



SPONSORS

GOLD

AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION

EL PASO CORPORATION

PIPELINE & HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS SAFETY
ADMINISTRATION

SHELL PIPELINE COMPANY

SILVER

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

BP PIPELINES

COLONIAL PIPELINE COMPANY

EXXONMOBIL PIPELINE COMPANY

MARATHON PIPE LINE

BRONZE

AMERICAN PUBLIC GAS
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

ASSOCIATED GENERAL
CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA (AGC)

AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE

ASSOCIATION OF OIL PIPELINES

CENTERPOINT ENERGY

CHEVRON PIPE LINE COMPANY

CONSUMERS ENERGY

CONOCOPHILLIPS

DTE ENERGY

DUKE ENERGY GAS TRANSMISSION

ENBRIDGE

EXPLORER PIPELINE COMPANY

INTERSTATE NATURAL GAS
ASSOCIATION

KINDER MORGAN INC.

KOCH PIPELINE COMPANY LP

MAGELLAN MIDSTREAM PARTNERS

NAPSR

NISOURCE

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC
COMPANY

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC & GAS

SPRINT

THE LACLEDE GROUP

VALERO LP

The Common Ground Alliance was formed on September 19, 2000. Shortly thereafter, the Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) requested that the CGA look into eight outstanding recommendations given to OPS from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). Of these recommendations, one included a data gathering request contained in the NTSB report related to a propane explosion in San Juan Puerto Rico some years before. In part, recommendation **P-97-22** read:

“...develop a plan for collecting excavation damage exposure data.”

Some months later, the Data Reporting & Evaluation Committee met in Colorado and had the opportunity to review the Utility Notification Center of Colorado (UNCC) system that was developed as a result of a state order that all utilities report their damages to the UNCC on a yearly basis. The UNCC system was modeled after the CGA Best Practices Figure 9-1, contained in the initial landmark report on Best Practices published in 1999. Because UNCC's system was based on the Best Practices, the tool addressed the primary requirements of the CGA. In 2002, the CGA entered into an agreement to modify UNCC's tool for national data collection.

Some four years later, after some changes and modifications, we are publishing our second annual report. The attached Calendar Year 2005 Report contains information on 51,000 plus facility events submitted by damage prevention stakeholders. This is double the number of events submitted and published in the Calendar Year 2004 Report. The volume of data collected to date for 2006 is even more promising.

When one considers that there are some 680,000 damages, (+- 7%), to our underground infrastructure in the United States every year, the data submitted and analyzed in a confidential secured system will enable us to identify national, and in some cases, regional trends. It certainly enables companies submitting data to view their results compared to the national results and identify areas of success and those requiring improvement. Improvement means damage reduction, and that is what this report is all about.

We at the CGA are proud of DIRT and thank all of those companies, associations and individuals who submit their results to our system. If you wish to join the list of those providing damage data, e-mail or call us at the number listed below.

I would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to all of the Data Committee members and programmers who have worked on this tool over the past 6 years. The time and commitment they have provided to this project are immeasurable. Like all CGA endeavors, the DIRT report was developed by these committee members on a consensus basis.

Lastly, we at the CGA would also like to extend our gratitude to PHMSA for providing the funding required for development and purchase of DIRT. We could not do this without you.

Robert Kipp
President - CGA
(703) 836-1709