	Breakfast with Exhibitors
8:00 am - 11:00 am	Exhibit Hours
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Education Open to All Badge Types
9:00 am - 9:45 am	Conference Sessions
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Education Open to All Badge Types
10:00 am - 10:45 am	Conference Sessions
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Plenary Session
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	ESA Town Hall: Open to All Badge Types
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Outdoor Demo/Picnic Lunch
1:30 pm - 2:15 pm	Conference Sessions
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Exhibitor Move-Out
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	Education Sessions
3:30 pm - 4:15 pm	Conference Sessions

Friday, February 16

8:30 am - 12:30 pm	Click Before You Dig Golf Scramble
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Plan Your Trip to Tampa.

Infrastructure Resources, LLC, the City of Tampa, and its hotel partners are looking forward to welcoming you back to its 2023 Global Excavation Safety Conference! Special convention rates have been arranged for the following hotels.

Price Breaks	
August 12 - December 31	\$1,200
January 1 - February 10	\$1,300
Onsite	\$1,400

Access	Conference (\$811)	Expo (\$125)	Workshops (price varies)	Exhibitor Plus (\$600)	Exhibitor (\$400)	Golf (\$150)	Wednesday Networking (\$150)
Vendor Outreach Sessions	★	★	★	★	★		
Conference Sessions	★			★			
Summits	★			★			
Plenary Sessions	★			★			
Exhibit Hall Courtyard Education	★	★	★	★	★		
Tuesday Welcome Reception	★	★	★	★	★		
Wednesday Meals (breakfast, lunch)	★			★	★		
Thursday Meals (breakfast, lunch)	★			★	★		
Exhibits	★	★	★	★	★		
Wednesday Networking Event	★			★	★		★
Outdoor Demo Fair	★	★	★	★	★		
Global Locate Masters Entry Ticket**	★	★	★	★	★		
Workshop Ticket*			★				
Golf*						★	

* Additional purchase required. ** Awards for GLM take place at Wednesday Night's Networking Event (ticket purchase required for Expo or Workshop GLM participants)



Embassy Suites Tampa – Downtown Convention Center
 513 S Florida Ave, Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 769-8300

Embassy Suites Tampa Downtown, located steps from the Tampa Riverwalk and Amalie Arena, is connected to the Tampa Convention Center.

Book by 1/08/23 to secure the lowest rate!



Marriott Water Street Tampa
 505 Water Street, Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 221-4900

A redesigned waterfront hotel that sits adjacent to the convention center in Tampa's dynamic downtown just steps from the Tampa Riverwalk, Florida Aquarium and Amalie Arena.

Book by 1/20/23 to secure the lowest rate!



The Westin Tampa Bay
 7627 Courtney Campbell Cswy,
 Tampa, FL 33607
(813) 281-0000

Westin Tampa Bay is located on Rocky Point Island, just minutes from downtown Tampa, the Westshore business district, and a variety of shopping,

Book by 1/11/23 to secure the lowest rate!



GlobalExcavationSafetyConference.com

Unmatched Education

Educational sessions are offered by professional speakers and industry experts who share their time and experience to increase industry knowledge on damage prevention, public awareness, and other related topics. In addition, interactive industry-focused summits impel industry leaders to address major issues and explore potential solutions. Conference registration required to participate in all education sessions and summits.

Education Session Endorsers

We thank these organizations for their collaborative efforts in developing content for their respective industries.



Sessions

Global ESC attracts the best speakers and subject matter experts in the industry. Each year's sessions are chosen with an eye for subject diversity, topicality, and attendee feedback. Sessions are subject to change.

Meet Buxus: Information the Way Emergency Responders Want (and Need It)

Lindsay Sander, Sander Resources / Chief Jonathan Lamm, City of Cocoa, Florida / Michelle Cechowski, East Central Florida LEPC Staff

Buxus is the first of its kind app that promotes communication between utility operators and emergency responders. The app delivers information about individual pipeline operators who subscribe to the system. The app is positioned to transform the way emergency response liaison activities are conducted in the future and more importantly how pipeline emergencies are initially responded to by responders.

Power of Don't: Communication and Leadership Excellence

John Brix, Professional Speaker

The mind is divided into two basic aspects – the conscious and subconscious mind. POD will give delegates a new understanding on how these two aspects work with each other and how to ensure training and mentorship are completed properly to ensure long-term memory recall. With the tools delegates gain they will be able to relay

information better, increase the success of learning while decreasing the time spent on training and information delivery.

The RAS System

John Brix, Professional Speaker

Critical Mass of Risk

John Brix, Professional Speaker

RP1162

Terri Larson, Larson Communications

In this session, you'll get an update on API RP1162, 3rd Edition. Learn how it has changed compared to the 1st Edition and what it means for operator public awareness programs.

Two Confined Space Standards – Which one is for you?

Bruce Magee, United Rentals

Although OSHA's construction industry-focused confined space regulations were released in 2015, there is still confusion to which Standard should be followed. This session will help clarify misunderstandings between General Industry Standard, 1910.146, and Construction Industry Standard, 1926 Subpart AA. Keeping those in mind, this session will then address the importance of training your workers on the proper standard and provide ways to ensure everyone is compliant and safe.

1st Amendment Audits

Jim Willis, In-Dev Tactical

De-Escalating Volatile Situations in the Field

Jim Willis, In-Dev Tactical

Some handle verbal confrontations with ease, but for most, it's difficult and unpleasant. Utility workers are no exception, and de-escalation is seldom the go-to response. Utility work tends to attract Type-A personalities, so backing down is rarely the first instinct. The good news is de-escalation is a learned skill. Personnel who deal with the public need proactive skills that allow them to understand when and how to engage, when to disengage, and when to escape the situation.

Believe in Safety

Brandon Schroeder, Believe in Safety, LLC

Everyone makes decisions about safety and many of them in an instant. The wrong safety habits make it easier to make wrong





decisions that are impossible to undo. Brandon survived an arc flash explosion that should have killed him. Listen as he recounts the tragedy and discusses the contributing factors and how it all could have been avoided. This presentation leaves delegates with a stronger understanding, and respect, for doing the job correctly and safely.

Leading Women of Damage Prevention

Ketha Molina, Texas811 / Jennifer Pratt, Damage Prevention Council of Texas

The Leading Women of Damage Prevention (LWDP) is a social enterprise designed for the advancement and discovery for all women who have an interest in the production of underground infrastructure. Our mission is to influence and encourage all women in the damage prevention industry to be bold, confident, and brilliant through collaboration, empowerment, and networking.

Bedrock Mapping Study with GPR and Geospatial Mapping Techniques

David Acosta, CSTI / Joey Gallegos, CSTI / John Gallegos, CSTI

This case study shows the integration of GPR paired with Geospatial Mapping Techniques to creating a 3D surface and subsurface model of the findings. This acquisition method along with SUE Level A techniques provides an additional non-destructive method to expose the bedrock to align the sampled 3D profile data. While pairing these data sets, you will learn the impact of planning, costs, structure and utility conflict analysis of this Design-Build Project.

GPR Technology in Support of Search and Rescue Operations for Victims in the Earthquake of September 19, 2017 in Mexico

Alejandra Vera, INSET

On September 19, 2017, a 7.1 earthquake hit near Mexico City. This earthquake left considerable damage in the center of the country due to the dense population and complex structures in the subsoil. At least 39 collapsed buildings were reported.

Strategies to Consider for Reducing Update Tickets

Susan Bohl, OKIE811

Are you seeing an increase in Update Tickets in your state? Are tickets being updated but there's no excavation taking place? In Oklahoma, we've seen a major increase in Update Tickets and we're receiving complaints from locators that no one is working at the remarked site. So, what can we do about it and why would we look

at reducing ticket volume? Come find out what we did, why we did it and what other states are considering to help cut out what might be considered waste in the 811 system.

The Causes of Utility Damages in North Carolina: Direct Causes vs Root Causes

Dr. Ahmed Al-Bayati, Lawrence Technical University

How does NC 811 categorize the cause of damages? What are the differences between direct causes and root causes? How do we identify the areas where attention will bring the most benefit? This session presents the immediate causes of damages in North Carolina. Learn how you can leverage data in your state to help direct activities to reduce damages.

Global ESC Summits

Electric Safety Summit

Moderator: Cliff Meidl



Fiber Optic Asset Protection Summit

Moderator: Christopher McDermott, AT&T

Panelist: Andrea Stainback, Lumen

George Kemp, MetroNet

Sponsored by:



Notification Center Summit

Moderator: Bruce Campbell,

MISS DIG 811 / FNCA



Water & Sewer Infrastructure Protection Summit



Pipeline Safety & Awareness Summit

Moderator: Kesley Tweed, PAPA

Sponsored by:



Excavator Perspective Summit

Moderator: Jerry Hoover, Badger Daylighting

Global Locate Summit

Moderator: Ron Peterson, Nulca





GlobalExcavationSafetyConference.com

ESA Town Hall LIVE

ESA Town Hall: LIVE Edition

EXCAVATION SAFETY'S MONTHLY MEETING GOES ANALOG



Global ESC 2023 is set to host the first ever LIVE Excavation Safety Alliance (ESA) Town Hall! ESA Town Halls, hosted online at ExcavationSafetyAlliance.com since April 2022, have attracted hundreds of monthly attendees. Topics have ranged from late locates to The Infrastructure Bill, with panelists and attendees representing every stakeholder group. A live version of the popular town hall format, with a moderator and panelists from a variety of industries, will debut at Global ESC 2023. ESA Town Halls are driven by the knowledge of the panelists and the passion of the attendees. For that reason, the Global ESC audience was the perfect match.

What is an ESA Town Hall?

Excavation Safety Alliance (ESA) Town Halls are open forums for all stakeholders to discuss concerns and present potential solutions to improve damage prevention and excavation safety. ESA Town Halls provide a forum for open discussion on key industry topics and to be a place where anyone can suggest solutions or improvements. There is rarely one solution that will work for everyone, but often someone has a solution that will work for others. While outlining the problems and causes is an important first step, the goal of the ESA Town Halls is to end up focused on solutions and improvements.

Each ESA Town Hall will have a moderator and a panel. As a Town Hall these will be heavily weighted towards questions and comments from the virtual audience. At the end of each Town Hall there will be a short survey asking participants if there should be follow-up meetings on this topic to keep discussing solution ideas.

Pitch a Town Hall Idea!

ESA Town Hall topics are chosen largely via attendee feedback. Have a topic in mind that you think would generate valuable discussion? Submit it at the bottom of the ESA Town Hall landing page or follow the QR code.



Catch Up on Previous Town Halls

Every past Town Hall recording is available in-full to all ESA members. Create a free ESA account at ExcavationSafetyAlliance.com or use the QR code below.

LATE LOCATES: PARTNERING WITH NOTIFICATION CENTERS

HOW CAN SUE AND ACCURATE MAPS BE USED TO REDUCE BOTH DAMAGES AND COSTS?

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE INFRASTRUCTURE BILL IMPACTS ON THE DAMAGE PREVENTION INDUSTRY?

WHAT MAKES A ONE CALL LAW FAIR & EFFECTIVE?

HOW CAN WE GET MORE WOMEN INVOLVED IN DAMAGE PREVENTION?

AND MORE!

Become an ESA Member





Workshops & Global Locate Masters

Damage Investigation with an Expert Witness w/ Ron Peterson (\$255)

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 8:00 AM – 12:30 PM EST

Damages to underground assets occur regularly. Every company needs a policy ensuring everyone in the field can properly conduct a field incident investigation, in a timely manner, for cost recovery. As an expert witness, Ron Peterson will focus on the required elements of a successful damage investigation, by helping you set the stage to determining a valid root cause investigation by following standard investigative procedures vital to an effective analysis of damage. Learn how to protect your company through proper documentation of damage incidents through photographic, interview, and investigative procedures. Ron will break the individual components of a quality root cause investigation into easily digestible segments. *Pre-registration is required. Box lunch is not included.*



Utility Locator Skills Enhancement w/ Bob Nighswonger (\$395)

Tuesday, February 14, 2023, 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM EST • Refreshments provided by



Not only is this skills training workshop a great introductory session and a valuable career-building tool for the novice locator, the workshop was designed to challenge and expand the knowledge base of even the most seasoned of pros on the art of underground line locating and marking.

This two-fold training workshop begins with a live classroom training session with comprehensive animated slide presentations, lively discussions, and a supporting workbook loaded with reference materials and classroom activities. The classroom session is followed by hands-on instruction performed outdoors where a variety of conventional and not-so-conventional equipment is placed in the hands of the workshop participants.

This workshop is approved for six to eight Continuing Educational Hours or Training Credits for Water Operator Certification renewals in California, New Mexico, Nevada, Arizona, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

The workshop is approved for eight contact hours for CWEA certificate holders for credit toward the continuing education requirement for re-certification. *Pre-registration is required. Box lunch included in cost.*



What Will They Say About You? w/ Wylie Davidson & Amy Davis (\$255)

Monday, February 13, 2023, 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM EST

Dig deeper into exploring the core values of how to effectively leave a lasting legacy. Leaving a legacy is something we all have in common, good or bad, and it's how we use the tools provided for us that allow us the ability to rise or fall. *Pre-registration is required. Box lunch is not included.*



Global Locate Masters

Enter the second annual Global Locate Masters! This unique competition tests the abilities of top locate technicians from around the world using UTTO's VR simulators. These simulators create complex locate experiences in an immersive environment that challenge a technician's training, skill, experience and the attention to detail required for a successful locate.

The competition takes place on the Global ESC 2023 Expo floor and allows technicians the unprecedented opportunity to showcase their skills in front of a live audience of peers and industry leaders. The competition recognizes, rewards, and shines a spotlight on the world's best utility locating professionals by putting on display the years of experience, critical thinking, and mental agility each competitor brings to complete quality locates in a timely manner.





GlobalExcavationSafetyConference.com

Welcome Reception

Come together and celebrate the kickoff of the 2023 Global Excavation Safety Conference! The perfect opportunity to network with colleagues and explore solutions and new technologies with vendors who add value to your experience.

Courtyards

Take advantage of these casual seating areas scattered throughout the exhibit hall to gather with peers for a meal or just great conversation between visits to our exhibitors.

Outdoor Demo Fair & Picnic Lunch

Enjoy your lunch in the sun as you explore exhibitor equipment displays and demonstrations. Gain live, hands-on experience with the newest tools in the damage prevention industry.

The Social Event of the Week:

Wednesday Night

Take an evening stroll to Splitsville Southern + Social, located on the waterfront at Sparkman Wharf in downtown Tampa, for

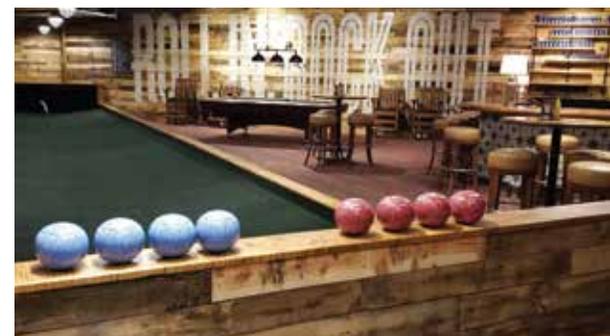
the primetime networking event of Global Excavation Safety Conference! There you'll find food, cocktails, awards, and a celebration of Tampa's swashbuckling history. Your ticket is INCLUDED with your Conference or Exhibitor badge! Tickets are available for purchase for all other badge types.

The Theme

Held just weeks after Tampa's world-famous Gasparilla Pirate Festival, the Wednesday Night Event will continue the celebration of pirate José Gaspar, who terrorized the coastal waters of West Florida during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Throw on a pair of your most battle-worn breeches, slip on a favorite bandana, and ready your marauding spirit for a night you won't soon forget.

The Venue

Splitsville Southern + Social is a vintage, retro-style bowling alley with a fresh spin on music, dining and entertainment.





Interested in exhibiting at Global ESC 2023?
 Contact Vicki Husome at vicki@ir-savinglives.com

Exhibiting at Global ESC

Global ESC attendees come from all stakeholder groups, but they have two critical things in common: They care deeply about saving lives, and they have the motivation and power to effect change in their organizations.

Why Exhibit?

Be a Part of a Tradition 18 Years in the Making. The Damage Prevention industry is constantly evolving and improving. Take advantage of three days of Exhibit Hall access to generate new leads and stay connected with decision makers and influencers from around the world. The largest event of its kind, Global ESC is the place to showcase your company, products and services through an expo booth or by participating in exhibitor education opportunities.

Exhibitor Opportunities

Vendor Outreach Sessions

Presented by vendors, these 45-minute sessions showcase the solutions and services our exhibitors and sponsors offer the damage prevention community.

30 Minute Tech Talks

Held in exhibit hall courtyards during expo hours, these 30 minute sessions allow exhibitors to have interactive discussions with attendees.

New Product Forum

Designed to give damage prevention stakeholders an introduction to the latest equipment and technology, the New Product Forum is presented in a rapid-fire format that offers a look at new products and services released within the past year.

“Prospects were perfect for our target audience and very beneficial to business growth and brand recognition. The Global ESC also offers fantastic sessions with a lot of relevant and important industry information. The Global ESC team went out of their way to accommodate both exhibitors and attendees. It was well worth the time and investment!”



Kathy Marston, Rhino Marking & Protection Systems

Exhibiting Booth Pricing			GLOBAL Excavation SAFETY CONFERENCE
	10' X 10'	\$3,300	Two (2) Staff Badges
	10' X 20'	\$5,900	Four (4) Staff Badges
	10' X 30'	\$8,100	Six (6) Staff Badges
	10' X 40'	\$10,200	Six (6) Staff Badges
	20' X 20'	\$10,200	Six (6) Staff Badges
	20' X 30'	\$13,000	Six (6) Staff Badges
	20' X 40'	\$16,000	Eight (8) Staff Badges

Premium Locations
 Corner+\$200
 Island+\$400

2023 Exhibitors





GlobalExcavationSafetyConference.com

Global ESC Sponsors

Global Excavation Safety Conference sponsors support the continued success of a tradition 18 years in the making — A tradition that continues to provide unparalleled education opportunities to the industry.

Global ESC 2023 Sponsors

Damage Prevention Theater:



Industry Summits:



Session Notebooks:



Locator Skills Workshop Refreshments:



Courtyards:



Golf Hole Sponsorship:



Official Event Bag:



Safety at work[®]

Global ESC Delivers Memories

"Great conference!"
Michael Pegam, PelicanCorp

"I was very impressed with the total Conference and Exhibits. Both the technical sessions and the workshops (Cross-bore and EM Locator) were especially informative and will be helpful, and utilized to enhance safety as we perform our utility (water and sewer) maintenance / work in Savannah, GA."
James Laplander, City of Savannah

Available Sponsorships Highlights

Demo Fair Picnic Lunch (Thursday)
Support the hands-on experience of the outdoor demo fair in the beautiful Tampa weather by sponsoring the picnic lunch provided to all Conference delegates.

Global ESC 2023 Mobile App

Many attendees carry a smart phone or tablet and appreciate the ease of access to vital event information like sessions, schedules, speakers, exhibitors, networking functions and much more. Sponsoring the mobile app places your logo in a rotating banner on the home page visible to attendees every time they open the app.

Exclusive Networking Sponsor

Don't miss your chance to connect your company's name with the social event of the Conference. All Conference and Exhibitor badges include entry into this "can't-miss" party including unique drinks, excellent music, delicious food and great company!

Event Program

The Event Program is distributed to all participants upon registration and includes all activities and events happening during Global Excavation Safety Conference.



Damage Prevention Goes Offshore

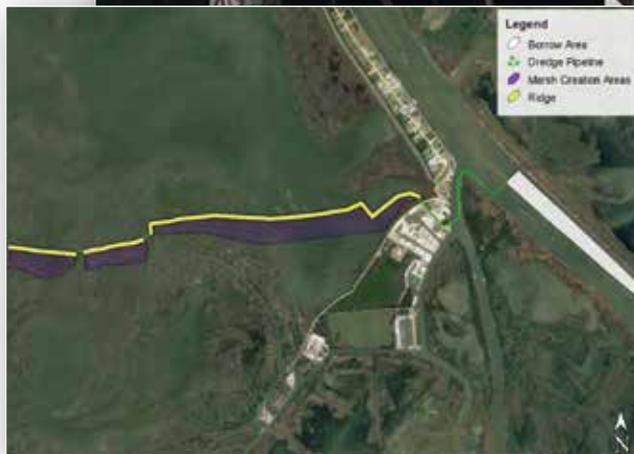
BY KARIN STRUB

As the Council for Dredging & Marine Construction Safety Pipeline Task Force meetings in New Orleans came to an end, attendees were invited by Weeks Marine for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity – to learn firsthand from a dredger’s perspective about the challenges and successes of managing pipeline safety for the Barataria Basin Ridge and Marsh Creation Project.

Our morning started with dreary skies and a two-hour drive to Venice, Louisiana, “The Fishing Capitol of the World”. As they say about best laid plans, the skies opened and rain fell the entire morning. Getting out on the water was a fleeting idea because safety is paramount.

Although I didn’t board the vessel, I am amazed at what I have learned about the dredging industry and the Barataria Basin Ridge and Marsh Creation Project. This large-scale restoration strategy for the Barataria Basin will re-establish ridge and intertidal marsh habitats.

Funded by money resulting from the damages of an oil spill, allocated through the Natural Resource Damage Assessment Act (NRDA), this restoration project is the largest marsh and ridge creation project in Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) history. The project will build over 1,500 acres of marsh and 132 acres of ridge, creating a total of 1,670 acres of habitat extending approximately 7.5 miles to the west from Venice, Louisiana. Weeks Marine will be dredging 10.7



million cubic yards of material from the Mississippi River just to the east of Venice and extending down river for 2.5 miles.

The project began in September 2021 and is expected to be completed in December 2022. To date, 40 species have returned to the area. **DP**

The 2022 Pipeline Safety & Awareness Summit Focuses on the Role of Field Data

Moderator:

Kesley Tweed – Executive Director, PAPA

Panelists:

Tina Beach –
Representative, Government Relations Senior, CHS

Chad Shannon –
Business Development Manager,
MEA Energy Association

Ryan Martin –
Public Awareness Administrator, Phillips 66

collection methods still in use – handwritten forms, inconsistent notes, etc. That discovery led to an effort to digitize the process. Tablets were purchased for many field workers, and they developed an app that would create a DIRT form. They also cross-referenced each state's unique form requirements to ensure the digital records were as universal as possible.

Chad Shannon introduced the audience to a QR badging system MEA implemented, EnergyU Badges. They created a QR badging system that tracks workers' certification levels. QR codes can be scanned with any mobile device and data is cloud accessible, creating on-demand knowledge of any individual's training level and access levels.

On the Future of Mapping

On the future of mapping, the hot topic on the panel and in the audience was live-GIS. The consensus was that it is making a not-so-slow march to being the norm. While more data is still being collected, it is already allowing companies to be more prescriptive in their solutions.

As an example, Ryan Martin shared a Phillips 66 geofencing case study. They used a heatmap of locations deemed "high-risk" for potential damages. They used that information to serve digital ads and follow-up landing pages to a variety of groups within relevant geofenced areas, like public works departments, Home Depot, and Lowes stores.

Data is the Future, and the Past

Collecting more data has always been an asset in protecting utilities and the people who work around them. Tina Beach shared an anecdote that drove that home. Around 10 years ago CHS realized that farmers and ranchers were at particular high risk. Further, two-thirds of near misses happened after land transfers. New owners were missing a classic form of data: Tribal Knowledge. Increased field data collection will increasingly contribute to our collective knowledge and safety well into the future.

Join the 2023 Pipeline Safety & Awareness Summit LIVE

Register for the 2023 Global Excavation Safety Conference in Tampa, FL, to attend the 2023 Pipeline Safety & Awareness Summit. Moderator Kesley Tweed returns to guide another great discussion. Interested in participating as a panelist or suggesting a colleague? Contact Karin Strub at Karin@IR-SavingLives.com. **DP**

The annual Pipeline Safety & Awareness Summit, held at the Global Excavation Safety Conference, brings together major gas & oil voices to discuss pressing industry issues. The 2022 Pipeline Safety & Awareness Summit, held in Phoenix, AZ, on the Global ESC Expo floor, turned its focus to the expansion of available field data. PAPA Executive Director Kesley Tweed led the discussion, joined by panelists Tina Beach of CHS, Chad Shannon of MEA Energy Association, and Ryan Martin of Phillips 66.

Field Data Sources

More field data is being collected than ever before, but what data is proving most useful?

Tina Beach pointed out that the data collected varies from state to state. Tina engages with public stakeholders for operations across six states and used Kansas as an example. Initial data suggested that the state was experiencing a high level of non-responses. When CHS normalized the data, however, a downward trend in non-response probability was found. The increase in non-responses could be directly linked to a tremendous increase in locates. Further research into the data uncovered that the most populous county was disproportionately responsible for non-responses. That information can then be used to inform future staffing, training, and education demands.

Ryan Martin says they started with looking at the data collection process itself. There was a mix of legacy data





INTERNATIONAL Lineman's Rodeo

JOIN US THIS OCTOBER

OCTOBER 12-15, 2022



The International Lineman's Rodeo attracts the best linemen from around the world to compete in events based on traditional lineman tasks. After more than 30 years, the International Lineman's Rodeo & Expo still proves to be the industry's most valued premier event of its kind for the electric utility industry.

**REGISTER TO COMPETE
AT LINEMANSRODEOKC.COM**

WHERE THE BEST OF THE BEST COME TO COMPETE

Many of the skills required in the competition are less frequently used but critical line skills like climbing, working off a pole, and work tasks using hot sticks rather than gloves. These opportunities for linemen enhance their skills, keep them fresh, and make them more productive all while keeping safety at the forefront during the competition.

Hosted in Overland Park, KS

For exhibit & sponsorship details, contact Sam Posa · sposa@endeavorb2b.com · 800.525.9154

ESA Town Hall Discussions

(MAY, JUNE AND JULY)

BY SCOTT LANDES



How can SUE and Accurate Maps Be Used to Reduce Both Damages and Costs?

Moderator: Daniel Bigman, President, Bigman Geophysical

Panelists:

- Barbara Cederberg, COO, Gopher State One Call
- Ron Peterson, Executive Director, NULCA
- Brenda Reigle, Executive Director, NUCA of Pennsylvania
- Lawrence Arcand, President, 4Sight Utility Engineers
- Jim Anspach, Affiliate Assistant Professor, Iowa State University
- Nick Zembillas, CEO/MD, Subsurface Utility Engineering, LLC

On May 12, Infrastructure Resources held our second Excavation Safety Alliance (ESA) virtual Town Hall titled, “How can SUE and Accurate Maps Be Used to Reduce Both Damages and Costs?” As with last month’s ESA Town Hall titled, “Late Locates: Partnering with Notification Centers,” the goal of our ESA Town Halls is to give everyone in the industry a voice and to provide a forum to work together towards solutions to common problems. May’s ESA Town Hall brought in over 100 stakeholders to discuss Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) within the context of damage prevention. The panelists represented a variety of industry stakeholder groups including those within the One Call, Locating, Contracting, and SUE professions.

The Town Hall began with a discussion of how one would define SUE. Many of its aspects were parsed out over the ensuing 70 minutes, but Nick Zembillas started things off with defining SUE as a professional practice that encompasses three main professional disciplines which include civil engineering, geophysics, and surveying. Additionally, it was noted by Jim Anspach that SUE attempts to identify and document all utilities whether you know about them or not. This can be surprisingly challenging when 30-40% of utilities are not on record anywhere. Stakeholder Bill Kiger of Pennsylvania One Call emphasized that challenge by informing the other stakeholders in the chat that some lines in the northeastern United States date all the way back to the 1700’s.

The free-flowing discussion during May’s ESA Town Hall covered additional questions and topics, including:

- What companies or professional organizations are responsible for the SUE process?
- Does starting the construction process with SUE reduce the likelihood of utility damages?
- What is the relationship between SUE and utility locating?
- What role should professional organizations have in monitoring the practice of SUE?
- How do we define accurate maps? Who is legally able to create a map?
- What are the ASCE standards? What separates the different quality levels?
- Should every utility be buried with tracer wire?

Here are some notable quotes from our panelists:

- **Barbara Cederberg:** “How do we tie the One Call ticket and the excavation area to be able to view the facility operator’s line data so that the excavators and the locators can see that data in real time and be more efficient when they’re locating and be safer when they’re excavating?”

- **Ron Peterson:** “From my construction side, you give me good maps, good plans, and a good design, I can work more efficiently and not hit things.”
- **Brenda Reigle:** “Having that detailed information will improve safety for our crews and for the public, and at the same time it will save the project owners’ money.”
- **Jim Anspach:** “The key is if we do this early and communicate the data and their consequences on safety, schedule, and budget to the designers, those designers can make good decisions on avoiding utility conflicts altogether.”

Are You Prepared for the Infrastructure Bill Impacts on the Damage Prevention Industry?

Moderator: Jim Plasynski, CRO, KorTerra

Panelists:

- George Kemp, VP of Safety, Government Affairs & Quality Assurance, MetroNet, Inc.
- Mark Frost, Executive Director, Julie, Inc.
- Stephen Schafer, Manager Joint Use & Cable Locating, FirstEnergy
- Shane Bryan, VP OSP Engineering & Construction, Ritter Communications
- Harley Hartman, President, ELM Utility Services

On June 8, Infrastructure Resources continued the Town Hall series with June’s topic asking our panelists, “Are You Prepared for the Infrastructure Bill Impacts on the Damage Prevention Industry?” This ESA Town Hall once again brought in over 100 committed stakeholders, this time around to discuss the largest infrastructure bill in American history totaling \$1.2 trillion, and how it has already and will continue to affect the efforts within the damage prevention industry. To provide a well-rounded, multi-stakeholder perspective, panelists representing the One Call, Locating, and Telecommunications industries came together to discuss the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Moderator Jim Plasynski got the interactive 80-minute Town Hall underway by discussing the timeline of this



massive infrastructure funding rollout by highlighting how this is currently underway with related digging projects in progress by the time you are reading this. Significant macro market considerations such as supply chain issues, labor shortages, gas prices, inflation, and increased regulations have certainly complicated matters and that was a primary talking point during this event.

Some of the specific questions that were addressed during June's ESA Town Hall include:

- What are some of your top challenges? What are some of your top priorities?
- Can a facility owner and an excavator mutually agree to a mark out after the lawful dig date?
- How are locate agreements documented and managed between stakeholder groups?
- How do utility owners effectively partner with utility locators to accommodate for the increased project demand?
- How are you dealing with large or complex project tickets?
- How are companies addressing high turnover rates and labor shortages in the utility locating profession?
- How are companies dealing with supply chain shortages on items such as paint, flags, and other materials?

We received great feedback from our stakeholders for June's ESA Town Hall. In fact, 94% of respondents would absolutely recommend ESA Town Halls to a peer. Raymond Sonnier of Atmos Energy said it best, "Are any of you guys willing to talk to me about damage prevention until I go to sleep tonight...LOVE this conversation!"

Here are some notable quotes from our panelists:

- **George Kemp:** "Communications and relations can't be emphasized enough."
- **Mark Frost:** "Locating is a limited resource, so we are trying to make sure that we do everything in our power and we're trying to do our part at the damage prevention center to assist with that, to at least mitigate those projects that don't need marks on the ground. Let's reserve the locators for those projects that are ready to go."
- **Shane Bryan:** "Experience is key...you can't just throw a locator out there with a few hours of training or a week of ride-alongs and pretend like they're going to be able to effectively measure and put marks on the ground."
- **Harley Hartman:** "It is absolutely critical on every line they put on the ground out there for everybody around and the folks digging on it, so we have to have very confident, very skilled people out there doing it and we're going to have to pay for that."

What makes a One Call Law Fair & Effective?

Moderator: Tracey Bryant, Public Awareness Program Manager, CenterPoint Energy

Panelists:

- Steve Allen, Executive Director of Pipeline Safety, Energy Worldnet, Inc.
- Louis Panzer, Executive Director, North Carolina 811
- M.G. Govia, Education & Outreach Liaison, Oklahoma One-Call System, Inc.
- Shannon Neufeld, Technical Leader, Damage Prevention, Canada Energy Regulator
- Kurt Youngs, President, Youngs Excavating Inc.
- Jerry Cobenais, Operations Manager, Xcel Energy
- Josh Richard, Locator, Xcel Energy

On July 14, Infrastructure Resources held an ESA Town Hall with a focus on One Call laws and how it affects facility operators, contractors, and other industry professionals in the United States and Canada. The primary question asked to our panelists and to the audience at large was, "What makes a One Call Law Fair & Effective?" During this town hall, our participants discussed what has worked, and what hasn't, as well as the overall fairness of the policies for their stakeholder groups. During the discussion, there was an abundance of involvement among our engaged chat group as well. In fact, nearly 30 stakeholders chimed in during the discussion. Enforcement, in terms of education requirements and monetary fines for liable parties, was one such policy that was thoroughly discussed and Shane Ayers of Stake Center Locating conveyed an important point in the chat, "the key [is] to have a fair and effective balance of fines and education. If a party continuously repeats an offense, say not calling 811, then fines are a tool to get their attention. On the other hand, a damage resulting from improper excavation techniques might be a good candidate for education." Shelly Dornick, of Colorado Springs Utilities, also shared with

everyone the great success that their program has had in educating nearly 1,000 individual excavators. Our ESA members appeared to enjoy this topic, as Mike Evans, with his 45+ years in the telecommunications industry put it, "great discussion, great group, your audience adds a lot of value." Until next time!

Some of the questions that were brought up during July's ESA Town Hall include:

- What are your thoughts on mandatory vs. complaint-based reporting?
- Have damages increased or decreased with the different programs that have been put in place?
- Are excavators held to the same standard as facility operators in terms of enforcement?
- How has the ample data that comes with mandatory reporting impacted business?
- What information do you collect and who do you reach out to when investigating a damage?

Here are some notable quotes from our panelists:

- **Jerry Cobenais:** "To me, it's an unfair balance of how enforcement happens across the state, how utility operators are held to such a higher standard than the excavator that's actually putting the backhoe in the ground."
- **Louis Panzer:** "Keeping the stakeholders communicating and happy and not feeling like they are being left on the sidelines is the most important aspect of having this multi-stakeholder group."
- **Kurt Young:** "The enforcement on the gas and pipeline side, believe it or not, works pretty darn well."
- **M.G. Govia:** "The 811 Center is the ambassador of both sides. I want my excavators to get their jobs done and get paid and move onto their next job, just as much as I want to make sure no damages occur."
- **Shannon Neufeld:** "Approach everything as if you're going to court. Take pictures before, during, and after...we have the technology, let's use it."
- **Steve Allen:** "From a regulatory enforcement perspective, the old rule is if you didn't write it down, you didn't do it."
- **Josh Richard:** "We do end up having a very detailed list of all our hits, all the damages that have happened around the state of Minnesota... we can invest more time into who needs help and who needs more education." **DP**

Want to view the ESA Town Halls for yourself and get answers to all the above questions? Head on over to ExcavationSafetyAlliance.com and become a member for FREE. We encourage you to participate in future ESA Town Halls and to suggest topics of interest to YOU. Want to attend an in-person Town Hall? Join us at the 2023 Global Excavation Safety Conference in Tampa, Florida, from February 14-16, 2023. For more details and to register, visit GlobalExcavationSafetyConference.com.



ESA Late Locates: The Conversation Continues

BY DENIS COURCHESNE, PRESIDENT AND CEO, INFO-EXCAVATION

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the April town hall, Late Locates: Partnering with Notification Centers. After listening to the recording, I would like to share information about what Info-Excavation has put in place over the last few years in Quebec to help solve this issue. First, a few background facts:

- In the province of Quebec, there is no legislative framework related to damage prevention. The only rule in existence is for contractors to verify if underground infrastructures are present prior to excavating. Unfortunately, this rule does not have the force of law. Because of this, working hand-in-hand with the various players in the industry was essential.

- The Quebec Chapter of the CGA has been integrated in Quebec's notification center in the past 10 years, and Info-Excavation has become Quebec's damage prevention center.

- Info-Excavation also serves the Atlantic Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland & Labrador. However, processes may differ depending on the province.

- For many years, the standard in Quebec for drawing a sketch made by the locator needed to include specific measurements. These measurements calculated from fixed points not impacted by the excavation work, serve to

indicate the precise location of the underground infrastructure. The sketch is then given to the requester.

The following improvements were made over the years:

- Info-Excavation now provides a screening service among its range of additional services. It provides a second level of analysis, after the analysis made by the Notification Center. It not only allows a much more accurate analysis of the location of the members' infrastructure; it also can deliver a larger number of clearance notices to locate requests. This, in turn, greatly reduces the number of infrastructures that need to be located.

- Several members have started to answer locate requests using maps rather than doing a locate on-site. Some of these owners have entrusted Info-Excavation with the responsibility of answering locate requests on their behalf by sending a map of their underground infrastructures located within the zone where the contractor plans to do his excavation work. This is not a new way of doing things; it is widely used in Europe and Australia.

- Since 2012, integrating a Google sketch in the locate request creation process is mandatory – virtual white lining. Since then, all locate requests must include a sketch reflecting the work area. This provides a clearer and more accurate view of the work area. Therefore, owners of underground infrastructures and locators need only answer locates where infrastructures are within the excavation area.

- With specific measurements provided in the sketch, contractors now have accurate information about where the underground infrastructure is located. This allows the contractor to remark the location of the infrastructure as often as needed once the markings are removed from the hard surface. Moreover, according to Best Practices, the contractor is responsible for protecting the marks.

- Unless an exception was made, upon receiving a revalidation request from the contractor, the owner will not send a locator to make new markings, but will instead send a copy of the original sketch that was made, including measurements. A revalidation request does not translate into the need for a locator to return on-site to redo the markings, which has a significant impact on his workload.

- We have reduced the area where a sketch is needed. The work area cannot be longer than 400 yards. Should the job site be longer, a process will draw a sketch 400 yards at a time until the rest of the work zone is sketched. In the end, the number of sketches will produce an equivalent number of locate requests. The benefit of this approach is that many clearance notices can be sent. A locator will be sent only when infrastructures are present within the work zone indicated in the locate request, again reducing the locator's workload.

- Owners have revised their security zone (buffer zone/tolerance zone) on either side of their infrastructures, better reflecting what is found in the field. By reducing these security zones from 60 to 20 feet or even less, Info-

Excavation has been able to increase the number of clearance notices, resulting in less locates and therefore increasing the availability of locators.

- All locate requests, without exception, can have a validation period of up to a maximum of 180 days. To do this, the excavation's start date and its completion date must be written on the locate request. A program runs every night to ensure the security of underground infrastructures.

It verifies the daily network updates made by the owners (when they either add or modify their network) and the excavation start and completion dates mentioned in the active locate requests. This verification ensures that the updated networks are not at risk of conflicting with the scheduled excavation work. If this is the case, the contractor and member will be notified according to an established process.

- Seven days before the end of the locate request's validation period, the contractor will receive a notice asking if the excavation work is completed. If not, he will need to revalidate the locate request.

The same answers as those received previously will be sent and again, the locator will not need to redo the locate.



info excavation

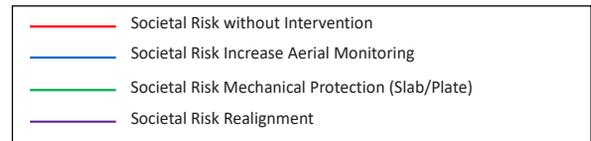
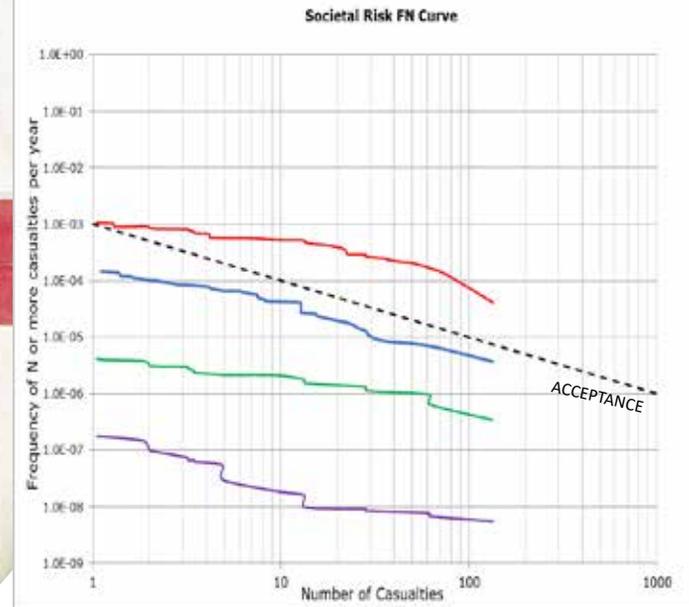
- A new feature is now offered. It is possible for a general contractor, an engineering firm, a municipality, etc. to transfer its initial request and all relevant documents, such as the answers received from the owners to another subcontractor. This prevents the need for each contractor to make his own request. Since answers from owners have already been received, it enables everyone to start the excavation work faster. Consequently, the owner member or the locator do not need to process the request once again. They can therefore focus their attention on new requests.

Although these initiatives have greatly helped the cause of locates and the associated deadlines, much needs to be done to reduce the large number of requests received daily. We are currently working with our industry's stakeholders to improve the entire process. Furthermore, we are working with our government to improve the province's regulatory framework related to the damage prevention process as a whole and to ensure public health and safety as well as the health and safety of all workers. These are some of the initiatives we have put in place over the past few years to help both contractors and owners reduce their workloads and reduce delays in having underground infrastructures located. In the absence of adequate legislation, we need to simplify the damage prevention process so it is seen as a win-win situation by everyone. Without legislation, we can only try to convince excavators that making a locate request is the right thing to do. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at dcourchesne@info-ex.com. 

Comments and opinions in this article do not necessarily reflect the opinion of dp-PRO.

An Assessment of Societal Risk and the Cost of Saving Lives

BY JOHN-JOE NEWBERT
AND
ALEJANDRO MARIN



During the period of 1994-2013, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration (PHMSA) collected data on natural gas pipeline accidents considered significant. The resulting fatalities from gas pipelines within the U.S. account for 363 lives lost. There have also been 1,392 injuries and more than \$800 billion in property damages.

In 2021, an assessment was carried out to define the “true cost of societal risk” on a pipeline carrying liquid hydrocarbons. Four alternatives to reduce the cost of societal risk were analyzed:

- Increased aerial monitoring over the pipeline
- Mechanical protection with a concrete slab
- Mechanical protection with a polyethylene plate
- Pipeline realignment

Engineering Analysis for Risk Mitigation

The quantitative risk assessment (QRA) of the Societal Risk for all the proposed alternatives satisfied the acceptance criteria in reducing risk. The construction costs (millions U.S. Dollars) for each alternative were:

ALTERNATIVE	MITIGATION COST	COST PER CASUALTY AVERTED	DISPROPORTION FACTOR
Aerial Monitoring	2.8 MUSD	845 MUSD	13
Concrete Slab	0.75 MUSD	455 MUSD	7
Polyethylene Plate	0.31 MUSD	326 MUSD	5
Realignment	5.7 MUSD	715 MUSD	11

All the proposed alternatives reduced the levels of societal risk to acceptable values. The next step was a cost-benefit analysis to determine the optimal ratio between risk reduction and capital investment and a maximum limit of 10 was applied. Any investment greater than 10 times the benefit obtained was considered disproportionate.

Investment Cost per Alternative	
Aerial Monitoring Increase	2.8 MUSD
Concrete Slab	0.75 MUSD
Polyethylene Plate	0.31 MUSD
Realignment	5.7 MUSD

Mitigation cost

Mitigation cost is the direct cost of intervention. It includes all construction expenses that a contractor may need regarding materials and all activities involved in repair and/or modification of the asset.

Cost per casualty averted

Cost per casualty averted is the mathematical relationship between mitigation cost and the multiplication of risk reduction (obtained from the QRA assessment) and design life.

Disproportionate factor

The disproportionate factor is the mathematical relationship between the economic cost of mitigation involving risk reduction (i.e., cost per casualty averted) and the reference cost of compensation which a pipeline operator may incur if a casualty took place.

The cost-benefit analysis of the QRA showed that:

- 1) The realignment alternative, despite having the lowest level of societal risk, presents a high level of investment, which makes it disproportionate.
- 2) The increase in aerial monitoring presented the worst ratio between investment and risk mitigation, as can be seen by the highest value of the disproportionate factor.
- 3) Although the level of risk of mechanical protection by the installation of concrete slabs or polyethylene plates is the same, it is the latter that guarantees the optimal ratio between risk reduction and capital investment, due to its low cost, design life and most efficient transportation and installation. This can be seen in the minimum value of the relationship between cost and benefit, which is equal to 5.

Therefore, the optimal solution to reduce societal risk is to cover a pipeline with robust polyethylene plates. **DP**



FIREFIGHTERS across the United States are all-hazards responders. From medical calls to fires, firefighters respond to anything and everything 24/7. Some incident types are low-risk, high-frequency, like many medical calls. Other incidents are high-risk, low-frequency, like hazardous materials releases.

Recognition prime decision making (RPDM) helps responders most of the time. This means that their experience from previous emergencies guides their decision-making process because they have something in their memory bank to draw from. However, when there is no previous experience to draw from, firefighters must fall back on training, resources, and special operations teams.

One example of a high-risk, low-frequency incident type is a pipeline release. Few responders across the United States, including firefighters, police officers, and emergency managers, have experience with these. They are low-frequency compared to all the other types of responses that occur.

Technology aids firefighters when RPDM cannot, especially in the field of hazardous materials. First responders are increasingly



Buxus™ is funded by pipeline operators and is free to emergency officials. Once downloaded to their mobile devices, Buxus™ provides emergency officials with access to:

- **information on commodities transported by operator and pipeline, for those that subscribe to the Buxus™ system**
- **emergency contact information by operator and pipeline**
- **hazards posed by commodity type**
- **emergency response actions to be taken and/or avoided**
- **interactive maps**
- **a portal to request specific information or resources from an operator**



Meet Buxus: Information the Way Emergency Responders Want (and Need) It

BY DANA BROWN

turning to apps for information critical to responses including chemical identification, plume modeling, and railroad emergencies, just to name a few. Recently, a new pipeline app has been added to the list – Buxus™.

The actions of all parties in the first 30 to 60 minutes after a pipeline incident will dramatically affect the impact and remediation needed to address the initial incident. This means information sharing, training, and the established relationship between the parties are all critical. It's terribly frustrating to respond to a pipeline emergency and to have no idea who to call. Pipeline markers are often missing or have outdated information, leaving hazmat teams and incident commanders scratching their heads as minutes turn to hours.

For this reason alone, Buxus™ is a game changer. Regardless of experience or familiarity with pipelines, it's possible to have the pipeline operator on the phone within seconds of receiving the 911 call. The difference between having the app and not having the app has to do with time; and, when product is being released into the communities we are trained to protect, we want the most effective way to reach operators.

Buxus™, Latin for “pipe,” is designed to provide critical information on pipelines around the clock and regardless of having cell phone or Wi-Fi coverage. The idea is to immediately provide the information needed by key stakeholders at the touch of a button before and during a pipeline emergency, regardless of whether or not an in-person meeting has occurred.

With Buxus™, emergency officials can now have the information they need on pipelines in their jurisdiction(s) just by picking up their mobile device(s). It is this powerful yet simple functionality that has led to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) and International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) supporting the efforts of Buxus™ to ensure their members have access to the information they need in the way that they want it. **DP**

Dana Brown serves as a Captain on the Houston Fire Department Hazmat team, working with entry teams, back-up teams and Unified Commanders. She is a Hazmat/WMD Master Instructor for first responders and sits on the committee for NFPA 470. Ms. Brown is also a veteran, who served as a Chief Warrant Officer in the Army, flying the AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopter.

INFRASTRUCTURE BILL

A Damage Prevention View of the Infrastructure Bill: What We Know So Far and How to Ready Your Organization for Its Impact

BY JIM PLASYNSKI

The \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Bill, signed into law in November 2021, includes \$550 billion in new federal investments for roads, bridges, water infrastructure, internet, and other selected major improvement projects. While some of the dollars included in the Bill are a reauthorization of previously agreed upon funding, the new portion of funding (\$550 billion) represents one of the largest investments into United States infrastructure in history. Increased 811 ticket volume is inevitable as funding is distributed throughout the next five years, resulting in acceleration of fiber projects, major road reconstruction, new and updated rail line installation, underground water infrastructure improvements, and other large projects.

The 811 system is already dealing with challenges due to labor shortages that directly impact the abilities of facility owners and contract locators to hire field locators. As funds attached to the Infrastructure Bill continue to be dispersed, we will continue to see significant increases in 811 ticket requests. With more excavators breaking ground across the nation, an already stretched system will be stretched even further.

In an environment where damage prevention professionals are already facing challenges, the prospect of additional work creates an urgency for organizations to optimize their approach to damage prevention and set themselves up for success during the busy months and years to come. In order to assess your organization's readiness, begin by evaluating the following categories: people, processes, and technology.

People

If there was a 50-100% increase in ticket volume, how would your team handle it? How many people would you need to add to your staff to support the increase in work, and how quickly could you do this? Think about this category not only from a numbers standpoint, but also a skillset standpoint. Is your current team equipped to manage such an increase in volume? What new skills might you need to add to your team from a leadership or business analytics standpoint?

Processes

On a scale of 1-10, how mature and operationally efficient are the processes your organization has in place today to support your damage prevention responsibilities? How would this change if there was a 50-100% increase in ticket volume? What are the top two or three areas where you would be challenged, and what can you do to mature these in the time ahead?

Technology

Does your team have the right tools and technology to support a 50-100% increase in ticket volume? Where in your processes could your team better leverage technology to increase efficiency, improve accuracy, and reduce risk? How accurate is your mapping data, and does your organization leverage mapping data to improve locator efficiency or screen tickets wherever possible?

The Infrastructure Bill is the largest in history, and the dollars associated have already started impacting damage prevention professionals across industry segments. Macro market conditions are likely to add to the complexities of being successful as damage prevention teams adjust amidst this environment. The Bill presents a great challenge and opportunity, and the time to ready your organization for its impact is now! If you haven't already, begin evaluating the gaps your team may have in the categories of people, processes, and technology as a great way to center the conversation and prioritize the needs of your program. 

Jim Plasyński, KorTerra CRO, leads KorTerra's customer retention and acquisition strategy. He is focused on maximizing client value and propelling KorTerra's growth to continually reinvest in its offerings. Jim shared this Infrastructure Bill insight to an eager audience at the national Global Excavation Safety Conference in Phoenix, AZ, in early March.



Indiana 811 Launches Kids Safe Digging Program

• LAURYN LUCKEY •

IN THE SPRING of 2022, Indiana 811's Education and Outreach team launched a new program in partnership with National Energy Foundation for their first-ever Indiana 811 Kid's Safe Digging Program. It all started with a few ideas on educating the public beyond tradeshows and convention booths. What if we could get our Education and Outreach group in front of our future leaders?

So, we did just that! After applying and being awarded a grant from the Underground Plant Protection Account (UPPA), managed by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, it was time to go to work. Representatives from National Education Foundation and the Indiana 811 Education and Outreach team met numerous times to develop an interactive Indiana 811 guided safe digging program.

The Kids Safe Digging Program encompasses the message of contacting 811 before you dig, the five steps to safe digging, how locators mark, the colors associated with different utilities, and the benefits that these utilities bring to their everyday life. Walking students through the loss of utilities and how they would no longer have their WiFi, gas for a school bus, water for drinking, and even restrooms at school, opened their eyes to the importance of these underground facilities and why we need to keep them safe. It also showed them all the wonderful things our members provide to them in their daily routine. Students were quick to ask about damages, cost, locators, and many more questions that we never expected to hear. They helped our presenters think outside the box and made the presentation even more interactive and exciting!

At the conclusion of the presentation, the students had the opportunity to become "hard hat heroes". Could they pass our five-question pop quiz? Almost every school that participated retained the information and got 100%! The results from our pre/post-presentation surveys show us that the students grew their 811 knowledge by almost 35%.

After the presentation, each student was left with a color code magnet, an interactive 811 kid friendly packet, and our poster contest flyer. We received numerous submissions for our poster contest requesting



Left to right: Glenda Begle, 4th grade teacher at Pine Ridge Elementary; Skyler Tindle, Poster Contest winner; Lauryn Luckey, Indiana 811 Education and Outreach Manager; and Mason Hubner, Indiana 811 Education and Outreach Specialist.

that students share their best "Contact 811 Before You Dig" message. The winner of the spring presentation group was awarded to Skyler Tindle at Pine Ridge Elementary in Birdseye, Indiana. Skyler won an engraved "Contact 811 Before You Dig" iPad and the bragging rights of being the first-ever Indiana 811 Kids Safe Digging Program Poster Contest Winner!

During the spring, we completed 11 presentations all over the state of Indiana and talked to over 600 students. We are excited to share that we will be completing ten more presentations in the fall of 2022, with seven schools already confirmed.

Our goal with this program was to share the message and importance of Indiana 811 with Indiana students in hopes that they share this information with their families. We encourage any One Call center looking to share the importance of safe digging to explore this avenue.

We look forward to seeing our Indiana 4th grade students in the fall and having even more creative conversations about Indiana 811 and the importance of safe digging! **DP**

Increase Locators Profile: Hold a Local Global Locate Masters Qualifying Event

2022 SAW the inception of Global Locate Masters (GLM), a new industry initiative created by Infrastructure Resources (IR) in conjunction with UTTO. The GLM is a competition to display locators' skills and encourage continual learning. Historically, locators have competed through a Locate Rodeo, but Locate Rodeos have proven difficult to conduct, time consuming, and burdensome to execute due to weather. GLM takes the traditional skills competition to the next level! This completely unique competition tests the abilities of leading locate technicians from around the world using UTTO's VR simulators. These simulators create complex locate experiences in an immersive environment challenging a technician's training, skill, experience, and attention-to-detail required for a successful locate.

GLM gives technicians the unprecedented opportunity to highlight their skills before a live audience of their peers and industry leaders while evaluating their performance against other competitors. GLM recognizes, rewards, and shines a spotlight on the world's best utility locating professionals by putting on display the years of experience, critical thinking, and mental agility each competitor brings to complete quality locates in a timely manner.

In January 2022, in Minnesota, a group came together to put on a statewide

version of GLM. This tremendously successful event was driven by the efforts of Barb Cederberg – Gopher State One Call, Justin Larson – Xcel Energy, Mike Mendiola – MNOPS, and Steve Olinger – CenterPoint Energy. The excitement and competitive nature from the locators were undeniable, especially when their score flashed up on the screen. After they completed their session, Tom Orth of UTTO offered insights on where they lost points and how they could improve.



Are you interested in holding a local GLM competition? The Minnesota team has detailed basic steps which contributed to making their event so successful. The Top 5 in any local GLM qualify to compete in the championships at the Global Excavation Safety Conference in Tampa, Feb 14-16, 2023. IR is offering a conference pass at 50% off for the winner of each local GLM. Check out a detailed checklist on the next page or download a copy at www.GlobalLocateMasters.com.

Save the Date!
 For the preeminent international GPR event of the year! The 2022 Global GPR Congress attracted speakers and attendees from 13 countries spread throughout the world, all committed to learning from their peers and sharing their own experiences.
MAY 16 & 17, 2023

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Watch Global GPR Congress 2022
 A full recording of Global GPR Congress 2022 is available on-demand at ExcavationSafetyAlliance.com.



Venue / Initial Planning

1. Determine venue & competition dates (Capacity of 10' x 20').
2. Contact UTTO to secure a VR simulator.
3. Establish a team of 3-5 volunteers for the live event.
4. Secure donations for prizes.
 - Valuable prizes make a huge difference and reinforce how important a locator is:
 - The Minnesota winner received a trip to the 2022 Championship at the Global Excavation Safety Conference in Phoenix, March 2022.
5. Promote, promote, and promote the GLM.
 - Calls to vendors, utility companies, and 3rd party locating companies.
6. Weekly meetings help ensure success.
7. Set up registration.
 - Utilize a person's email or Event Bright for registration.
 - Capture all registrants and send confirmation email of registration.
 - Create spreadsheet to capture all competitor's information, email tracking, etc.
8. Email all competitors' names to UTTO to be entered into their system.
 - Name
 - Email address
9. Randomly select time slots and day for competitors. Utilize randomizer app.
 - Develop 2 days locate windows:
 - We utilized 2-hour windows with 6 competitors in each time slot.
10. Send competitors and their supervisor the date and time to report to the venue.

Volunteers

- **Greeter** – This individual is stationed at the front entrance of the venue to guide participants to the check-in table and open door for all contestants. Ensure all contestants are following COVID protocols of the venue. Should masks be required, provide masks for those in need.
 - 1 volunteer per 4-hour shift
 - Provide a greeter for the entire duration of the event
- **Check-In Table** – These individuals are responsible for checking in the contestants, collecting participant waivers, and ensuring individuals scheduled for a pre-determined timeslot are in attendance prior to their start time. Volunteers should utilize a check-in sheet displaying each timeslot, contestant's name, and contact information (email address and phone number) should they need to call contestants.
 - 2 volunteers per 4-hour shift
 - Clearly announce Check-In Table hours
- **Check-Out Table** – This individual receives the completed Check-In sheet at the start of the participants timeslot and record, by time, (Example: 10:32 AM) when an individual has completed their two locates. This individual is also responsible for assisting with wiping down tables, competition areas, and restocking refreshments.
 - 1 volunteer per 4-hour shift
 - Provide a Check-Out Table volunteer during competition hours and 30-minutes post

- **Escort** – This individual is responsible for allowing access to the locating room for the next contestant. They will work in collaboration with the Check-In Table volunteers. This volunteer is also responsible for wiping down tables and the competition area.
 - 1 volunteer per 4-hour shift
 - Provide an Escort volunteer during competition hours and 30-minutes post
- Create volunteer schedule and determine how it will be communicated.
 - Sign-Up Genius is a great free tool
 - Information to capture for volunteers: name, company, email address, and phone

Day of Competition

- Competitors register at Check-In Table and move to the Waiting Lounge:
 - UTTO brought competitors into the competition area to explain how the equipment works and the competition requirements.
- All but one competitor remains in the competition area. Others are escorted to the Waiting Lounge.
- Everyone will compete individually.
- Once complete, the competitor leaves via Check-Out Table. Check-Out Table volunteers capture time that the competitor finished both locates:
 - This is done should the competitor's supervisor ask where their employee is or when they finished. This allows us to know what time they completed their locate.
- The Greeter brings in the next competitor, telling the UTTO representative the name of competitor.
- Competitors earning a high score have their picture taken with their score displayed in the background. Photos were utilized in a presentation.
- The competition ran for two days.

Identify Winners

- Create a Zoom meeting and invite all competitors, vendors, supervisors, and guests.
- Winners were identified one day after the competition was completed.
- Create a presentation to thank all competitors, vendors, supervisors, guests, and identify winners.
- IR hosts a meeting to announce the winners.

Donations / Gifts

- Select prizes for each winner:
 - Be sure to pre-announce all prizes.
- Provide a gift bag for each competitor.
- Provide a gift bag for volunteers.

Promote the winner at their company, through your Notification Center, and through all those who donated. 

AGA Operations Conference & Spring Committee Meetings

• SCOTT LANDES •

THE 2022 AGA Operations Conference & Spring Committee Meetings was a great event. The level of happiness to be back face-to-face was undeniable. New Orleans was a great venue and attendees really seemed to love the second line procession to the networking event. In fact, based on the positive feedback heard we have made our decision to hold our 2024 Global Excavation Safety Conference in New Orleans!

From a damage prevention perspective, there were many great sessions. Some highlights include:

- Tracey Bryant, CenterPoint, discussing Aligning Public Awareness & Damage Prevention for Success.
- Erika Lee, CGA, presented an update on the CGA Next Generation report.
- Kim Gozelski and Kevin Armato, PG&E, conducted an excellent session titled, “Let’s Not Make Things Complicated: Improving PG&E’s Damage Prevention Playbook.”



- “A Look into Liberty’s Lifesaving Behaviors,” presented by Ester Di Giovanni of Liberty, covered all aspects of safety training.
- Jerry Schmitz, VP Engineering Staff, and Alexander Murray, Damage Prevention Administrator, discussed “Creating a Damage Prevention Culture.” This session resonated with me because I have been personally promoting damage prevention culture for 20+ years. It was great to see two departments team up to spread a shared message.
- “Evaluating Operation Training at Southwest Gas,” presented by Paul Gustilo, was a great broad-based session.

Their event was a tremendous success, and we look forward to joining them again in 2023. 

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The Operations Conference is the natural gas industry’s premier gathering of utilities, distribution, and transmission operators. Leaders and technical experts from across North America and the world attended the event. Developed by gas operators for gas operators, the event is the industry’s largest annual forum with more than 700 operations management in attendance. The event offers technical sessions with topics, to include but not limited to: gas measurement, pipeline integrity, operations advocacy, system safety, environment, storage, engineering, renewable natural gas, construction, maintenance, gas control, supplemental gas, corrosion control and plastic materials. Attendees share technical knowledge, leadership strategies, and learning events promoting the safe, reliable, and cost-effective delivery of gas to the end-user.



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Leading Women in Action

• JENNIFER PRATT •

As women, we tend to downplay our accomplishments. We don't speak up in meetings, we don't share our ideas, we might even shy away from necessary confrontation – all because we don't want a stigma attached to ourselves. You know what stigma I'm talking about.

I want you to say something with me... "I AM A LEADING WOMAN". Repeat that to yourself. You are a leading woman, and you are among a growing group of leading women, not only in the damage prevention industry, but in life. The shared experience of working in a male-dominated industry connects us to each other even over hundreds of miles, and you are integral in helping grow the community of Leading Women.

Our community recently met for a panel discussion webinar highlighting some of the leading women in our industry. During this webinar, we asked four questions. We will get to those in a moment. First, who was on our panel?

Lisa McKnight, City of Lawrenceville, GA | Georgia811 Board Member

Lisa McKnight is a regulatory and compliance professional in the utility, construction, and natural gas industries. As Director of Damage Prevention for the City of Lawrenceville, she leads a team that is in the community daily to locate and mark the city's underground utilities.

Yvette Robinson, Robinson General Contractors

Yvette Robinson is President of Robinson General Contractors, Inc., a company she established alongside husband, Kurt Robinson, in June of 2010. Yvette's diverse construction background sprouted while working at the family business, Paisano Home Builders, a residential home builder in Laredo, TX.

Keidre Adams, Texas811

She is the Operations Manager at Texas811. She has been with the company for 19 years. Before working at Texas811, she worked at AT&T for eight years. Keidre has worked in the utility industry for close to 30 years and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Earlier, I mentioned four questions that we asked our panelists. In the interest of your time, we are going to highlight responses to just a couple of the questions below.

1. What challenges do you face as a woman in construction/your industry?
2. NAWIC (National Association of Women in Construction) estimates that only 10% of the construction industry are women. Your thoughts?
3. What interested you about the construction world?
4. What do you like most about your job?

First, we asked them about the challenges they face as women in the construction industry. Our panelists had this to say:

Keidre Adams talked about how she is working to improve how she approaches conflict resolution using emotional intelligence, so her excitement or passion doesn't come across as too aggressive. She states, "Being able to break down those barriers for people to understand who I am.

I am all about showing up and doing your work. If I hold you accountable, and it's not perceived correctly or I say it wrong, then I'm the bad guy." She has begun working on communicating better so people understand who she is as a person and what she's saying is nothing personal.

Yvette Robinson says, "As women, we tend to multitask and when it comes time to communicate something, it is misunderstood or I have to clarify. Sometimes we have to make it known that what we are saying is firm and we have a direction that we need to go on and this is the best way to go about it. In my learning experience, I've had to learn how to communicate as well."

Lisa McKnight responded by saying, "For me, not being perceived as bringing value or being qualified for the job and not having any meaningful on the job experience, especially out in the field. It's usually assumed that you don't have any experience out in the field; even if you do, you feel like you have to defend your right to be there."

When we asked them what do you like most about your job?

Lisa stated that the difference she can make can be as big as she wants it to be. She continues by saying, "Even with public awareness, not a lot of people are interested in doing the work that's involved and that speaks to me. I just feel like that's what I can bring – being willing to do what it takes and I just have a passion for this industry and a passion for the people in this industry."

Keidre says, "People often wake up and say they want to go to a job they love. I actually have a job that I love and when you work with people you know value you and what you bring to the organization. I have the best boss and I know that my contributions matter."

Yvette stated, "I love what I do. I have a passion for it. I love the change and even the problems that come in, I love them because every day is something different and you are part of the solution."

Wrapping up, one of the final questions we asked our panelists was what is the best piece of advice you could give someone? We will leave you with these bits of advice from the women in our industry:

- Be yourself and everything will fall into place
- Stand in your truth
- Show up as your authentic self every day

I want to thank our facilitators of the Leading Women In Action Webinar – both are LWDP Board Members and active in the damage prevention industry. Shakheana Harrison, Director of Organizational Leadership and Ketha Molina, Sr. Damage Prevention Manager, both from Texas811. 

Jennifer Pratt is the Program Manager, Damage Prevention Council of Texas/Texas 811. If you would like to learn more about the Leading Women of Damage Prevention, you can visit their website at <https://dpcoftexas.org/leading-women-of-damage-prevention/> or you can email Ketha Molina at kethamolina@texas811.org or Jennifer Pratt at jenniferpratt@texas811.org.





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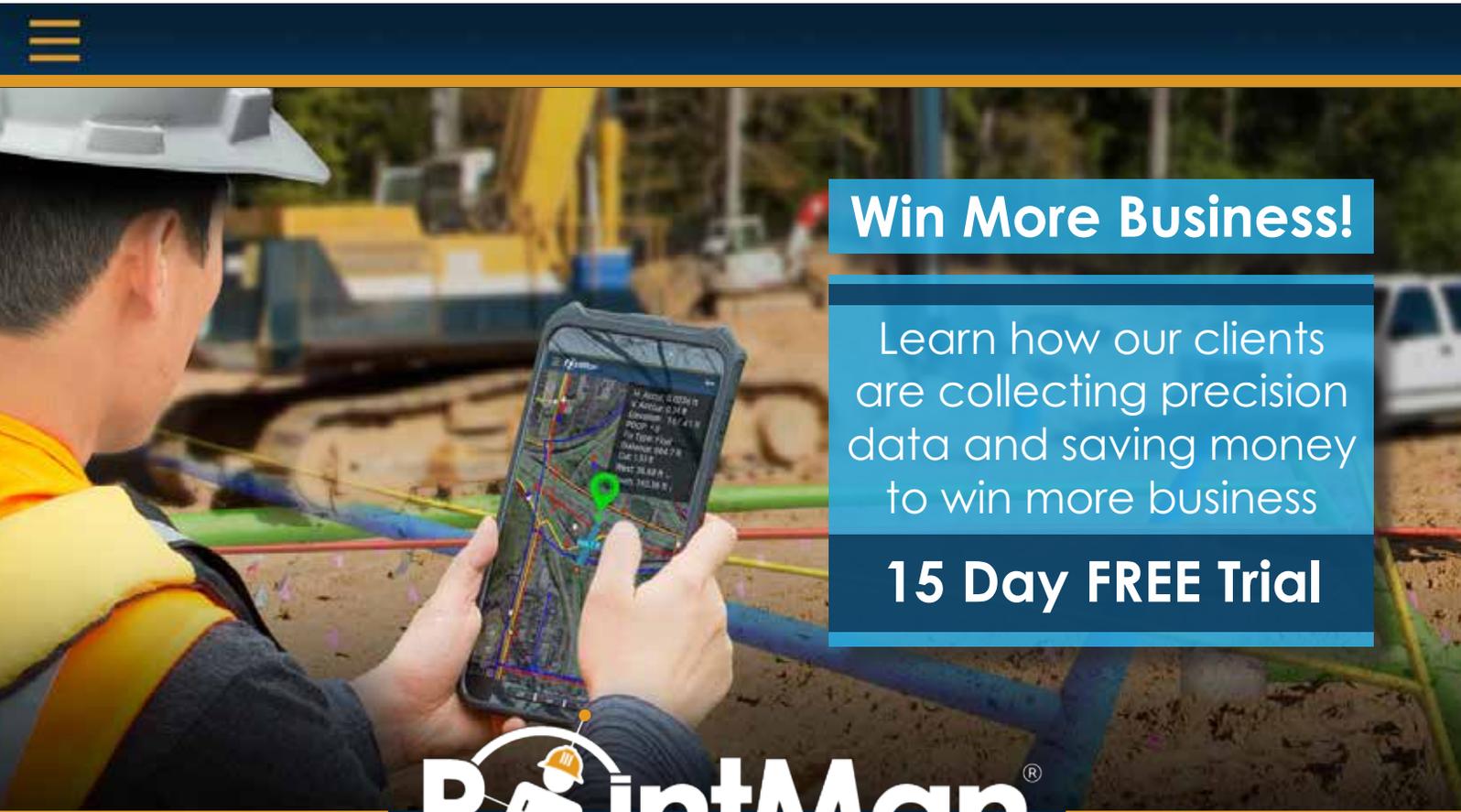
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