

Emerging Technology Task Team Report

June 30, 1999

Safe and Livable Communities

Emerging Technology Task Team

The Challenge

- Evaluate technologies in current practice in all aspects of excavation
- Evaluate how new technologies might affect & improve current practices
- Brainstorm a totally uninterrupted facility system technologically

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The Goal

- To provide the reader with possible opportunities for the development of a *utopian* underground damage prevention process

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Team Composition

10 Members

- Locators
- Utility Contractors
- Telecommunications
- Public Education Research
- Gas Facilities
- Electric Facilities
- One Call Centers
- Private Industry Research
- Transportation Contractors
- Railroads

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The Method

- Each Team Member:
 - Was assigned to observe 1 of the 8 teams
 - Attended task team meetings to understand B Practices
 - Attended monthly ET meeting to present these practices

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The Method

- Determined technologies that could enhance Best Practices
- Researched technologies identifying strengths/weaknesses
- Presented technology findings for consensus by team

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Opportunities Identified

- Technological opportunities were cited for each Task Team:
 - Planning & Design
 - Mapping
 - One-Call Centers
 - Locating & Marking

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Opportunities Identified

- Excavation
- Reporting & Evaluation
- Compliance
- Public Education

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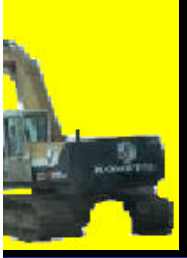
Task Team Conclusion

- Causes of underground facility damages:
 - Incomplete information at the planning stage
 - Excavation methods & techniques
 - Lack of communication among stakeholders
 - Accuracy of underground facility mapping, locating & marking

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Path Forward

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Desktop
Notebook
Pager
Wireless
Communication
Mapping Data
Locating Devices

Excavator

**Design
Engineer**



Notebook
Pager
Wireless
Communication
Mapping Data
Locating Devices



**Central
Database
Server**



One Call Center

Notebook
Pager
Wireless
Communication
Mapping Data
Locating Devices



Locator



Facility Owner

Desktop
Wireless
Communication
Mapping

