Responses to Questions and Comments

TRB Webinar: New SHRP 2 Tools for Underground Utility Location Data Collection and Analysis

February 15, 2012

Question or Comment	Response	Responder
1: You may find the new standard developed by the Canadian Standards Association "S250-11 Mapping of underground utility infrastructure" may be of interested to everyone. It was completed in 2011 and can be purchased online.		
2: Is the GIS system and polygons under the control of the DOT or the Utilities through One Call? I am with the Ontario, Canada, DOT, Geomatics section and we are tasked with the collecting and analyzing all 3-D & 2-D data for risk and infrastructure management.	The GIS and Spatially enabled document management system are under the complete control of the DOT. Read access would be granted to other agencies participating in the DOT projects. Write access is through a DOT administrative process called "Gatekeeper.	Bill Gale William.Gale@GASTECHNOLOGY.COM
3: When will the R01A GIS/model tools be ready for implementation by DOTs?	The pilot should be completed by year's end and tools resulting from the research should be available 1st or 2nd quarter 2013	Bill Gale William.Gale@GASTECHNOLOGY.COM
4: How do we sign up for the SHRP 2 implementation funding with these RO1A tools? -	The SHRP 2 implementation funding is to support activities such as any further development and refinements to the SHRP 2 tools and products (e.g., pilot application projects), workshops, and other outreach activities. These are frequently in the form of modifications	Chuck Taylor ctaylor@nas.edu

	to existing contracts. However, some of these activities may be conducted via follow-on contracts that are competitively bid. If you are interested in receiving any RFPs for such contracts, please let me know.	
5: I've heard of a new version ASCE 38-02 what is the status / timeline for availability?	We are waiting on some graphics which should be developed soon. We hope to go to committee ballot and public comment this year. There are few changes. The most significant are examples of how to incorporate depth information into deliverables if the QL is not QLA, and more clarity that surveying one-call marks can only lead to QLD data at best.	Jim Anspach Jhanspach@aol.com
6: What are the factors/tends that are driving utilities toward deeper buried.	A: The top layers are becoming very congested, both with active and abandoned facilities. Also, new construction tools that don't require installation by trenching (e.g., HDD) allow for deeper installation at no extra costs	Jim Anspach Jhanspach@aol.com
7: What is status of phase 1 report 3-D Utility Data Model? Vendors and engineers should begin adopting this sooner than later.	The report was sent to TRB the week of March 1. Adoption of the processes developed by this research project will save costs due to delays in utility conflicts within a very short time period. Use of the utility data collection protocols and display should aid in design savings from project inception.	Bill Gale William.Gale@GASTECHNOLOGY.COM
8: When will the UCM data models and report Cesar described be available?	These products are currently going through a final round of review, and we expect them to be available early spring of this year.	Chuck Taylor ctaylor@nas.edu
9: Have there been any discussions about requiring utility material suppliers to embed some type of sensor in their pipeline, cable coating, or product that would enable tracing?	There are now a variety of low-frequency RFID devices that could be molded in or otherwise incorporated into pipe at the time of manufacture. Some of the RFID devices can be oriented with the pipe so as to give an operator the direction of pipe as well as the location and depth of a specific point. Smart tags that incorporate data can also indicate pipe size, material, and manufacturer batch number.	Jim Anspach, Chris Ziolkowski Jhanspach@aol.com Chris.ziolkowski@gastechnology.org

10: Is there any discussions on a federal mandate for requiring utilities to have all new utility installations GPS documented so eventually there will be uniformity in record keeping?	This is a continuing topic with some suppliers, but no good solutions yet.	Jim Anspach Jhanspach@aol.com
11: Will the new RFID hand tool be able to locate previously installed proprietary RFID marker ball signals?	In the short term, the prototype readers and long range tags delivered for this project can only be used together. In the long term, it is possible to locate legacy tags with a generic device because the tag frequencies in use for several decades are well documented. There are already compatible locators and "dumb" RF tags from multiple vendors. The more recent smart RF tags with serial numbers transmit data in vendor proprietary formats. These can be found with a generic locator but not read. The VAI long range tags transmit data using the IEEE1902.1 protocol, allowing for 3rd parties to build compatible devices.	Chris Ziolkowski Chris.ziolkowski@gastechnology.org
12: Will the presentation be available?	The presentations are available now. A recording of the webinar is available at http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/shrp2/webinar_2012-02-15.wmv, and the slides are available at http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/shrp2/webinar_2012-02-15.pdf.	Pat Zelinski PZelinski@nas.edu
13: Will the software be able to create cross-sectional views with actual diameters of pipe/conduit for the subsurface utilities?	The software will be able to render cross-sectional views of the actual diameters of pipe if it is known. Where the exact diameter of the pipe is unknown the system will render the center of the pipe with a diameter of uncertainty. This display will provide an envelope of probable location if the exact location is unknown	Bill Gale and/or Jim Anspach William.Gale@GASTECHNOLOGY.COM Jhanspach@aol.com
14: Will the software provide a cross reference to the State DOT Utility Accommodation	This work is out of scope at this time.	Bill Gale William.Gale@GASTECHNOLOGY.COM

Manuals?		
15: Who, what firms, are developing the utility database/repository?	The GIS system is being developed jointly with 3-GIS and GTI, the document repository is being developed by Bentley Systems.	Bill Gale William.Gale@GASTECHNOLOGY.COM