

Date Submitted: 07/11/2016

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Abstract Title: Introduction to SUE

Abstract Theme: Subsurface Utility Engineering

Abstract:

GeoScan's team of professional accredited utility locating technicians and surveyors are able to locate, map and report all existing utility infrastructure on your project. Many of the map records that currently exist are inaccurate, obsolete or in formats incompatible between utilities, and if relied upon can lead to costly project delays, utility damage and liabilities. As such, the practice of Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) is becoming an integral part of the planning process for construction projects across the country. SUE is applied during the design phase to locate, identify, and characterize all existing utility infrastructure (and other relevant non-utility features) found within a given project. This information is critical for the success of a project as the use of existing records is simply inadmissible. Past studies revealed that existing records and visible feature surveys are typically 15-30% off the mark and in some cases considerably worse (Stevens & Anspach, 1993). Historically, the lack of regulation around collecting, recording and managing subsurface data placed the burden on the constructor to deal with utility relocation in the midst of a project, creating unnecessary delays, driving up costs and exposing them to a world of potential liability.