

October 12th, 2023, Town Hall

How Can Industry Stakeholders Better Leverage Data Analytics to Reduce Damages and Improve Planning?

[10:41 AM] Kurt Youngs

how do you take the raw data and weed out the chaff to get accurate info

[10:45 AM] Bryant, Tracey

current root cause of excavator error many of us use; could be many more layers by the excavation company. I am curious if excavators have options such as lack of training, equipment fail or rush schedule or what is the reason for excavators who (created damage)

[10:47 AM] Foo Zhi Rui (Guest)

Is the DIRT report by Common Ground Alliance not sufficient? What is it lacking?

[10:49 AM] Kurt Youngs

excavator input to the dirt report is insufficient to tell an accurate story.

[10:49 AM] Bryant, Tracey

There is value in having local level data in addition to the national reporting.

[10:49 AM] Brian Peters

DIRT report is a start, but it's application to a specific organization would be the baseline for further data gathering and exploration. For example, knowing that water and sewer projects can be problematic, begin by focusing data collection efforts associated with those work types.

[10:49 AM] Brian Peters

What Tracey said 😊

[10:51 AM] Bryant, Tracey

Not that it needs to be shared, but more for the excavation company do use internally.

[10:51 AM] Mike Iadanza

Does the DIRT report even account for Private Utility lines and locating, which actually makes up at least 65% of all underground utilities.

[10:54 AM] Hill, Kenneth

The Dirt Report is created from data from the facility owners and the Call Centers, very little data from the excavators. Does not accurately account for mis marks and no marks. Also, they do not account for PP lines or lines on PP that the facility owner does not mark out.

[10:57 AM] Bryant, Tracey

certain types of work / projects may require a different skilled locating tech.

[11:02 AM] Kurt Youngs

An on-time locate would solve many of the issues contractors have daily.

[11:02 AM] Bryant, Tracey

Excessive ticket requests are piling on the issue of late locates. We have loads of tickets that have been called in for 20+ times and still not started work on job site.. The volume of Waste going into the requests makes it difficult to meet the demand.

[11:04 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

Good day ESA Members!

[11:04 AM] John Christiansen (Guest)

Utilities have been addressing the update issue for the last 20 or more years. We need to use new technologies to start addressing these issues

[11:05 AM] Mike Sovereign

Sonnier, Raymond Good day ESA Members!

Hello Raymond 😊

[11:05 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

hey Mike!!

[11:06 AM] Shad M. Conrad

Clearly defined and enforced locating strategies that reduce the overall scope of each ticket and schedule out the tickets in a logical order is a must. This is on the project owner to develop and enforce with the excavators. Fully agree Jason Poyser! Great comments.

[11:07 AM] John Christiansen (Guest)

Some call centers allow scheduling of locate requests outside of the 2 or 3 day window, This could help with this issue.

[11:07 AM] Kurt Youngs

kudos to jason for realizing telecom has contributed to overwhelming the system.

[11:08 AM] Jason Poyser

Shad M. Conrad

Clearly defined and enforced locating strategies that reduce the overall scope of each ticket and schedule out the tickets in a logical order is a must. This is on the project owner to develop and enforce with the excavators. Fully agree Jason Poyser! Great comments.

Thank Shad! Self-reflection and "policing" is essential.

[11:09 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

but not too much policing....

[11:10 AM] Jason Poyser

Kurt Youngs

kudos to jason for realizing telecom has contributed to overwhelming the system

Change begins within Kurt!

[11:10 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

ESA conference in New Orleans next year! Hope to see you smart people over there! Great conversations here!

[11:11 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

Duane, is that an East Texas accent I hear? ha

[11:13 AM] Baum, James

Most excavators are not going to self-regulate locates being called in without enforcement being involved. We educate excavators through field interventions, ambassador stops, damage prevention presentations. Most excavators have someone in the office calling in locates and the office personnel don't know what's going on in the field. Office personnel will update the locates until they are informed to stop updating or calling in locates. A lot of this could be stopped with internal communication within the excavator's own company.

[11:13 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

Good James, I agree!!

[11:14 AM] Smith, Anthony R

And attaching maps to the locate request.

[11:15 AM] Jason Poyser

Baum, James exactly. Hence the need for those companies who employ the excavator/contractor to understand the importance of minimizing the requests as it directly ties to enforcement strategies of that particular state.

[11:15 AM] Brian Peters

Smith, Anthony R

And attaching maps to the locate request.

YES!

[11:16 AM] Doug Beck

When are we going to quit talking about all these issues but come up with a joint effort that applies to all 50 states.

[11:16 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

Whose maps are actually good?

[11:17 AM] Shannon Resmer

Sonnier, Raymond

Whose maps are actually good?

mine are!

[11:17 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

great Shannon Resmer!

[11:18 AM] Smith, Anthony R

The fewer clicks the better!

[11:19 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

yes Jason Poyser agreed!

[11:20 AM] Kurt Youngs

unless your utilities were gis/gps during installation your maps are not necessarily accurate

[11:21 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

agreed Dimitris!

[11:22 AM] Brian Peters

Do facility owners see any value in "as found" layers where the locators can breadcrumb where they are locating and then provide those layers to the GIS group for analysis?

[11:23 AM] Marino, Tony@EnergySafety

Appreciate the discussion...esp the earlier discussion on how we had historically collected data to reinforce our preconceptions, and to move forward we need to really think about the questions we want to answer.

[11:25 AM] Kurt Youngs

per mark twain= theres a lie, theres a dam lie then theres data

[11:25 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

LOL Kurt Youngs (Guest)

[11:26 AM] Louis Panzer

sorry...need to be unmuted

[11:27 AM] Kurt Youngs

figures don't lie but liars figure. too often people manipulate data to tell what story they want to tell

[11:28 AM] Doug Beck

Will Companies want exact data available as open-source data??

[11:29 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

yes agreed! Duane Rodgers

[11:30 AM] Kurt Youngs

The big game changer would be gis/gps all new installations. some municipalities require this already.

[11:31 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

He has got a point there!!!

[11:31 AM] Brian Peters

Thank you everyone for attempting and your questions. This was my first panel discussion with ESA and the participation was really appreciated!

[11:31 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

Dimitris, you are right!

[11:31 AM] Baum, James

Agree with Dimitris.

[11:31 AM] Shannon Resmer

We do a pretty good job at maintaining accurate inhouse redlines here at TC energy.

[11:31 AM] Doug Beck

Ok....let's see all of you on the panel bring all the data you have to the table for open source.

[11:32 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

welcome Brian Peters

[Mike Sovereign: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ShareFormPage.aspx?id=GwxT33Y3ek-yq...](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ShareFormPage.aspx?id=GwxT33Y3ek-yq...)

sent on Thursday, October 12, 2023, 11:32 AM

[11:32 AM] Cassandra Somers

Thank you all! Great conversation as per usual!!

[Levi Mills: You are invited to complete October 12 2023 Town Hall Survey.](#)

sent on Thursday, October 12, 2023, 11:32 AM

You are invited to complete October 12, 2023, Town Hall Survey.

[11:32 AM] Siddarth Munivelu

Thanks everyone! Great session!!

[11:32 AM] Sonnier, Raymond

GREAT GREAT session today!!

[11:32 AM] Janice Anthony-Osborne

Thank you all! This was an hour well spent!

[11:33 AM] Levi Mills

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[11:34 AM] Matt Hill

Thanks everyone, this was a great TH!

[11:34 AM] Mekayla Lazoruk

Great discussion today! Thank you all for your time and contributions.