State Safety Initiatives
Natural Gas Policy Institute
National Conference of State Legislatures

August 28, 2019

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President and CEO
Common Ground Alliance
History of CGA

• 1998: USDOT conducted a nationwide study of best practices.
• 1999: Published 132 Best Practices with consensus support from all 160 stakeholders.
• 2000: Common Ground Alliance established.
CGA

Mission

The Common Ground Alliance is dedicated to preventing damage to underground utility infrastructure and protecting those who live and work near these important assets through the shared responsibility of our stakeholders.
CGA Today

- Over 1,700 members
- Almost 240 member organizations/companies
- 70 Bronze, Silver, Gold & Platinum members
- 16 damage prevention stakeholder groups
- 6 staff members
- 7 working committees
- 20 board members
Damage Prevention Stakeholders

- One Call
- Gas Transmission
  - Gas Distribution
  - Oil
- Telecommunications
  - Electric
  - Public Works
- Locators
- Excavators
  - Road Builders

State Regulators
- Engineering
- Equipment
- Insurance
- Emergency Services
- Railroad
Mission
The Common Ground Alliance is dedicated to preventing damage to underground utility infrastructure and protecting those who live and work near these important assets through the shared responsibility of our stakeholders.

Information & Analysis
Develop information and analysis designed to enhance our members’ ability to implement effective damage prevention processes and programs.

Stakeholder Engagement
Provide a collaborative forum for stakeholders to identify and highlight effective damage prevention practices and programs.

Education
Increase education of the industry, public and policymakers about the importance of the damage prevention process.
CGA Core Programs

- Best Practices
- 811 / Damage Prevention Awareness
- Data Reporting and Evaluation (DIRT)
- Technology
- Stakeholder Outreach
- One Call Systems International
- Regional Partners
Best Practices

- Version 16.0 published March 2019
- Approximately 160 practices developed through consensus
- Many have become basis for state law
- Currently 4 task teams reviewing potential new Best Practices (4 TRs currently open)
- Field manuals and online version available
New Best Practice
Cross bore determination and mitigation (TR 2014-02)

NEW Practice Statement (Approved March 26)
• A facility owner/operator has in place a robust, proactive mitigation program to identify and mitigate cross-bores where their facilities may intrude upon another owner/operator’s facility. The facility owner/operator program promotes safe mitigation of Cross Bores. A facility owner/operator provides a communications network as a conduit for third parties to report potential cross bores.
2017 DIRT Report

• Includes analysis of data submitted into DIRT for 2017
• Highest event submissions to-date with more than 411,000 records and the most complete data to date
• After consolidating multiple reports on the same event and near misses, total damage reports were 316,422
• Written report supplemented by online interactive dashboard
Damage Cause Analysis
Damage Root Cause Group

- Excavation Practices Not Sufficient: 24%
- Locating Practices Not Sufficient: 52%
- Miscellaneous: 6%
- Notification Not Made: 17%
- Notification Practices Not Sufficient: 1%
## DIRT Report Root Cause Grouping

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Root Cause</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excavation practices not sufficient</td>
<td>• Failure to maintain clearance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Failure to support exposed facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Failure to use hand tools where required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Failure to test hole (pot-hole)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Improper backfill practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Failure to maintain marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Excavation practices not sufficient (other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification NOT made</td>
<td>• No notification made to one call center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locating practices not</td>
<td>• Incorrect facility records/maps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sufficient</td>
<td>• Facility marking or location not sufficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Facility was not located or marked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Facility could not be found or located</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification practices not</td>
<td>• Notification of one call center made but not sufficient</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sufficient</td>
<td>• Wrong information provided to one call center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous root cause</td>
<td>• Abandoned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• One call center error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Deteriorated facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Previous damage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Estimated Total Damages (U.S.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>% Change 2016-2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Damages (U.S.)</strong></td>
<td>378,000</td>
<td>416,000</td>
<td>439,000</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Estimated Transmissions</strong></td>
<td>199.9 M</td>
<td>221.9 M</td>
<td>234.9 M</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated damages per 1,000 transmissions</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td>1.87</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated damages per million dollars of construction spending</td>
<td>0.354</td>
<td>0.351</td>
<td>0.359</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Determinations of Adequacy of One-Call Law Enforcement Programs from 2018 Audits
As of August 19, 2019

- Adequate (42)
- Inadequate (9)
- Pending (1)

Map produced August 19, 2019 by the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT), Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
Map provided as a reference only. PHMSA makes no representations or warranties of any kind, express or implied, about the completeness, accuracy, reliability, suitability or availability with respect to this map for any purpose. PHMSA expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions in the contents of this map.
Four key takeaways for effective excavator outreach

- Includes data-supported recommendations based on analysis of excavator focus groups and survey, DIRT data and additional reports

- White paper released week of April 29
- Member webinar to follow
KEY TAKEAWAYS

• Continue increasing awareness of 811 through strategic marketing and education campaigns.

• Acknowledge the realities of the jobsite when communicating best practices to excavators.

• Develop an integrated communications plan to reach all types of excavators.

• Make damage prevention training more easily accessible, relevant and actionable.
Future of Damage Prevention

• Increase awareness and use of 811.
  • Reduce obstacles to participation.
  • Address target audiences.

• Increase education of all stakeholders on the best practices.

• Grow data collected and submitted into DIRT across all core stakeholder groups.

• Strengthen balanced and effective enforcement across states.

• Identify and address gaps in technology.
CGA Resources & Information

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