

PIPE USERS GROUP
MINUTES
February 27, 2003 (Seminar)

11th Annual Pipe User's Group Seminar – 2003

Another seminar has passed, and what a success it was! Attendance was lower this year than last, with about 165 people showing up. We had an interesting group of speakers, with lots of different topics and interesting projects.

Below is a list of the speakers and topics -

Keynote Speaker- Bernie Krysz, Trenchless Technology Magazine:

Bernie gave an interesting history of TT Magazine, and overall developments in the trenchless technology market. He highlighted milestone events in the industry, and gave us some information on some of the founders of new technology and projects that set records in trenchless technology limits.

Pat Fuss, Carollo Engineers:

This was a challenging project located in Daly City, where a sewer needed to be rerouted due to bluff failure that had caused receding near a subdivision where houses had to be condemned and demolished. It was interesting hearing about the different issues they had encountered and the alternatives they offered to the City. The contractor also suggested modifications to the design of the project, to help reduce construction costs.

Charlie Joyce, Brown and Caldwell, and Vivian Housen, LAVWMA:

This presentation described how the LAVWMA team addressed numerous challenges during the design of the Export Pipeline Project. Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency (LAVWMA) is a JPA located in Pleasanton, California. LAVWMA transports 21 mgd of treated wastewater received from its member agencies.

The originally rural landscape had transformed into an urban environment. The new pipeline had to share underground corridors with numerous utilities, cross faults, highways and creeks, and travel through tight neighborhoods and business districts. The 16-mile alignment saw prehistoric remains, rock, hazardous materials, and bay mud. The pipeline was installed using a combination of open-cut and tunneling techniques.

Monica Oakley, Larry Walker Associates:

Monica spoke about the FOG (fats, oils and grease) Workgroup. The group is currently sponsored by the California Association of Sanitation Agencies. The group discusses and exchanges information regarding causes of blockages in sewers that can result in sanitary sewer overflows (SSO's). Many cities are interested in reducing overflows in a cost-effective manner. The workgroup has been sharing information about identifying actions for reducing SSO's and helping their clients meet permitting requirements.

Jonathan Lee and Peter Sevcik, West Valley Sanitation District:

Jonathan and Peter detailed the District's efforts to plan, design, and construct an 18" OD (15" ID) HDPE sanitary trunk sewer using pipe reaming to replace an existing 6" and 8" VCP sanitary sewer, using HDD where no sewer existed. The purpose of the Wildcat Creek Trunk Sewer Project was to eliminate the need to maintaining a segment of trunk sewer that ran through a local junior high school. The project faced many different obstacles, including traffic concerns around many community facilities.

Tom Shastid, SIP Construction Management and Bill Latone, Kennedy Jenks:

Tom Shastid of EBMUD and Bill Latone of Kennedy-Jenks presented a talk on the EBMUD Southern Loop Pipeline, a newly constructed 11-mile long pipeline connecting the cities of San Ramon and Castro Valley. The pipeline ranges from 30" to 42" in diameter, includes an 1800-foot tunnel, a pressure reducing station and a 30 MGD flow regulating station, and is designed for flow in both directions. Bill spoke on the design issues in providing up to 30 MGD of water under gravity flow conditions and up to 8 MGD of pumped flow. Due to the dense urban environment, portions of the pipeline were installed during the night-time hours. Tom spoke about the construction issues in routing a major pipeline through the dense residential areas of Castro Valley and San Ramon and within a rural roadway carrying heavy commuter traffic as well as the environmental challenges of constructing a tunnel near endangered species habitat.

Gisa Ju, Montgomery Watson Harza and John Boehm, CSD-1:

The County Sanitation District 1 of Sacramento County (CSD-1) initiated a long-term program to assess the condition of its 2,500-mile collection system. The project team developed a comprehensive Work Plan.

Despite the efforts put into the up-front planning, the project has encountered some difficulty in implementing standard data reporting procedures with the different software used by the TVI contractors, and the fact that the contractors were unaccustomed and not well equipped to manage the large volume of digital data collected.

Bijan Khamanian, Hobas Pipe and Richard Capp, PBS&J Engineering:

This presentation discussed all the challenges and solutions in constructing the City of Las Vegas US95-RANCHO interceptor sewer using trenchless methods. The microtunneling was performed using three sets of equipment, which is unprecedented in microtunneling history. Over two miles of 42" and 60" had to be microtunnelled under Rancho Drive, one of the busiest arterial streets in Las Vegas.

Next Meeting:

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at the Offices of Harris & Associates, in Concord. We will have a representative from Southwest Pipeline and Trenchless Corp. come out and give us an outside demonstration and presentation of the Top Hat System, a lateral resealing and installation product. Please call Angie at 925-827-4900, ext. 115 at Harris & Associates to RSVP.

Minutes by:
Angie Giles, Harris & Associates

